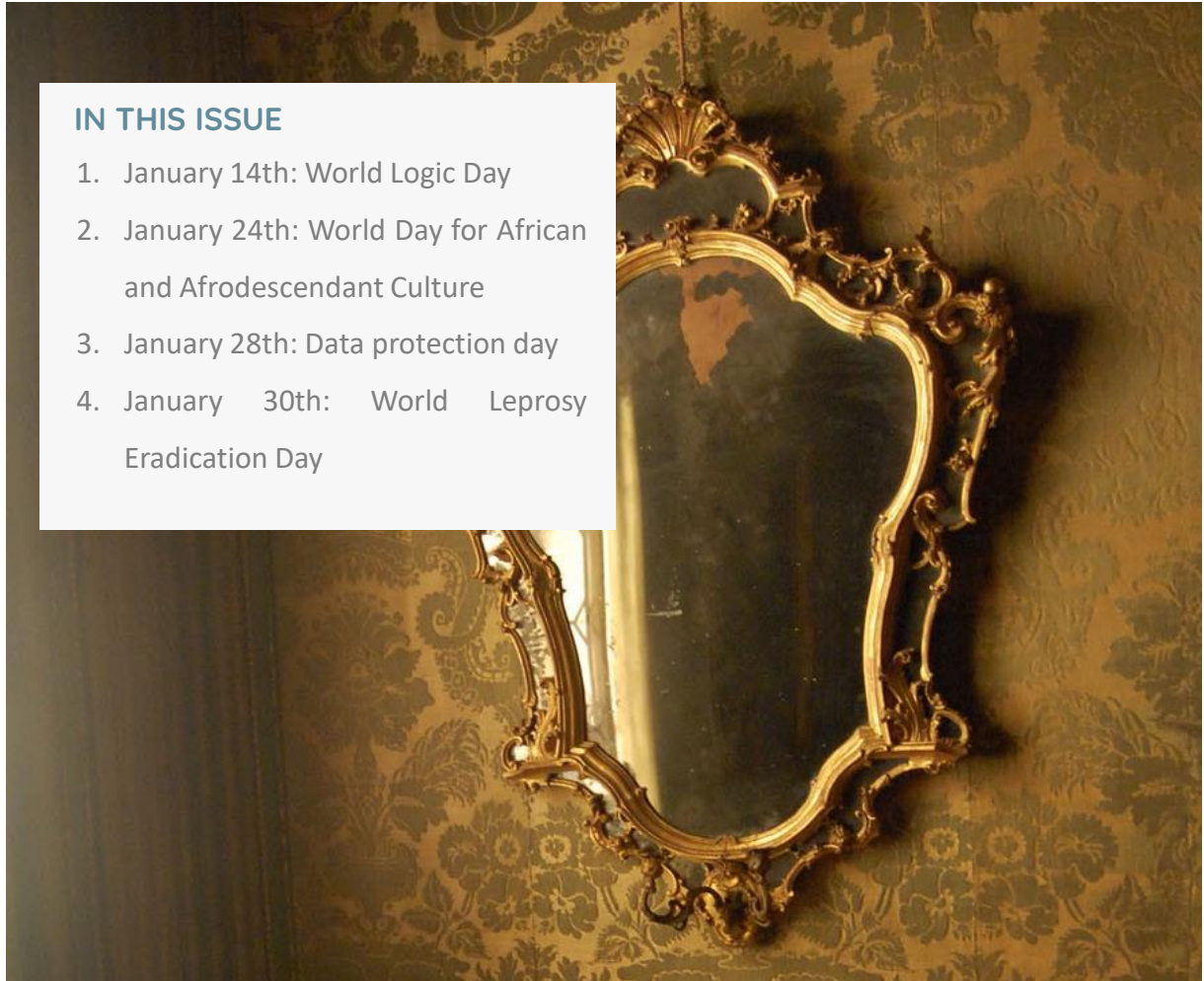


# Through The Looking Glass

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## From The Editor's Desk

We welcome our readers to 2022 and wish you a Happy New Year. A new year brings new possibilities ,new beginnings and renewed energy. As is our objective we shall continue to present diverse stories to cater to varied interests. We believe that each of you will find an article of interest in our newsletter and continue to read it to widen your perspectives and enliven your conversations. Happy Reading and A Joyous New Year!



**World Logic day is commemorated on January 14, 2022.**

The ability to think separates us from other animal species. Human beings are aware of their own consciousness. They accrue knowledge and apply reasoning to the world around them. Logic is the study of the principles and methods behind reasoning, and has been explored by many cultures. There is not much public awareness of logic, despite logic being a driving force in science and technology.

