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INSPECTION OF INTERESTING RULES OF ETIQUETTE IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

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Etiquette, or the set of rules governing social behaviour, varies greatly from country to country. Although some rules may seem universal, such as politeness and respect for others, there are many unique customs and traditions that may surprise outsiders. Here are some interesting facts about etiquette in different countries and the history of its development.

Japan

In Japan, etiquette plays a significant role in everyday life. One interesting aspect of Japanese etiquette is the emphasis on gift-giving. It is customary to bring a gift, called omiyage, when visiting someone's home or when traveling [1]. The gift should be wrapped in a way that emphasizes the giver's thoughtfulness rather than the gift's monetary value.

Another fascinating aspect of Japanese etiquette is the use of chopsticks. While many cultures use chopsticks, Japan has a unique set of customs surrounding their use. For example, it is considered impolite to point with chopsticks or to leave them standing upright in a bowl of rice. Additionally, it is customary to say "itadakimasu" before eating to express gratitude for the food.

The history of Japanese etiquette can be traced back to the Edo period (1603-1868), when the samurai class developed a strict code of conduct. This code, called bushido, emphasized virtues such as loyalty, courage, and honor. Over time, these values became ingrained in Japanese culture and continue to influence Japanese etiquette today.

France

France is known for its elegant style and refined manners, and this is reflected in its etiquette. One interesting fact about French etiquette is the emphasis on formal language. French people often use the formal "vous" rather than the informal "tu" when addressing others, even in casual settings.

Another unique aspect of French etiquette is the art of conversation. French people place great value on the ability to engage in intelligent conversation and debate, and it is considered impolite to interrupt others or speak too loudly. Additionally, it is customary to greet others with a kiss on each cheek, regardless of gender.

The history of French etiquette can be traced back to the reign of Louis XIV (1643-1715), who established a strict code of conduct at the royal court. This code, known as the "étiquette," dictated everything from how to dress to how to address others. Over time, this code became more relaxed and was adopted by the upper classes as a way to demonstrate their refinement.

China

China has a rich history and culture, and this is reflected in its etiquette. One interesting aspect of Chinese etiquette is the importance of hierarchy. It is customary to show respect to elders and those in positions of authority, and this is often demonstrated through the use of formal titles and deferential language [2].

Another unique aspect of Chinese etiquette is the use of chopsticks. While many cultures use chopsticks, China has a unique set of customs surrounding their use. For example, it is considered

impolite to wave chopsticks around or to spear food with them. Additionally, it is customary to offer a toast before drinking, and to pour drinks for others rather than oneself.

The history of Chinese etiquette can be traced back to the Zhou dynasty (1046-256 BC), when Confucianism emerged as a dominant philosophy. Confucianism emphasized the importance of proper conduct and respect for authority, and these values became an important part of Chinese culture.

United States

The United States is a diverse and multicultural country, and this is reflected in its etiquette. One interesting fact about American etiquette is the emphasis on informality. Americans often address each other by their first names, even in formal settings, and tend to be more casual in their dress and behavior.

Another unique aspect of American etiquette is the emphasis on individualism [3]. Americans value personal space and privacy, and it is considered impolite to pry into someone's personal life or to ask personal questions unless you have a close relationship with the person.

The history of American etiquette is influenced by many different factors, including the country's immigrant history and its founding principles of liberty and democracy. The early American settlers brought with them customs and traditions from their homelands, which were melded together over time to create a unique American culture. In the 19th century, etiquette books became popular, and these guides helped to codify the rules of polite behavior for the growing middle class.

India

India is a vast and diverse country with a rich history and culture. One interesting aspect of Indian etiquette is the importance of hierarchy and social status [4]. It is customary to show respect to elders and those in positions of authority, and this is often demonstrated through the use of formal titles and deferential language.

Another unique aspect of Indian etiquette is the use of hand gestures. Hand gestures are an important part of Indian communication, and they are used to convey emotions, make requests, and express respect. For example, folding one's hands in front of the chest is a sign of respect, while pointing with the index finger is considered impolite

The history of Indian etiquette can be traced back to ancient Hindu texts, such as the Manusmriti, which established a strict code of conduct for the caste system. Over time, these values became ingrained in Indian culture and continue to influence Indian etiquette today.

Brazil

One of unique aspect of Brazilian etiquette is the importance of punctuality, or rather, the lack thereof. In Brazil, it is common for events and meetings to start later than the scheduled time, and arriving slightly late to social gatherings is often seen as normal. However, this does not apply to professional settings, where punctuality is still expected.

Conclusion

In conclusion, etiquette varies greatly from country to country and is influenced by many different factors, including history, culture, and religion. While there are some universal rules of polite behavior, such as being respectful and considerate of others, there are many unique customs and traditions that may surprise outsiders. By understanding and respecting these customs, we can build better relationships with people from different cultures and create a more harmonious world.

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