



"We reflect your originals"

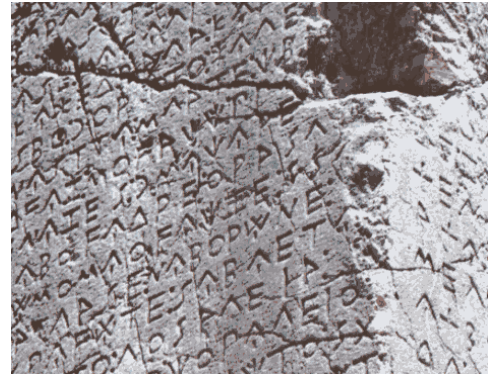
The Turkish language belongs to the Ural-Altaic group and has an affinity with the Finno-Hungarian languages. Turkish is written with the Latin alphabet and is spoken by some 165 million people around the world.

**"The fifth most spoken language of the world" Turkish**

### Prevalence of Turkish

Turkish tribes, which had begun to immigrate northwards, southwards and especially westwards after the second half of the 6th century, reached to the Bulgarian border of today in mid 15th century. It's likely to see some writers in our time who define the migration of Turkish workers to Middle Europe in early 1960s as the continuation of this historic migration. The original culture created during these migrations was enriched with other cultures interacted but Turkish, spoken as the native language, has been preserved and, thus expanded to a wide range of territories around the world.

According to the UN's statistics of 1990, Turkish was spoken by approximately 165 million people as the native language. As a result, our language has the characteristic of being the fifth most spoken (most common) language after Chinese, Hindi, English and Spanish. If it is estimated that annual increase of population is an average of 1.5%, this number must have now reached to 180 million. When we consider that Chinese is spoken in China and Taiwan, and by Chinese minorities in the Southeast Asia, and Hindi is spoken only in the Indian Peninsula, Turkish takes its place among the languages like English and Spanish spoken over a very wide geography of territories in the world. Of these languages, English is spoken as the native language in North America, Republic of South Africa (by people of English origin) and Australia as well as Great Britain. Spanish, apart from Spain, is spoken in Middle (including the southern part of USA) and South America (except Brazil). Turkish however, is spoken as the native language by Turks who have spread over a wide geography of territories from Pacific shores of Russian Federation to Middle Asia, from Caucasia to Anatolia and from Thrace to Central and West Europe, and even to North America even if by a very limited number of immigrants, which makes it a language spread all over the North hemisphere.



Turkish Diaspora or Turkey Diaspora is Anatolia Turks who dont live in Turkey. The Turkic peoples in Central Asia, Cyprus and the Caucasus are not considered in this category. Estimated Population 2005, Ankara-based International Strategic Research Organization Figures

- Turkey: 72,000,000
- Irak: 3,5-4,000,000
- Germany: 2,5-3,000,000 (Including immigrant Turkey Kurds)
- Iran: 1,500,000 (Except Azeri Turks whose population is about 35-40,000,000)
- Bulgaria: 800,000 - 1,200,000
- Syria: 1-1,300,000
- France: 400,000
- Netherlands: 350,000
- U.K.: 250-300,000 (Including Turkey Kurds and Cyprus Turks)
- Austria: 250,000
- USA: 240,000
- Cyprus: 230,000 (Including TRNC citizens)
- Yunanistan: 200-250,000 (Including Western Thrace Turks)
- Belgium: 200-300,000
- Macedonia: 200,000
- Romania: 180-200,000
- Avustrlia: 150,000



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- Saudia Arabia: 80-120,000
- Russia: 100,000 (Excluding the local Turkic peoples)
- Switzerland: 80,000
- Kosova: 60,000
- Denmark: 50-70,000
- Canada: 50,000
- Azerbaijan: 50,000 (Only Turkey Turks. Excluding Azeris and all other Turkic peoples)
- Sweden: 40,000
- Israel: 20,000 (Excluding those who changed citizenship)
- Norway: 15,000

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### Resources:

- [1] World Fact Book 94, CIA (http).
- [2] Informationen zur politischen Bildung; Die Sowjetunion 1953-1991, Nr. 236, 3. Quartal 1992.
- [3] Council of Europe (Hrsg), Sopeni, Netherland-1993; Statistisches Bundesamt, Wiesbaden, Sopeni, Report-Turkey, Oct-1993.
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