eHRAF World Cultures
A QUICK START GUIDE

FIRST LOOK &
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
Our award-winning, membership-based eHRAF World Cultures database contains information on present and past aspects of cultural and social life for a worldwide sample of societies.

*Designed with cultural researchers in mind, eHRAF differs from other academic online databases that you may be used to.*

It provides, at your fingertips, the ability to browse and search across our ethnographic collections comprising hundreds of societies, with documents meticulously subject-indexed at the paragraph level by HRAF anthropologists.

*The release of our latest iteration of the eHRAF application offers many enhancements that we are excited to share with you. This guide will walk you through the basics.*
eHRAF is comprised of culture collections. Unlike databases that simply host static files to read or print, eHRAF is more dynamic. Every document in our database has been carefully indexed by anthropological experts to highlight the key subjects covered in each and every paragraph.

With HRAF's Outline of Cultural Materials (OCM) subject-classification system tagging the thematic contents of every paragraph, eHRAF helps you quickly drill down the ethnographic data across nearly 1 million pages of original source material covering over 360+ cultures that we have on file.
Let's begin with the interface and navigation.

This is the landing page that you'll see when you log on.

Things might look a little different on a mobile device.
To get an overview of what’s inside eHRAF, you can Browse by Cultures, Documents, and/or Subjects. Use the filters to narrow your results.

Click on "Full Profile" to jump to the Culture or Subject profile for a description of the subject or culture collection. Use the Index Search to find specific cultures, subjects, or documents.

Culture and Subject Profiles contain a description of the culture or subject, related terms, and a list of relevant documents contained in eHRAF.
HOW DO I START SEARCHING?

Start typing in the search box. Auto-complete will try to help.

This box is useful for general keywords or topics that you are interested in.

Need some inspiration?
On the landing page, there are **Featured Searches** that we've prepared for you. Simply click to conduct the search and view the results.

**SWITCH TO ADVANCED SEARCH**

Click the **Advanced Search** button to enter the Advanced Search form.

Additional search fields will appear. Here you may choose a combination of culture names, subjects, and/or keywords to customize your search.
WHY USE ADVANCED SEARCH?

For exploratory searches or single-subject queries, we think you’ll find our “smart” home search bar to be more than adequate.

For our eHRAF search pros: if you’re interested in more control over your search or have more complicated queries, you can tweak all the important fields with Advanced Search.

By utilizing OCM subject identifiers in your search, you can make use of HRAF’s expert indexing so that you don’t miss out on any relevant data. For example, a basic keyword search for "food" will return paragraphs where the word "food" appears in the text. What if the ethnographer is discussing feasting, fasting, or cooking, without actually using the word "food"? Try adding OCMs 262 - Diet and 252 - Food Preparation to narrow your search. For a broader view, try 260 - Food Consumption.
ADVANCED SEARCH

- **enter subjects**: Select from suggestions or look up more subjects.
- **enter culture names or look up regions, subregions, and cultures**.
- **enter keywords**: Click to learn more about a subject.
- **set search operators**: Add additional clauses.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Textual Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burmans</td>
<td>Asia - Intensive Agriculturalists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuarog</td>
<td>Africa - Agro-pastoralists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serbs</td>
<td>Europe - Intensive Agriculturalists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inner Mongolia</td>
<td>Asia - Agro-pastoralists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea Islanders</td>
<td>North America - Commercial Economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albanians</td>
<td>Europe - Intensive Agriculturalists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saami</td>
<td>Europe - Pastoralists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Masai</td>
<td>Africa - Pastoralists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lepcha</td>
<td>Asia - Intensive Agriculturalists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hausa</td>
<td>Africa - Other Subsistence Combinations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samoans</td>
<td>Oceania - Horticulturalists</td>
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<td>Ingalik</td>
<td>North America - Hunter-gatherers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sea Islanders</td>
<td>North America - Commercial Economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mara</td>
<td>Africa - Intensive Agriculturalists</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nash, Manning. 1965. *The Golden Road To Modernity* |

In the dispositon of the heavenly bodies, there are some that are repetitive... |

Bernz, Maurice. 1918. *Six Months Among The Athapascan Indians* |

There are also lucky or unlucky days. The lucky days... |

Miyatovic, Dedinovic, 1842-1932. 1914. *Seva Of The Servians* |

WHEN a Servian peasant decides to build for himself, or for his Zadruga, a house, his first preoccupation is how to find "the lucky spot" where such a house... |

Far Eastern and Russian Institute Of The University Of Washington. 1956. *A Regional Handbook Of The Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region* |

The nomads believed in lucky days and in lucky articles. Lamads were consulted for lucky days on which to start a journey or for which to plan a wedding... |

Georgia Writers' Project. Savannah Unit. 1936. *Dreams and Symbols: Survivals Among The Georgia Coastal Negros* |

"It's full good luck. All dh people use yuh carri ol Llucky Halti and Llucky Halti wun dh tings." 8 |


It was considered extremely lucky to dream of climbing a mountain—perhaps because the tribesman places Heaven on a mountain top. It is... |

Bernatzik, Hugo Adolf. 1938. *Overland With The Nomad Lapps* |

In earlier times they believed in lucky and unlucky children. If some misfortune happened to the parents' herd before its birth, no good was expected... |

