

## Afghanistan #1

What is the capital? **Kabul**

### True or False

- Afghanistan's National Game is Soccer. **False** - Afghanistan's National game is Goat Grabbing.
- The world's first oil paintings were drawn in the caves of "Bamiyan" around 650BC. **True**
- New Year is celebrated by Afghans on 21<sup>st</sup> March. **True** - They call it "Nawroz".

## Iran #2

What is the capital? **Tehran**

### True or False

- The names Iran and Persia are still interchanged in cultural contexts. **True** – Iran is always used in political context.
- Men who do not marry are called na – mard, which translates to not men. **True**
- In Iran, women can wear bathing suits in the presence of men. **False**

## India #3

What is the capital? **New Delhi**

### True or False

- India is the world's leading producer of Mangoes. **True.**
- Goats can be found freely wandering the streets of India's cities. **False** - Cows wander freely and are considered sacred.
- India is the birthplace of chess. The original word for "chess" is the Sanskrit *chaturanga*, meaning "four members of an army" **True**

## China #4

What is the capital? **Beijing**

### True or False

- Despite of the fact that China has so many longitudes, it still has just one 1 time zone. **True**
- Over 4,000 children in China have been named “Olympic Games” (or ‘Aoyun’ in Chinese). **True**
- The pigtail hairstyle you see in Chinese action movies was the fashion of the time. **False** - All conquered men were forced to wear this style or risk execution.

## Japan #5

What is the capital? **Tokyo**

### True or False

- Tokyo-Japan faces 1500 earthquakes every year. **True**
- It is illegal to be thin in Japan. **False** – It is illegal to be Fat.
- It's not uncommon in Japan to adopt grown men. **True** - Males carry the family name forward.

## Russia #6

What is the capital? **Moscow**

### True or False

- Russia is the smallest country in the world. **False** - Russia is the largest country in the world.
- There are nine time zones across Russia. **True** - Russia is permanently on daylight savings time.
- A Russian was the first person to go into outer space. **True** - Yuri Alekseyevich Gagarin on 12 April 1961.

## Oman #7

What is the capital? **Muscat**

### True or False

- Coca Cola is widely consumed but almost no Pepsi Cola. **False** - Pepsi Cola is widely consumed but almost no Coca Cola.
- Oman still has its weekend on Thursday and Friday. **True** - Friday is the Muslim holy day when Jumu'ah prayers take place.
- Oman is the oldest independent state in the Arab world. **True** - It has been ruled by the Al-Said family since 1744.

## Saudi Arabia #8

What is the capital? **Riyadh**

### True or False

- In Saudi Arabia thieves have their feet chopped off. **False** - Thieves have their hands chopped off.
- The Arabian Desert found in Saudi Arabia is the world's largest continuous sandy desert. **True**
- In Saudi Arabia, one liter of drinking water is more expensive than one liter of oil. **True**



## Thailand #9

What is the capital? **Bangkok**

### True or False

- Thailand is primarily a Muslim country. **False** - Thailand is primarily a Buddhist country.
- Thailand is also home to world's largest gold Buddha. **True** - It weighs 5,500 kg and is worth \$250 million.
- Grand Palace in Thailand is one of Asia's main tourist attractions. **True**

## Nepal #10

What is the capital? **Kathmandu**

### True or False

- Slaughtering of cows is illegal in Nepal. **True** – Cows are a national animal of Nepal.
- Nepal has 8 out of 10 of the world's highest mountains, including the world's highest Mount Everest. **True** – Everest is 8,848 meters high.
- Nepal is the only country in the world with a rectangular flag. **False**  
- Nepal is the only country in the world with a non-rectangular flag.

## **Bhutan #11**

What is the capital? Thimphu

### **True or False**

- Bhutan is the only country in the world that has banned tobacco sales. **True**
- Bhutan is the only country in the world to officially measure national happiness. **True** - The index is known as GNH (Gross National Happiness).
- The national sport of Bhutan is Soccer. **False** - The national sport of Bhutan is archery.

