**24.4 ARABIC**

“Arabic is not just a language”, for we people it is crucial to understand our culture, values, beliefs and identity. It is required for understanding of where we come from.

* Arabic, therefore, makes for an important language to develop due to a wide use of it.
* Arabic is the official language of 27 countries.
* It is understood and spoken in 58 countries.
* There are 400 million Arabic speakers across the world.
* It is also one of the languages of the United Nations.
* A study of Arabic opens up endless possibilities and opportunities for those who embark upon it.
* A rich and sophisticated language, it is both challenging and rewarding to learn.
* Knowledge of Arabic is instrumental to gaining a real understanding of the people, societies and politics of the Arab world.
* It becomes easy to access a range of employment opportunities in the region’s finance, media and commercial sectors.
* As the social, political and commercial importance increases, demand to learn Arabic is set to grow.
* Learning Arabic opens a lot of doors for the learner.
* A good understanding of Arabic can lead to a job in diplomatic service or security forces, media and communications, finance and banking, the oil and gas sectors.
* Arabic is in great demand and there is a shortage of well qualified speakers.
* You gain vital language skills when you learn Arabic.
* French and Spanish, being easier to learn in comparison to learning Arabic, there is more competition as there are more learners and speakers in these languages. But, if you learn Arabic, you are sure that there would be a great demand for your language skills, as less is the supply.
* You have an edge over competition even if you are in west. The demand for people fluent in Arabic is quite high and only a few people from the west attempt to learn Arabic
* The secret services in U.S. needs people who are fluent speakers of Arabic.
* There are many sectors including translation and interpretation that need Arabic speakers.
* Other fields that need Arabic speakers include intelligence and Foreign Service, banking and finance, education and journalism.
* Many opportunities are available in Arab Nations for those engaged in business.
* You will be able to learn ISLAM better if you are able to read the ‘QURAN’ and understands its teachings.
* So, for Muslims who are interested in learning and understanding ISLAM, learning of Arabic will be so helpful.
* Moreover, the Arabic language is a part of ISLAM, and knowing Arabic is an obligation. ‘QURAN’ and ‘SUNNAH’ cannot be understood without knowing Arabic.