Fox, D. Stiens. 1920. *Further Notes On The Masa Of Kenya Colony* |

It is lucky to see a fish eagle (of koppala) sitting on a tree. If you see it on the observer. It is unlucky to see a single wild pig but lucky if a number... |


It is an auspicious omen for a child to be born on one of the lucky days, its life will be happy, and it will seldom fall ill. It is advisable to begin work... |


Euphemism for a lucky shot. |

Buck, Peter Henry. 1877-1951 - 1930. *Samoa Material Culture* |

Lucky hocks. The luck that figures prominently in old traditions and is used figuratively to denote good fortune is the amulet while that which brings... |


Utility. As the paraphernalia of the lucky pole ceremony. |

Georgia Writers' Project. Savannah Unit. 1936. *Dreams and Symbols: Survivals Among The Georgia Coastal Negros* |

"And what is in a lucky Heart," we inquired. |


It is lucky to dream of clear water, as this means good health; to dream of fish is lucky; it indicates good health and good crops. Dreams of
HOW DO I VIEW MY SEARCH RESULTS?

Click on the paragraph snippet that interests you. Note that the keywords from your search will be highlighted.

CAN I FILTER OR SORT MY RESULTS FOR SPECIFIC PEOPLES OR PLACES?

Open filters, then use the Refine Search menu on the left to filter your results by subsistence type, region, date, sample or other parameters. Use the sort button at the top right to sort by region, title, or relevance.

TOGGLE RESULTS LAYOUT

Click on View As in the top right to change the appearance of the results view. Alternative views to the List View include Hierarchy View and Card View.
Table-style breakdown by region, subregion, culture and document. Click on a culture name to view results organized by document and author.

**Africa** (27 paragraphs in 52 documents in 27 cultures)

**Asia** (141 paragraphs in 84 documents in 67 cultures)

**Europe** (13 paragraphs in 13 documents in 7 cultures)

**Middle East** (18 paragraphs in 10 documents in 7 cultures)

**North America** (154 paragraphs in 81 documents in 38 cultures)

**Oceania** (30 paragraphs in 19 documents in 15 cultures)

**South America** (24 paragraphs in 16 documents in 14 cultures)

**SEARCH RESULTS**

**CARD VIEW**

Paragraph snippets appear as cards. Click on a result to expand.

**HIERARCHY VIEW**

**ALTERNATIVE VIEWS**

**CARD VIEW**

**SEARCH RESULTS**

**HIERARCHY VIEW**

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eHRAF Search Insights break down your search results and help to visualize meaningful patterns in the data.

**Results Table**: View paragraph and page result counts by region and sub-region. Click on a region link to drill down to sub-regions.

**Cloud Overview**: View a keyword "cloud" to see which subjects, cultures, subsistence types, or regions within your results have the most hits.

**Map**: Explore your culture results on the world map.
CITATIONS & EXPORTING

Pre-formatted citations are offered in the following styles: **Chicago**, **APA**, **MLA**, or **Harvard**. Simply copy and paste the citation as needed.

**Export**

Citations can be exported for the following software: **RefMan**, **EndNote**, or **BibTeX**. Metadata and permalinks to search results can also be exported to a **CSV file**. Note that paragraph text is not exported. To save paragraphs, see **Notebooks**, below.
GETTING STARTED

FULL CONTEXT VIEW

To see a selected paragraph from your search results in its original page context, click on "full context" located below the paragraph.

From the full context view, you can navigate the document using the page numbers and arrows on right side of the page. You can also find metadata, permalinks, and citations for the document there.
Too many search results? Use filters to drill down your findings, or set your search parameters to fewer cultures or subjects of interest.

Not enough results? Remember that eHRAF contains thousands of pages of expertly coded cultural information. This data has been indexed at the paragraph level, meaning that your search terms need to appear together within a single paragraph in order to count as a hit. If your search is bringing up too few results, you may be entering too many terms and subjects at once. If you’re in Advanced Search, make sure you’re setting your search operators (AND vs. OR) correctly.

Need more info? Click on a culture or subject identifier to read the culture or subject profile.
eHRAF Notebooks allow you to save paragraph results from your search to custom folders for future reference. You can organize, annotate and label your clippings as well as move them between folders. You may also share notebooks to collaborate with other users.

To enable Notebooks, click on the Sign Up button in eHRAF. Note that at this time, Notebooks are not accessed through institutional credentials. Users must create a new account inside the eHRAF interface which is separate from their university or college library ID.
CREATE + ADD RESULTS TO A NOTEBOOK

Click on the Notebooks button beneath any search result to create a new notebook or to add paragraphs to an existing notebook. (Remember, you must be registered and logged in to see this option.)

Access your saved notebook(s) from the sidebar menu.
ORGANIZE YOUR NOTEBOOK

LABELS & ANNOTATIONS

You can filter, sort, add or remove your saved paragraph results in your notebook. You may also annotate or add labels within notebooks to customize how you organize your eHRAF data.

1. Select paragraphs
2. Add labels

• First, check the box to the left of a paragraph if you would like to label or annotate it.

• Then, use the "label", "annotate" or "delete" icons at the top to modify your selections.
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FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HRAF, INCLUDING MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION AND TRIALS, VISIT OUR HOMEPAGE AT HTTP://HRAF.YALE.EDU