## Philippines #12

What is the capital? **Manila**

### True or False

- Philippines is world's leading producer of Pineapples. **False** – Philippines is world's leading producer of coconuts.
- The Philippines are named after King Philip II of Spain. **True**
- The national symbol of the Philippines is the Philippine, or monkey-eating, eagle. **True** - It is the largest of all eagles and was declared the national bird of the Philippines in 1995.

## Mongolia #13

What is the capital? **Ulaanbaatar**

### True or False

- On September 17, 2011, 6,002 wrestlers participated in the Mongolian National Wrestling Match. **True** - It was the largest wrestling competition in the world, according to the Guinness World Records.
- Genghis Khan was born in A.D. 1162 in Deluun Boldog, not far from the current capital Ulaanbaatar. **True**
- The single-humped Bactrian camel is native to Mongolia. **False** - The two-humped Bactrian camel is native to Mongolia.

## Iraq #14

What is the capital? **Baghdad**

### True or False

- According to Islamic traditions, Prophet Noah built his ark in the city of Kufa which is situated in Iraq. **True**
- Iraq is known as the cradle of civilization as this was where first ever human civilizations appeared. **True**
- Cartoons got banned in the country in 1979. **False** - Karate films got banned in the country in 1979.

## Lebanon #15

What is the capital? **Beirut**

### True or False

- The world's first ever law school was founded in the city of Beirut in Lebanon. **True**
- It is widely believed that Jesus Christ performed his first miracle in Lebanon. **True**
- The Oak which is a native tree of Lebanon is mentioned 75 times in the Old Testament. **False** – The Cedar Tree is native to Lebanon.

## Indonesia #16

What is the capital? **Jakarta**

### True or False

- Indonesia is home to world's largest lizard, known as the Lizard King. **False** – The largest lizard is known as Komodo dragon.
- Indonesia exports 3,000 tons of frog legs to France each year. **True**
- Adult male Orangutans found in the wild of Indonesia are said to be eight times stronger than a human. **True**



## **Vietnam #17**

What is the capital? **Hanoi**

### **True or False**

- Vietnam has a perfume river that smells really nice because of flowers falling into it. **-True**
- Everyone in Vietnam has the same birthday, which is celebrated on the Vietnamese New Year (aka Tet). **True**
- Vietnam is also home to the world's largest canyon, Son Doong. **False** – Son Doong is the world's largest cave.

## **Jordan #18**

What is the capital? **Amman**

### **True or False**

- Jordan is home to many biblical sites including the **Jordan River** where Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist. **True**
- Mount Nebo where Moses died, as well as the sinful cities of Sodom and Gomorrah are in Jordan. **True**
- Jordan's capital Amman, dates to the Roman period when the city was known as Perasia. **False** – Amman was known as Philadelphia.

## **Pakistan #19**

What is the capital? **Islamabad**

### **True or False**

- In Pakistan, there is a special bill under which no one can make fun of children. **False** - No one can make fun of the government officials.
- Benazir Bhutto became the first female Prime Minister of Pakistan, and of any Muslim nation. **True**
- Queen Elizabeth II was the Queen of Pakistan until 1956. **True**

## Myanmar #20

What is the capital? **Naypyidaw**

### True or False

- Myanmar is known as the land of golden dragon. **False** - Myanmar is known as the land of golden pagoda.
- Burmese people have no hair cut days. **True** - Don't get a haircut on Mondays, Fridays and on birthdays.
- Myanmar is one of the three countries that have not adopted the metric system. **True** - The other two are the United States and Liberia.

