Absolutely—this is a pivotal moment in the **Global Culture Project**, and co-defining the **master schema** will unify everything going forward: rendering, metadata, directory UI, search, reverse-lookup, language/culture maps, SharePoint uploads, and future enrichments.

Let’s break this down like a world-class ethnographic engineering spec. Here’s what we need to solidify:

**🌍 GLOBAL CULTURE PROJECT: MASTER SCHEMA FOUNDATION**

This will define the **metadata blueprint** for every culture entry and will be embedded into:

* manifest.json (or .yaml)
* index.html directory view
* render\_cards.py render logic
* SharePoint pipeline metadata (and future API exposure)

**🧠 PRIMARY CORE VARIABLES**

These are drawn from:

* Your working .v3.json entries
* Current field mappings in render\_cards.py
* Inferred needs for searching, filtering, organizing, and enriching
* Reverse lookup capabilities (e.g. language → culture)

**🔢 CATEGORY 1: Identity & Metadata**

| **Field** | **Description** | **Required** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| culture\_id | Internal stable ID (slug or UUID) | ✅ |
| culture\_name | Official name of the culture | ✅ |
| region | ISO-2 country code or broader region | ✅ |
| language\_tags | List of ISO/English language identifiers | ✅ |
| source\_docx | Optional docx reference for editing | ⚪ |
| rendered\_html\_path | Path to rendered HTML card | ✅ |
| last\_updated | Timestamp of last render | ✅ |
| missing\_fields | List of unset/empty content fields | ✅ |

**📚 CATEGORY 2: Content Summary (Descriptive)**

| **Field** | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
| overview | High-level summary of the culture |
| notable\_celebrations\_or\_rituals | Holidays, festivals, key events |
| arts\_and\_expressive\_culture | Music, dance, visual arts, etc. |
| religion\_and\_spirituality | Faith systems and values |
| health\_beliefs\_and\_practices | Traditional health views |
| dietary\_practices | Common foods, restrictions, traditions |

*(and more from the 6-section layout: background, structure, beliefs, communication, society, service)*

We don’t need to include all this in the manifest itself—but we’ll flag their presence or absence via missing\_fields.

**🔎 CATEGORY 3: Lookup Fields (Reverse Index Support)**

| **Field** | **Used for** |
| --- | --- |
| languages\_indexed | Reverse map of languages → cultures |
| regions\_indexed | Reverse map of region → cultures |
| search\_tags | Lowercase search-optimized aliases (e.g. "muslim", "swahili") |

**🔧 CATEGORY 4: Runtime Enhancers**

| **Field** | **Purpose** |
| --- | --- |
| flag\_emoji | For use in card/index display |
| printable | True/False (based on card completeness) |
| ui\_class | Visual indicator (e.g. “missing-data”, “ready-for-publish”) |

**🧩 NEXT STEPS**

Here’s what I recommend:

1. ✅ Confirm the schema above (add, tweak, remove any fields you want).
2. 🚧 Then I’ll write generate\_manifest.py to produce this manifest.json by parsing:
   * parsed\_output/\*.v3.json
   * render\_log.json
3. 🎨 Then we move on to use this to power the smart, filterable, printable index.html homepage.

Let me know if the schema above fits your vision (or if it needs Aunt Jamima's syrupy wisdom poured all over it 😄). Once approved, I’ll generate the manifest builder script.