The proclamation of World Logic Day by UNESCO, in association with the International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences (CIPSH), intends to bring the intellectual history, conceptual significance and practical implications of logic to the attention of interdisciplinary science communities and the broader public.

The celebrations of World Logic Day are coordinated by the Conseil International de

Philosophie et des Sciences Humaines (CIPSH) and its member organisation, the Division for Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science and Technology of the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology (DLMPST/IUHPST)

The celebration of World Logic Day is aimed at

- Fostering international cooperation
- Promoting the development of logic in both research and teaching
- Supporting the activities of associations, universities and other institutions involved with logic
- Enhancing public understanding of logic and its implications for science, technology and innovation.
- Promoting a culture of peace, dialogue and mutual understanding, based on the advancement of education and science.

**Why the 14<sup>th</sup> of January?**

- 14<sup>th</sup> of January is both the death anniversary of Kurt Godel and the birth anniversary of Alfred Tarski

**Why should we celebrate logic?**

We use logic everyday to take decisions. A deeper understanding of logic will let us make better decisions.

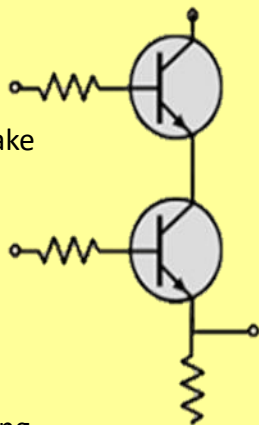
Logic puzzles are used to test and improve mental acuity. They are also entertaining. For example, in this puzzle there are four salt shakers. Three of them have sugar, one has salt. Also, only one of the captions is true. Which one has the salt? (You can find the answer at the end of this article.



**Logic gates**

In computers, information is coded in 0s and 1s. This is called the binary system. When a program has to make a decision, it is usually through a conditional statement such as if  $a > b$ , then....

This is wired in a circuit using a logic gate. The AND gate is shown here. It will give a high output only if both inputs are high.



**Alfred Tarski**

Alfred Tarski was a Polish-American mathematician and logician. He was born in Warsaw on Jan 14, 1902. His work included metamathematics, which is the study of methods and formal properties of mathematics. His mathematical contributions include:

Theorem on the decomposition of the sphere



(A solid sphere in three-dimensional space can decompose into finite subsets, which can then be put together to make two identical spheres, which are copies of the original sphere)

Inaccessible cardinals (Cardinality is a property of sets. When a cardinal cannot be obtained by smaller cardinals using cardinal algebra, it is said to be inaccessible). Algebraic approaches to metamathematical problems, including cylindrical algebras (a way to use mathematical operators on logic).

**Answer to puzzle**

Only one caption is true. If captions A, B, or C are true, they force another caption to be true as well. For example, if A is true, C is also true. Only D can be true with all the other captions being a lie. That means that D is true, so Shaker C contains salt.



**Alfred Tarski**

Tarski's methodology included infinitistic set concepts, making it less restrictive than the work of his contemporaries David Hilbert and L.E.J Brouwer. In the 1920s he presented an axiomatic theory of formal systems, and defined metamathematic notions such as consistency, completeness and independence. Tarski also formulated the semantic method, which is the study of relations between words, sentences and their objects. This included the semantic theory of Truth, developed in the 1930s, which is used to define truth with certain minimum conditions. His papers on logic from 1923 to 1936, collected and translated by J. H. Woodger, were published as *Logic, Semantics, Metamathematics* (1956).



**Kurt Gödel**

Kurt Gödel was a logician, mathematician and philosopher. He is widely considered one of the most significant logicians in history. His most famous contributions are his incompleteness theorems.

The first incompleteness theorem states that no consistent system of axioms (axioms are statements that are taken to be true and serve as a premise for further reasoning) whose theorems can be listed by an effective procedure (i.e., an algorithm) is capable of proving all truths about the arithmetic of natural numbers. For any such consistent formal system, there will always be statements about natural numbers that are true, but that are unprovable within the system. The second incompleteness theorem, an extension of the first, shows that the system cannot demonstrate its own consistency.

# World Day for African and Afrodescendant Culture

World Day for African and Afrodescendant Culture was established by UNESCO in 2019 and is held every year on 24 January

This date corresponds with the African Union Heads of State and Government adopting the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance in 2006. The purpose of marking this day is to encourage as many African countries as possible to ratify and implement the Charter, to strengthen the role of culture in promoting peace on the continent. It aims to celebrate the many vibrant cultures of the African continent and African Diaspora around the world.