## Sri Lanka #21

What is the capital? **Colombo & Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte**

### True or False

- Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte is the administrative capital and seat of the national legislature, Colombo is the commercial center of Sri Lanka **True**
- The oldest living tree known to be planted by man is in Sri Lanka. Sri Maha Bodhi in Anuradhapura has been tended continuously for over 2,000 years. **True**
- Because of its unique shape, Sri Lanka is known as the 'drip-drop of India'. **False** – Sri Lanka is known as the 'Teardrop of India'

## Israel #22

What is the capital? **Jerusalem**

### True or False

- Israel was the first country to ban overweight models. **False** - Israel was the first country to ban underweight models.
- Motorola developed the telephone in Israel. **False** - Motorola developed the cell phone in Israel.
- People can easily float in the Dead sea due to its unusually high salt concentration. **True** - It is almost impossible to dive into it.

## North Korea #23

What is the capital? **Pyongyang**

### True or False

- North Korea has a Christmas festival to celebrate Jesus, on December 24. **False** – It's to celebrate the birthday of Kim Jong Il's mother.
- North Korea houses the world's largest flagpole, at 525' high. The flag it holds weighs approximately 600 pounds. **True**
- The Jikji printing plates are the oldest evidence of movable metal type printing in the world. **True** - The plates were used to print books in Cheongju, Korea, in 1377.

## Taiwan #24

What is the capital? **Taipei**

### True or False

- . Taiwan experiences over 1,000 earthquakes a year. **True**
- In Taiwan, the number 4 (like the number 13 in America) is considered unlucky. **True** - Buildings such as hospitals and hotels don't have a 4th floor.
- The Formosan dragon is the largest land animal in Taiwan and is a symbol of the country. **False** – The animal is the Formosan black bear.



## South Korea #25

What is the capital? **Seoul**

### True or False

- South Korea celebrates 1 Valentine's Day. **False** - 2 Valentine's Days, one for single and one for couples.
- South Korea's national dish is *kimchi*, which is a combination of vegetables and spices that have been fermented underground for months. **True**
- Korean martial art taekwondo is the country's most famous sport. **True** - It literally means "the way of the fist and foot."

## **Cambodia #26**

What is the capital? **Phnom Penh**

### **True or False**

- The largest religious structure ever built is Angkor Wat (City Temple) in Cambodia. -**True**
- Tarantulas are eaten in Cambodia as a snack. -**True** - Apparently, the “legs are pleasantly crunchy”.
- In Cambodia, it is considered impolite to point the bottom of your tongue towards someone. **False** – It is considered impolite to point the bottom of your **feet** towards someone.

## Laos #27

What is the capital? **Vientiane**

### True or False

- They refer to themselves as *luk khao niaow* meaning, “*children of sticky rice*”. **True**
- Laos’ national sport is Kator, which is like volleyball, but the players use their head instead of their hands to get the ball over the net. **False-** The players use their feet instead of their hands.
- Laos has the largest waterfall in Southeast Asia called the Khone Papeng, **True** - This is one of the main attractions in Laos.

## Malaysia #28

What is the capital? **Kuala Lumpur**

### True or False

- The biggest roundabout in the world is in Malaysia. **True** - The Persiaran Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah in Putrajaya has a diameter of 3.5km.
- Newborn babies are affectionately called snake in olden Iban communities. **False** – Newborns are affectionately called Ulat (worm).
- Borneo, Malaysia is also home to one of the oldest rainforests in the world. **True**

## Singapore #29

What is the capital? **Singapore**

### True or False

- Singapore is passionate about toilets. It is a crime to not flush the public toilet after use in Singapore. **True**
- Singapore is one of only three surviving city-states in the world. The other two are Monaco and the Vatican City. **True**
- Singapore has passed a specific law that allows urinating in elevators. **False** – The law prohibits urinating in elevators.

## Syria #30

What is the capital? **Damascus**

### True or False

- Syria was among the founding members of the peace keeping United Nations. **True**
- The only Pope to ever visit a mosque was John Paul II. He visited the Umayyad Mosque in Damascus in 2001. **True**
- The capital city of Syria, is called the “Forbidden City.” **False** - The capital city is called the “Jasmine City.”

