



21.2.2017 – If you visit the Himba tribe in Namibia, people will have a hard time understanding what you mean by [the colour 'blue'](#). You, on the other hand, will be put to shame by the ease with which the locals discern the colour green into a myriad of shades, seemingly invisible to your eyes. But with time you can learn to see the colours.

February 21 marks [International Mother Language Day](#), when Member States of the United Nations are reminded, 'to promote the preservation and protection of all languages used by peoples of the world' ([A/RES/61/266](#)).

This year the International Day is devoted to multilingual education. This means that children all over the world, should not only be given access to education in international or regional tongues, but also in the mother language, that they best understand.



~~Full text of this page is available at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/mother-language-day/>~~