It promotes the diaspora as an effective lever for sustainable development, dialogue and peace. As a rich source of the world's shared heritage, promoting African and Afrodescendant culture is crucial for the development of the continent, and for humanity as a whole

## **Why do we celebrate African and Afrodescendant Culture?**

From the Stone Town of Zanzibar to candombe drums –the cultures of Africa and its diaspora have developed across centuries.

The fact is that these cultures offer pride, answers and something to heal even the deepest racial wounds.

Afrodescendant culture is constantly explored, recreated, and reinterpreted. It promotes a cultural creation, as exemplified by Haiti's developing music industry. There are concerts, performances, and screenings all around the world that allow you to learn about and experience African cultures and their innumerable treasures.

### Why do we celebrate African and Afrodescendant Culture?

Promotion of African and Afro-descendant cultures is important as the global racial crisis has exacerbated tensions in our societies.

The World Day is therefore an opportunity to promote these African and Afro-descendant cultures in order to enable them to play their full part in development and peace.



Stone Town of Zanzibar – UNESCO World Heritage Centre

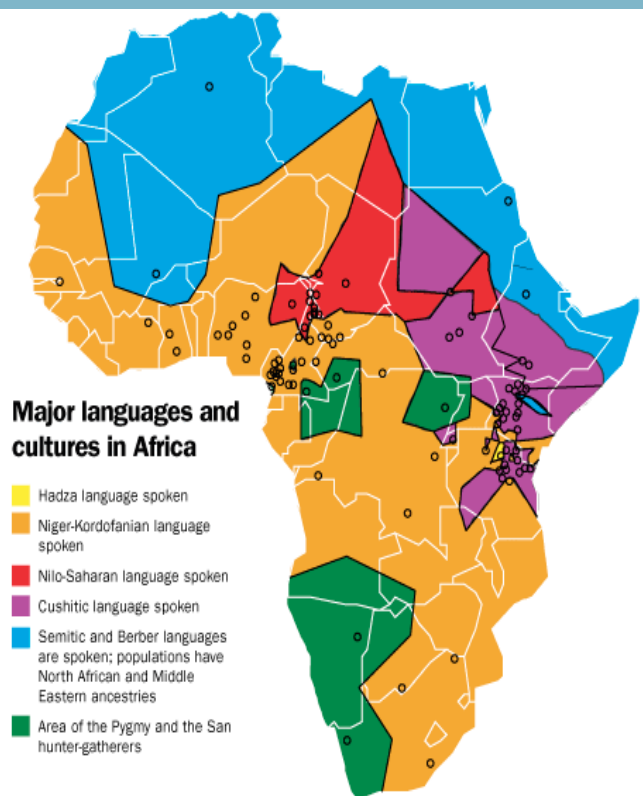


Candombe drums



## What is African and Afrodescendant Culture?

- The Culture of Africa is diverse consisting of various countries with several tribes each with its unique characteristics.
- Culture include laws, morals, beliefs, knowledge, art, customs, and other attributes belonging to a member of that society.
- There are several ethnic nationalities in Africa, each with unique characteristics such as language, cuisine, greetings, and dances.
- Even though African cultures are diverse, they share many commonalities when examined closely, such as the morality they defend, their love and respect for their culture, and their deep reverence for the elderly and powerful, such as kings and chiefs.
- Rather than remaining anchored in its stagnant culture, Africa has affected and has been influenced by other continents.
- However, with the increase of African nationalism, a cultural recovery has occurred.
- Most African governments support national their dance and music organizations, museums, and, to a lesser extent, artists and authors.



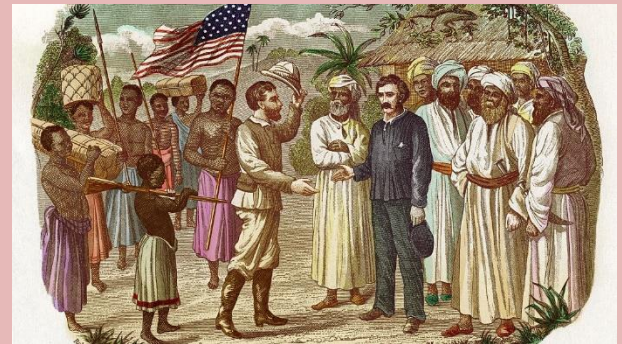
### Historical overview of African and Afrodescendant Culture

Africa's cultural regeneration was an integral aspect of post-independence nation-building on the continent. With independence came the need to harness the cultural resources of Africa to enrich the process of education, requiring the creation of an enabling environment. In recent times, the call for greater emphasis on the cultural dimension in all aspects of development has become increasingly vocal.



