

# A little learning is a dangerous thing

[Linguistics](#), [English](#)



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Having little or no information can cost one their freedom and even their dignity. This case happened to me when we visited the Middle East. We thought that our culture and background is similar to that of the Middle East and hell broke lose when we applied my cultural understanding in Saudi Arabia.

It was on Saturday afternoon when we arrived in Saudi Arabia for our holiday. Everything seemed nice, and we actually showed our politeness to everyone around us. Our mode of dressing was just like we are used to at home, and this seemed weird to the countrymen of Saudi Arabia. Little did we know that our mode of dressing was termed skimpy and irritated some people in Saudi Arabia.

Our ignorance led to the climax of conflict when my friend Jerry attempted to shake the hands of a lady who was passing near our hotel room. This act created a scene that cost us endless explanations in a bid to explain that our intentions were not wrong. We were caught and locked up in a room for hours for indecent behavior.

After long hours of discussion, we managed to convince the security men that we were simple visitors and had no intention of any kind with the lady. We even explained we found it courteous to greet people. We were later released with severe warnings.

At the end of the day we learnt that had we researched more on the culture of the Middle East, we would not be in trouble for behaving badly. With the tough lessons learnt, life continues. My friends and I are very cautious especially when we do not have enough information on some aspects of life.