

#PERSPECTIVE

Celebrating cultural differences: a pathway for an inclusive future

Our world is progressing at a surprisingly fast rate. With the help of technology, we can get in touch with many people of different cultures and backgrounds all across the world and it is generally a wholesome and heart-warming experience. The topic of diversity in culture thus arises as we reach more people in the world around us. How can we explore other cultures and the communities behind them? What benefits do we get from learning and understanding their life stories?

Humans have a range of emotions, experiences, and values. It is what essentially gives us our identity in the wider

society. By being open to other cultures we not only open the doors to new forms of creative innovation but also understanding and tolerance. Every culture has its own influences and quirks that they bring to the table and by bringing our cultures together, we can create a safe, inclusive, and creative environment that transcends borders of any kind.

There are two aspects that really catalyse the bonding of many cultures; empathy and understanding. As we interact with a diverse cultural group, we are able to engage in meaningful conversations and share stories, and experiences with one another. We can empathise with someone's

hardships and understand their side of the story. This helps find a lot of common ground to lay down the base for a long-lasting and fruitful friendship.

Another way to learn about other cultures is by directly partaking in them. Activities like learning about history or learning the language can go a long way to being relatable to someone from that culture. Nowadays, many cultural events celebrate traditions and festivals all around the globe. Taking part in those can also give some useful insight into different perceptions and help better understand other cultures. Festivals like Eid, Christmas, Diwali are good examples of where people

get together, celebrate their traditions, and create new memories.

A good way to instil the values of acceptance and inclusivity across cultures is via education. Teaching children at school or having cultural exchange programmes in place can really open the eyes of these budding individuals to the plethora of cultures and their merits. The opportunity to visit another country and experience first-hand what it's like to be part of a community other than their own can teach them the importance of inclusivity and let them develop lifelong connections.

By Abdul Warith Khan

HOROSCOPE



ARIES
(MAR. 21-APR. 20)

Your devotion will be persuasive. Peers may not be on your side. Travel will be your best outlet. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.



TAURUS
(APR. 21-MAY 21)

Consider a physical Don't be mad at someone who doesn't care. Minor accidents could happen if you aren't careful. Join intellectual or cultural groups. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.



GEMINI
(MAY 22-JUN. 21)

Your practical approach may charm someone. Deceit with co-workers is apparent. Don't be afraid of opposition. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.



CANCER
(JUN. 22-JUL. 22)

Don't let your emotions interfere with work. Friendships can suffer if money is involved. Empty promises at work are evident. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.



LEO
(JUL. 23-AUG. 22)

Get involved in competitive sports this week. Real estate ventures will be to your advantage. Make plans with your partner. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.



VIRGO
(AUG. 23-SEP. 23)

Short trips will be fruitful. Don't waste time debating on senseless issues. Your talents will shine at work. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.



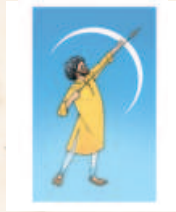
LIBRA
(SEP. 24-OCT. 23)

Real estate ventures will work to your advantage. Invite loved ones to your home. Don't push your luck with authority figures. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.



SCORPIO
(OCT. 24-NOV. 21)

Keep your wits about you. Get out and meet new people this week. Don't keep unrealistic expectations. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.



SAGITTARIUS
(NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

Changes at home are evident. Make plans to travel somewhere. Don't lose your temper before getting all the facts. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.



CAPRICORN
(DEC. 22-JAN. 20)

Help children with their projects. Learn to say no. You have more than enough on your plate already. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.



AQUARIUS
(JAN. 21-FEB. 19)

Use your intellectual charm to get your way. Don't let your jealous imagination sway you. Don't spend your money on unnecessary things. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.



PISCES
(FEB. 20-MAR. 20)

Don't be too pushy. Avoid making unnecessary changes this week. Get your work done. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.



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