Sample of the Egyptian Book of the Dead of the scribe Nebqed, c. 1300 BC

- During the Roman colonization of North Africa, provinces such as Tripolitania became major producers of food for the republic and the empire. This generated wealth in these places during their 400 years of occupation
- During colonialism in Africa, Europeans possessed attitudes of superiority and a sense of mission. For example the French accepted an African as French if that person gave up their African culture and adopted French ways.
- Maulana Karenga (American professor of Africana studies) states:

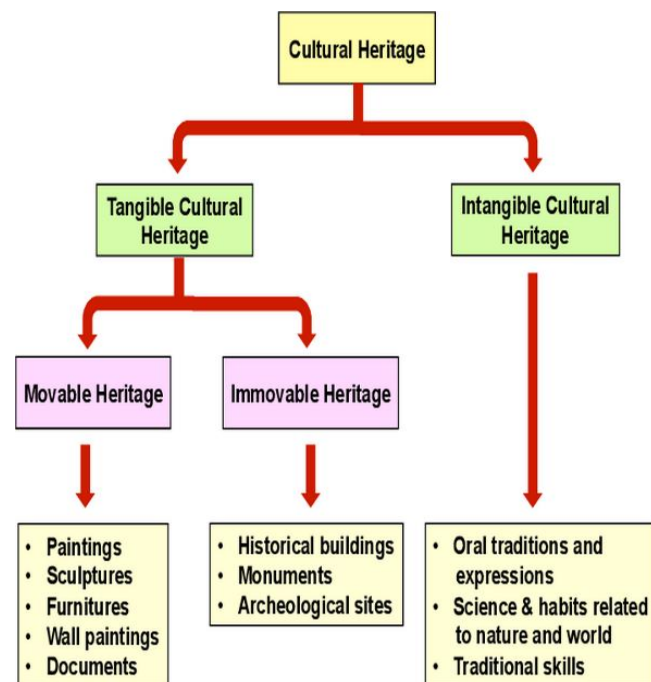


**“Our culture provides us with an ethos we must honor in both thought and practice. By ethos, we mean a people’s self-understanding as well as its self-presentation in the world through its thought and practice in the other six areas of culture.”**

## Culture of Africa

### Tangible and intangible Cultural Heritage

- Cultural heritage is divided into tangible and intangible cultural heritage. Physical artefacts made, maintained, and passed down through generations are referred to as "**tangible cultural heritage.**" It encompasses artistic creations, constructed heritage such as buildings and monuments, and other physical or tangible manifestations that have cultural significance in a culture.
- **Intangible cultural heritage** refers to "practices, depictions, expressions, knowledge, skills – including the instruments, artefacts, and cultural spaces associated with them – that societies, communities, and, in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their Cultural Heritage" (UNESCO, 2003). Oral traditions, performing arts, local knowledge, and traditional skills are examples of intangible heritage.





The continent of Africa is home to many indigenous religions - Vodun, Ifa, Badimo, Dini Ya Misambwa, Qdinani and countless others.

A century ago, these were the dominant faiths across the continent, but today, only about 10% of Africans practice an indigenous religion.

### Social Organization in Africa

#### Ethnic & State:

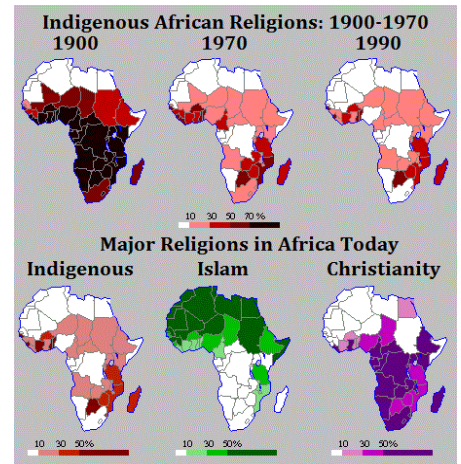
- Government sets rules & people follow
- Leaders are elected by majority or seize power
- Govt. controls or makes policies with regards to the economy, land, and resources

#### Tribe:

- Governance is in the hands of chiefs and land belongs to all
- Sense of loyalty to group
- Respect for ancestors
- Religion is a focal point of life

#### Hunter-Gatherer:

- Men hunt & women gather
- Wander depending on seasons or resources
- Low populations
- No property rights
- Temporary social ties



*Percent of Population Practicing Indigenous African Religions (1900, 1970, and 1990), and Percent of Population Practicing Major Religions in Africa Today (Indigenous Religions, Islam, and Christianity)*



