THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF LANGAUGES

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Category: Language and Society

> *â€œThe first instrument of a peopleâ€™s genius is its language,â€ said the French writer Stendhal. Literacy, learning, social integrationâ€¦.Everything transits through language, which embodies national, cultural and sometimes religious identity for each person. It constitutes one of the fundamental dimensions of a human being. Yet specialists estimate that within only a few generations, more than half of the 7,000 languages spoken in the world face extinction, because they are not represented in government, education and the media. For this reason, the United Nations had declared* ***2008 the International Year of Languages****, to be launched by UNESCO on 21 February, International Mother Language Day.*

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