## Kuwait #31

What is the capital? **Kuwait City**

### True or False

- The Kuwaiti dinar is the world's **lowest**-valued currency unit.  
**False** - The Kuwaiti dinar is the world's **highest**-valued currency unit.
- In 2005 women won the right to wear bikinis on the beach. **False** - In 2005 women won the right to vote and run-in elections.
- In popular discourse, the years between 1946 and 1982 are referred to as the "Golden Era". **True**

## Maldives #32

What is the capital? **Male`**

### True or False

- Its highest natural point being the lowest high point of any country in the world at 2.4 meters. **True**
- The Maldives were first settled in the 5th century B.C. by Buddhist seafarers from India and Sri Lanka. **True**
- Maldives is the largest Asian country by both land area and population. **False** – It's the smallest Asian country.



## Bangladesh #33

What is the capital? **Dhaka**

### True or False

- The national game of Bangladesh is Kabaddi (Ha-Doo-Doo). **True** – Although cricket is much more popular.
- The endangered Bengal tiger is the national animal. **True** - The roar of this tiger can be heard as far as 3 kilo meters.
- Bangladesh has four distinct seasons. **False** - Bangladesh has six seasons. The Seasons are grismo (summer), barsha (rainy), sharat (autumn), hemanto (cool), sheet (winter), and bashonto (spring).

## **Bahrain #34**

What is the capital? **Manama**

### **True or False**

- The grand Al Fateh Mosque in Bahrain is crowned with the largest gold dome in the world. **False** - It is crowned with the largest fiberglass dome in the world.
- A new constitution in 2002 gave women the right to vote and stand as candidates. **True**
- The Tree of Life in Bahrain is approximately 400 years old. **True** – It is visited by thousands of tourists every year.

## **Qatar #35**

What is the capital? **Doha**

### **True or False**

- The giant teddy bear called The Lamp Bear sits right in the middle of Hamad International Airport. **True** – It awaits you to take a selfie with it.
- Leading tourist attractions include Aladdin's Kingdom also known as The Entertainment City. **True**
- In Qatar it is a tradition to eat a large spoonful of Molasses at night and in the morning. **False** – It is tradition to eat honey at night and in the morning.

## **UAE United Arab Emirates #36**

What is the capital? **Abu Dhabi**

### **True or False**

- UAE in Asia is home to world's tallest building. **True** – Burj Khalifa.
- Dubai police use Ferraris, Bugatti, Lamborghini, and Veyron to chase criminals. True
- Kissing in public in Dubai is the greatest form of love and highly encouraged. **False** - Kissing in public in Dubai is strictly illegal and can result in deportation.

## Timor-Leste AKA East Timor #37

What is the capital? **Dili**

### True or False

- *United States Dollar* is the official currency here. –**True**
- Timor-Leste has gained independence twice. True - First from Portugal in 1975 and then from Indonesia in 1999.
- Dress codes for women are bare-arms, short skirts, or bikinis. **False** - Dress codes for women are strict, No bare-arms, low-cut tops, short skirts, or bikinis.

## **Brunei #38**

What is the capital? **Bandar Seri Begawan**

### **True or False**

- Brunei is considered the most observant Islamic nation in Southeast Asia. **True**
- Brunei was the first Asian country to ban shark fishing. **False** - Brunei was the first Asian country to ban shark finning.
- Brunei means “that’s it”! **True**

## **Palestine #39**

What is the capital? **Ramallah**

### **True or False**

- Christmas is celebrated once a year. False – Christmas is celebrated 3 times a year. December 25th, per western tradition, January 6th per Greek Orthodox tradition and January 18th, per Armenian tradition.
- Romans changed the region's name "Judea" into "Filistia" or "Palestine". **True**
- The traditional dish Sumaghiyyeh is both a delicious spice in one form and a deadly poison in another. True

## Yemen #40

What is the capital? **Sana'a**

### True or False

- In the Past, Yemen Was Known as the “Happy Land”. --**True**
- Shibam in Yemen, is often called the “Manhattan of the Desert.”  
**True**
- Shibam in Yemen is famous for its ancient metal high-rise buildings. **False** - Shibam is famous for its ancient mudbrick high-rise buildings. These high-rise buildings date back to the 16th century.