## Music

- African music helps to connect people together and strengthen the fabric of the community
- Each region of Africa has its own distinct style based of religion, tribe, and history
- **Traditional African music** (most popular):
  - Drums are used for sending messages to the people about ceremonies such as weddings or naming ceremonies, and even for healing sick people.
  - Other popular instruments: slit gongs, rattles, double bells, bows, harps
  - Genres of popular music: blues, jazz and rumba are derived from Traditional African music



## Dance

- African dances are interlined to the traditional rhythms and music traditions of the region.
- Dancing is an integral part of many traditional African societies.
- Songs and dances facilitate teaching social values and history, celebrating special events, performing other recitations, and spiritual experiences.
- They utilize the concepts of polyrhythm and total body articulation.
- They are performed in large groups, with significant interaction between dancers and onlookers in a majority of styles



## Story-Telling

- Africans over the centuries have created stories as a way of making sense of the world
- Sharing the human experience - to express or communicate emotion, feelings, ideas, & information
- Passing on tradition and culture –(storytelling, folktales, myths and legends)
- Recreational drama for entertainment



## Art

### Africa has a rich tradition of arts & crafts

“In Africa all art is socially functional and the object is not as important as the soul force behind the creation of the object”

Examples Include: Woodcarvings, Brass, Leather art works, Sculpture, Paintings, Pottery, Jewelry (important personal accessory), Masks



## Clothing

### Men

Traditional: Two part apron/loin cloth covering front and rear.

### Women

. Traditional: Top with skirt made of cloth or animal hide.



### Food

- Food and drink vary based on:
- local area/region
- colonial food traditions
- Religion

**The African cuisine:** fruits and vegetables, milk and dairy products, meat products

**The African village diet:** milk, curd, whey



### Sports

- Soccer is the most popular sport in Africa
- Rugby and Cricket are played throughout Africa
- Many African nations participate in the Olympic Games





Data Protection means the protection of any personal data that is in the possession of any organization, business, or government, and how this information is used or shared. While the information may be out there due to our carelessness or privacy violations, there are steps you can take to protect yourself.



On any new device, set your privacy settings immediately. This includes new applications, social media, and programs.



Never use unsecured WiFi – especially for banking or shopping.



Check your bank and credit card statements regularly. When you spot anything questionable, contact the organization to stop payment on the purchase and cancel your card.



Keep your software up to date. Outdated software is vulnerable to hackers.



Never give personal information over the phone, email, or text.



Use strong password phrases. The longer the password, the harder it is to break.



Do not save your passwords on your device.



Change passwords when your accounts may have been compromised.



Use virus protection and a firewall.



Be fully aware of what you display to the world. Identity thieves can take your personal information displayed and eventually steal your entire identity.



Do not open unnamed emails and do not click on any links on those emails.



Make sure you are on a secure website. The http:// should change to an https:// (the extra 's' stands for security). In addition, a lock or a key should be represented on the lower corner of the website.

### Why is Data protection Day is celebrated?

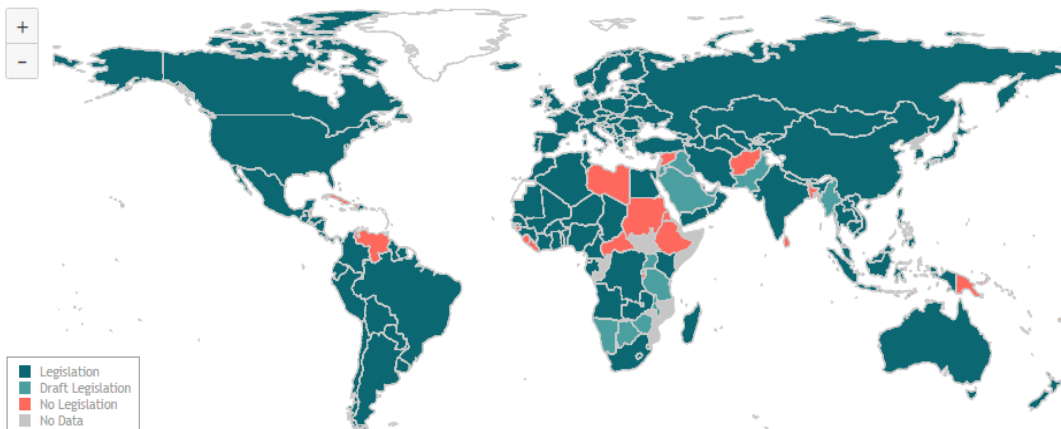
On 26 April 2006, the Council of Europe decided to launch a Data Protection Day to be celebrated each year on 28 January, the date on which the Council of Europe’s data protection convention, known as “Convention 108”, was opened for signature. Data Protection Day is now celebrated globally and is called Privacy Day outside Europe. On this date, governments, parliaments, national data protection bodies, and other stakeholders carry out activities to raise awareness about the rights to personal data protection and privacy. These may include campaigns targeting the general public, educational projects for teachers and students, open doors at data protection agencies and conferences.

