

Language and Knowledge

German Philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein once said, "The borders of my language are the borders of my world." One might add to that, "The borders of my language are the borders of my knowledge." Thus language becomes the borders of man's opportunity and achievements in life, fame and social recognition; and the major factor that influences his self-satisfaction, self-realization and standard of living.

If you know only one local language, the borders of your world would be limited to the borders of your community; and consequently your knowledge, opportunity, life experience and achievements. But, if you know a national or regional language in addition to your local language, your world would be expanded to include many communities and possibly several states as well; your knowledge and thus your opportunity would be vastly enlarged, and your life greatly enriched.

However, if you know an international language, knowing that English is the only language that qualifies for such a distinction today, your world would be borderless, your access to knowledge limitless, your opportunity immense, and your future skyless. You would be in a good position to shape your own future through learning and getting access to all sources of knowledge and use it to pursue the career you prefer, to work for the organization you choose, to do the things that give you most satisfaction, and to attain the standards of living that meet your growing needs and satisfy your rising expectations and ambitions. Therefore, learning languages should be considered a long term investment in human capital that no person and no society can do without.

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