## Kyrgyzstan #41

What is the capital? **Bishkek**

### True or False

- “Kyrgyz” is thought to be derived from the Turkic word for “forty” – a reference to the 40 clans of the great Manas. **True**
- “Manas” is the world’s lengthiest epic. This Kyrgyz poem consists of 500,000 lines. **True**
- The Almond forests here are one for the largest natural almond forests on the planet. **False** - The walnut-fruit forests are one for the largest natural walnut forests on the planet.

## Uzbekistan #42

What is the capital? **Tashkent**

### True or False

- Palov or Plov is the national dish. Made of mutton, rice, onions and grated carrots **True** - Legend holds it was invented by the cooks of Alexander the Great.
- Traditional Uzbek bread, known as 'obi non' or simply 'non', is flat and round and always torn by hand. **True** – It is never sliced with a knife.
- Disrespect for the elderly is paramount. **False** - An Uzbek never disrespects, insults or yells at their parents.

## Tajikistan #43

What is the capital? **Dushanbe**

### True or False

- Dushanbe means Sunday in Tajik language. False - Dushanbe means Monday in Tajik language.
- Silk Road was a major trade route between China and Europe. It passed through Tajikistan. –**True**
- It is considered highly attractive for Tajikistani women to have a monobrow. **True** – Women unfortunate enough to be born with separate eyebrows, use paint to create the illusion of one brow.

## Turkmenistan #44

What is the capital? **Ashgabat**

### True or False

- Buses have strict schedules. **False** -Buses have no schedules. They depart only when they are full.
- It is commonplace for Turkmen to drink hot green tea during the summer to keep their body cool! ---**True**
- Since 1993, water, electricity and gas have been free to all residents in Turkmenistan. **True**

## Kazakhstan #45

What is the capital? **Nur-Sultan**

### True or False

- Ancient Kazakhs were the first people in the world to domesticate and ride Camels. False - Kazakhs were the first to domesticate and ride Horses.
- Out of the 110 elements from Mendeleev's table of chemical elements, 99 have been detected in Kazakhstan **-True**
- Kazakhstan is home to the **Baikonur Cosmodome**, the world's first and largest space launch facility. **True** - Sputnik, the world's first orbiting satellite, was launched from there in 1957.

## Turkey #46

What is the capital? **Ankara**

### True or False

- Saint Nebulas, who is popularly known as Santa Claus, was born in Turkey. **False** - Saint Nicholas, who is popularly known as Santa Claus, was born in Turkey.
- The place known as Troy from the legendary Trojan Wars is in Western Turkey. **True**
- Istanbul is famous for being the only city that is part of two continents, Asia and Europe. **True**

## Cyprus #47

What is the capital? **Nicosia**

### True or False

- Legend has it that the Greek goddess of reason—Athena—was born in Cyprus. **False** - Legend has it that the Greek goddess of love—Aphrodite—was born in Cyprus.
- Cyprus is also the first country to be governed by a Muslim. **False** - Cyprus is the first country to be governed by a Christian.
- Mount Olympus is the highest peak in Cyprus at 6402 ft above sea level. **True**

## Papua New Guinea #48

What is the capital? **Port Moresby**

### True or False

- It is a taboo for a son in-law to eat food in the presence of his father in-law. **False**- It is a taboo for a son in-law to eat food in the presence of his mother in-law.
- The worlds only know poisonous bird the Hooded Pitohui is native to Papua New Guinea. **True**
- Pointing at people who are not part of your conversation is an oddity that must be avoided. **True**