## Data Protection Legislation Around the World

As more and more social and economic activities take place online, the importance of privacy and data protection is increasingly recognized. Of equal concern are the collection, use, and sharing of personal information to third parties without notice or consent of consumers. 128 out of 194 countries have put in place legislation to secure the protection of data and privacy. 55 of countries in Africa and Asia have adopted such legislations, of these 23 are the least developed countries.



Data Protection and Privacy Legislation Worldwide



**General Data Protection Regulation (EU) (GDPR)** is a regulation in EU law on data protection and privacy in the European Union (EU) and the European Economic Area (EEA). It addresses the transfer of personal data outside the EU and EEA areas. The GDPR's primary aim is to enhance an individuals' control and rights over her/ his personal data and to simplify the regulatory environment for international business. The GDPR contains provisions and requirements related to the processing of personal data of individuals who are located in the EEA, and applies it to any enterprise regardless of its location.

The GDPR was adopted on 14 April 2016 and became enforceable beginning 25 May 2018.

There are two very commercial reasons why a country might adopt a version of the GDPR (aside from data protection for its citizens):

1. **Extra-territoriality:** The GDPR applies to the processing of European residents' data (technically, all residents of the EU plus residents of the other European countries that have adopted the GDPR), no matter where in the world the data processing takes place. If you want to sell to European residents, you need to be compliant with the GDPR. The best way to be compliant is to adopt it.
2. **Data export:** The GDPR export rule is simple: data on European residents can only be exported to places with similar data protection rules (technically, the European Commission (EC) determines if your rules are adequate). If you want the commercial benefits of processing the data of European residents then you need to adopt the GDPR or something like it.

The regulation became a model for many other laws across the world, including in Turkey, Mauritius, Chile, Japan, Brazil, South Korea, South Africa, Argentina and Kenya. As of 2021 the United Kingdom retains the law in identical form despite no longer being an EU member state. The California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), adopted on 28 June 2018, has many similarities with the GDPR.





## Africa

In 2014, the African Union adopted the Convention on Cyber Security and Personal Data Protection which was modeled on the GDPR. The intention was for African countries to adopt the convention into their national laws but progress has been inconsistent.

Country	Law	Year	Comment
Kenya	<a href="#">Data Protection Act</a>	2019	The Kenyan constitution has a right to privacy provision - <a href="#">article 31</a> .
Mauritius	<a href="#">Data Protection Act</a>	2017	
Nigeria	<a href="#">Data Protection Regulation</a>	2019	The <a href="#">Nigerian constitution</a> contains a privacy section

## Asia

Country	Law	Year	Comment
Japan	<a href="#">Act on the Protection of Personal Information (APPI)</a>	2020	The EC considers the Japan APPI <a href="#">adequate for export of European data</a> and vice versa. It's the <a href="#">first such agreement</a> .
New Zealand	<a href="#">Privacy Act</a>	2020	The EC considers the New Zealand Privacy Act <a href="#">adequate for export of European data</a>
South Korea	<a href="#">Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA) 2011</a>	2011, revised in 2020	Pre-dates the GDPR, but as modified in 2020, is similar in many ways. <a href="#">Considered to be one of the strictest privacy rules</a> in the world. <a href="#">Adequacy talks with the EC were concluded on March 30th, 2021</a> and it's likely an agreement on data export adequacy will be reached.

## South America and North America

Country	Law	Year	Comment
Argentina	<b>Personal Data Protection Act No 25,326</b> , constitutional protections	2001	EC considers the legal regime in Argentina <b>adequate for data export</b> . Bills to update the existing law are in Congress.
Brazil	General Data Protection Law <b>LGPD</b>	2020	<b>Very similar to the GDPR</b> , including extra-territoriality provisions.
Uruguay	<b>Act on the Protection of Personal Data and Habeas Data Action</b>	2008, but subsequently modified	EC considers the law <b>adequate for data export</b> .
Canada	<b>Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA)</b>	2000	The EC has considered the PIPEDA as <b>adequate for EU data export</b> .

