Modern Standard Arabic Phrasebook: The Traveller's Guide to the Arab-Speaking World (Paperback)

By Mohamed Bacha

Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2015. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English. Brand new Book. This phrasebook is a collection of useful phrases and expressions in Modern Standard Arabic, the lingua franca of the Arabic-speaking world. Although Modern Standard Arabic is not the native language of anyone, it is taught in all schools in Arabic-speaking countries, and is universally recognised as the official form of Arabic. Therefore, while people from different Arabic-speaking regions may not easily understand each other's dialect, they will generally be able to understand and communicate in Standard Arabic. MSA has therefore the role of a lingua franca. As such, by learning Standard Arabic, you can generally communicate with any educated person in Arabic-speaking areas. MSA functions in parallel to dialects within a linguistic situation called "diglossia," where MSA is the formal codified variety and hence is mostly used in formal situations, while the vernacular is the spoken variety, is usuallu non-codified and is the natural language of people. In Tunisia, for instance, diglossia is manifested in the functional spacialization of MSA and Tunusian Arabic: the spoken variety of Arabic, that diverged from its origin under the weight of particular historical processes and influences. To explore further...

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