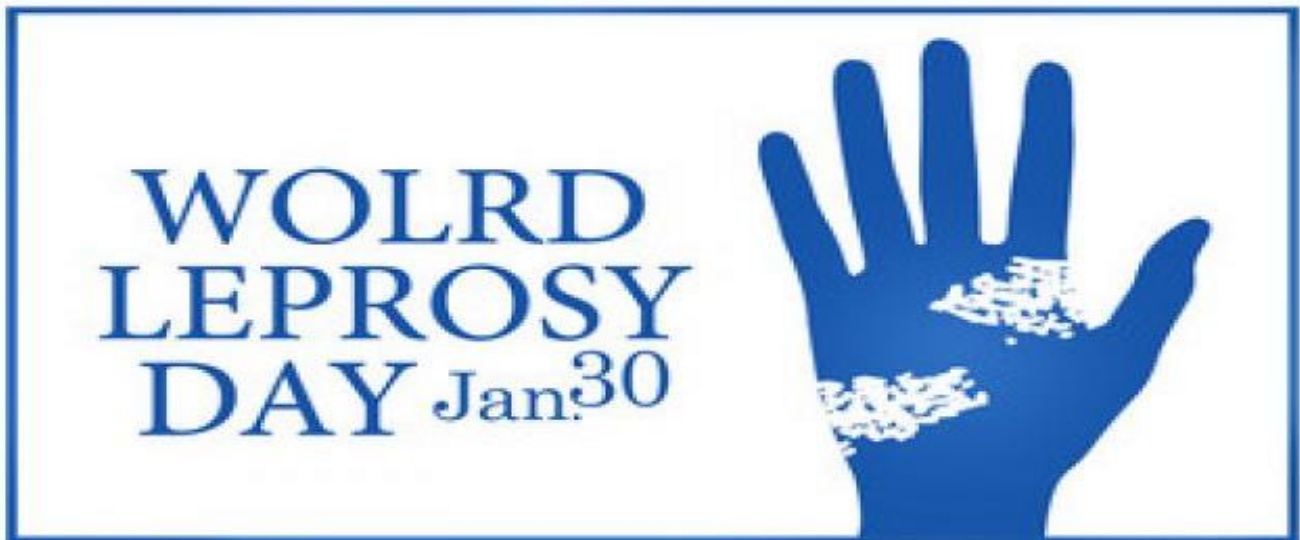
In the United States, there are some privacy laws at the federal level (for example, HIPPA), and most states have some form of data protection or breach notification laws, giving a complex picture. Russia's privacy laws contain terms requiring at least initial data processing to take place in Russia and have provisions to block offending websites. Similar to the Russian rules, the draft Chinese Personal Information Protection Law would require data processors to at least maintain copies of data in China and allow for countermeasures against nations under some conditions.

## Data Protection in India

Data protection law in India is currently facing many problems and resentment due to the absence of a proper legislative framework. There is an ongoing explosion of cyber crimes on a global scale. The theft and sale of stolen data are happening across continents where physical boundaries pose no restriction or seem non-existent in this technological era. The Data Security Council of India (DSCI) and the Department of Information Technology(DIT) has proposed a legislation to deal with data protection. Although the **Personal Data Protection Bill** was introduced in Parliament in 2006, it is yet to see the light of day. The bill seems to proceed on the general framework of the European Union Data Privacy Directive, 1996. It follows a comprehensive model with the bill aiming to govern the collection, processing, and distribution of personal data.

**Information Technology Act, 2000 (IT Act)**, contains provisions regarding cyber and related IT laws in India and delineates the scope of access that a party may have on data stored on a computer, computer system, or computer network. The provisions of the IT Act do not address the need for a stringent data protection law being in place. The Information Technology Act, 2000 has recently been amended to meet challenges in cybercrime but the amended Act is yet to come into force. It has introduced two important provisions that have a strong bearing on the legal regime for data protection.

Some people think that India rather than limiting itself to being a supplier of services to corporate America and Europe, sees itself as the place where such corporations can establish themselves. Thus by creating a good data protection law India could extend well beyond being a mere supplier of services to the world's multinational corporations.



World Leprosy Day is observed on the last Sunday of January. This international day is observed to celebrate people who have experienced leprosy, raise awareness of the disease, and call for an end to leprosy-related stigma and discrimination.

Key Messages of World Leprosy Day:

- Together we can lift up every voice and honour the experiences of people who have experienced leprosy.
- People who experience leprosy face mental wellbeing challenges due to stigma, discrimination, and isolation.
- People who experience leprosy have the right to a dignified life free from disease-related stigma and discrimination.

### What is Leprosy?

Leprosy is an infectious disease caused by a bacillus, *Mycobacterium leprae*, which multiplies slowly. On an average, the incubation period of the disease is 5 years but symptoms may occur within 1 year. It can also take as long as 20 years or even more to occur.

- Leprosy mainly affects the skin, the peripheral nerves, mucosa of the upper respiratory tract, and the eyes.
- The bacillus is transmitted via droplets, from the nose and mouth, during close and frequent contact with untreated cases.
- Leprosy is also known as the Hansen's Disease. It is named after the Norwegian scientist Gerhard Henrik Armauer Hansen, who in 1873 discovered a slow-growing bacterium now known as *Mycobacterium leprae* as the cause of the illness.

### *Mycobacterium leprae*



<https://www.onlinebiologynotes.com/mycobacterium-leprae-general-characteristics-habitat-and-virulence-factors/>

### Some Key Facts

- Leprosy is curable with multidrug therapy (MDT). If left untreated, leprosy causes progressive and permanent damage to the skin, nerves, limbs, and eyes.
- There were 202 256 new leprosy cases registered globally in 2019, according to official figures from 161 countries from the 6 WHO Regions.
- Of them, 14 893 were children below 14

**Besides humans, the only known reservoir is the armadillo. They seem to be a good host for *Mycobacterium leprae* because of their low body temperature.**



### Signs and Symptoms of Leprosy

- Discolored patches of skin, (lighter than the skin around)
- Growths (nodules) on the skin. Thick, stiff or dry skin
- Painless ulcers on the soles of feet
- Painless swelling or lumps on the face or earlobes
- Loss of eyebrows or eyelashes. Numbness of affected areas of the skin
- Muscle weakness or paralysis (especially in the hands and feet)
- Enlarged nerves (especially those around the elbow and knee and in the sides of the neck)
- Eye problems that may lead to blindness

### An Old, Stigmatized Disease

Recorded history reveals that leprosy has tormented humans from time immemorial. The earliest account of leprosy appears in an Egyptian Papyrus document written around 1550 B.C. Around 600 B.C. Indian writings describe a disease that resembles leprosy. In Europe, leprosy first appeared in the records of ancient Greece after the army of Alexander the Great returned from India and then in Rome in 62 B.C. coinciding with the return of Pompeii's troops from Asia Minor.

Leprosy has been feared and misunderstood. For a long time leprosy was thought to be a hereditary disease, a curse, or a punishment from God. Even after the discovery of its biological cause (identification of the microorganism that causes the disease), leprosy patients were stigmatized and shunned. In Europe during the Middle Ages, leprosy patients had to wear special clothing, ring bells to warn others that they were close, and even walk on a particular side of the road, depending on the direction of the wind. Even in modern times, leprosy treatment is administered in separate hospitals and live-in colonies called leprosariums because of the stigma attached to the disease.

## Theme: United for Dignity

United for Dignity is the theme of this year's World Leprosy Day

- Leprosy mainly affects people in poor countries, especially those who live in crowded conditions such as slums and shanties with poor access to health care. Many affected patients don't complete treatment or don't receive it at all, even though the WHO has a program that provides free treatment.
- Due to the stigma against people with leprosy, they may not seek help when first symptoms appear, causing delay in diagnosis and development of disabilities.
- Girls and women affected by Hansen's disease face the added issue of gender and social discrimination, which may also delay detection of the disease. In some countries, the law allows a person to legally divorce a spouse because they are affected by the disease. This may leave many women destitute.
- Many people living with Hansen's disease are unable to work due to disability caused by the disease or may face stigma that prevents them from working.

## National Leprosy Eradication Program in India

- **The vision is: Leprosy free India by 2030.** However in the year 2019 -20 , 114451 new cases were detected while 65164 new cases during 2020-21

### Programme Highlights

- Active Case Detection and Regular Surveillance both in rural and urban areas.
- Leprosy screening has been integrated with RBSK ( Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram for children between 0-6 yeras) and RKSK(Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram for adolescents) for screening of children (0-18 years)
- Leprosy screening has been integrated with the activities of CPHC ( Comprehensive Primary Health Care) under Ayushman Bharat Yojana for screening of people above 30 years of age.
- Contact tracing is done and Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) is taken care of. As part of PEP a single dose rifampicin (SDR) is given to contacts of newly diagnosed patients with leprosy. Microcellular Rubber (MCR) footwear, Aids & Appliances, self-care kits are given to patients
- RCS are conducted at District Hospitals/Medical Colleges/ Central Leprosy Institutes, and welfare allowance @ Rs 8000 is paid to each patient undergoing RCS.
- Guidelines for certification and award at District Level for achieving potential leprosy elimination under NLEP. i,e Silver Category & Gold Category – Cash prize , Certification, Felicitation at National level

Share your thoughts with us.  
We look forward to hearing  
from you.

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