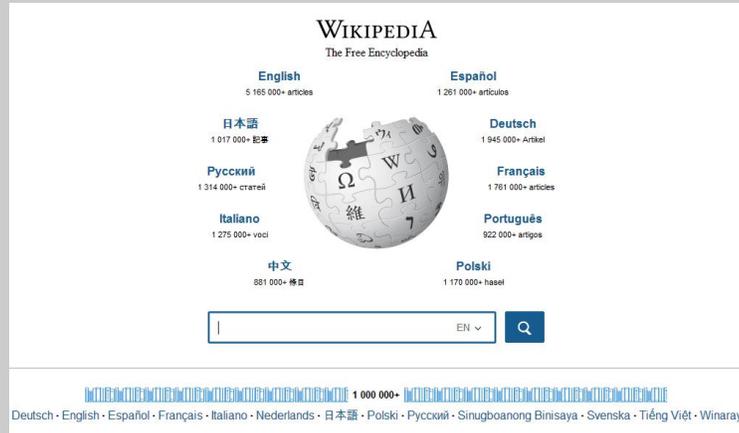


Home Page



Logo



URL

<https://www.wikipedia.org/>

Subject

Encyclopedias

Accessibility

Free

Language

Multilingual (295 languages like English, Spanish, German, Chinese, Bengali, Urdu etc.)

Publisher

Wikimedia Foundation (WMF)

Brief History

Wikipedia was founded as an offshoot of Nupedia, a now-abandoned project to produce a free encyclopedia, begun by the online media company Bomis. Nupedia had an elaborate system of peer review and required highly qualified contributors, but the writing of articles was slow. During 2000, Jimmy Wales (founder of Nupedia and co-founder of Bomis), and Larry Sanger, whom Wales had employed to work on the encyclopedia project, discussed ways of supplementing Nupedia with a more open, complementary project. Multiple sources suggested that a wiki might allow members of the public to contribute materials, and Nupedia's first wiki went online on January 10, 2001.

There was considerable resistance on the part of Nupedia's editors and reviewers to the idea of associating Nupedia with a website in the wiki format, so the new project was given the name "Wikipedia" and launched on its own domain as wikipedia.com, on January 15, 2001.

Scope and Coverage

The encyclopedia covers following categories with their sub and sub sub categories:

➤ **General reference:**

- **Reference works-** Almanacs, Atlases, Biographical dictionaries, Dictionaries (online), Directories (online), Encyclopedias (online) etc.
- **Further research tools and topics-** Academic Disciplines, Archives, Books, Clients, Curricula etc.

➤ **Culture and the arts:**

- **Culture and Humanities** - Classics, Critical theory, Cultural anthropology, Folklore, Food culture, Food and drink, Languages etc.
- **Arts and Entertainment-** Arts and crafts, Celebrity, Censorship in the arts, Festivals, Humor etc.
- **Performing arts** -Circus, Dance, Film, Music, Opera, Storytelling, Theatre.
- **Visual arts** - Architecture, Comics, Crafts, Design, Drawing, Film, Animation etc.
- **Games and Toys** - Board games, Card games, Dolls, Puppetry, Puzzles, Role-playing games, Video games.
 - ✓ **Sports and Recreation** - Air sports, American football, Association football, Auto racing, Baseball etc.
- **Mass media-** Broadcasting, Film, Internet, Magazines, Newspapers, Publications, Publishing etc.

➤ **Geography and places:**

Earth, World, Bodies of water, Cities, Communities, Continents, Countries, Deserts, Lakes, Landforms, Mountains, Navigation, Oceans.

➤ **Health and fitness:**

- **Self care** -Health promotion, Life extension, Prevention, Sexual, health, Sleep, Skin Care.
- **Nutrition**- Dietary supplements, Dietetics, Nutrients, Amino acids, Minerals, Nootropics, Phytochemicals, Vitamins, Nutritional advice pyramids.
- **Exercise** -Aerobics, Bodyweight exercise (Calisthenics), Cycling, Exercise equipment, Exercise instructors, Dancing etc.
- **Hygiene** -Cleaning, Oral hygiene.
- **Positive psychology**- Mental health, Psychotherapy.
- **Public health**- Health by country, Healthcare, Health law, Health promotion, Health standards, Hospitals etc.
- **Health science**- Clinical research, Diseases, Epidemiology, Midwifery, Nursing, Nutrition etc.
- **Medicine**
- **Human medicine**- Alternative medicine, Cardiology, Endocrinology, Forensics, Gastroenterology, Human Genetics, Geriatrics, Gerontology etc.
- **Dentistry**- Dental hygiene, Orthodontics.
- **Veterinary medicine**

➤ **History and events:**

- **By period, By topic (Science, Religion), Historiography, Timelines.**
- **History by location**
 - By continent**, Africa, Asia, Europe, America
 - By region**, North America, South America, Central Europe, Middle East, Oceania
 - By country, By city, Empires**

- **Mathematics and logic:**
 - **Formal sciences**
 - **Mathematics-** Mathematics education, Equations, Heuristics, Measurement, Numbers, Proofs, Theorems
 - **Fields of mathematics** -Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Mathematical analysis, Calculus.
 - **Logic-** Deductive reasoning, Inductive reasoning, History of logic, Logical fallacies, Metalogic, Philosophy of logic
 - **Mathematical sciences-** Computational science, Operations research, Theoretical physics
 - **Statistics-** Analysis of variance, Bayesian statistics, Categorical data, Covariance and correlation, Data analysis, Decision theory, Design of experiments etc.

- **Natural and physical sciences:**
 - **Biology-**Botany, Ecology, Health sciences, Medicine Neuroscience, Zoology
 - **Earth sciences-**Atmospheric sciences, Geography, Geology, Geophysics, Oceanography etc.
 - **Nature-** Animals, Environment, Humans, Life Natural resources, Plants Pollution etc.
 - **Physical sciences-** Astronomy, Chemistry, Climate, Physics, Space, Universe.
 - **Scientific method-** Scientists.

- **People and self:**
 - **People-**Beginners and newcomers, Biographies (Page does not exist), Children, Heads of state, Humans, Legal categories of people, Men, Old age, Political people, Rivalry, Social groups, Subcultures, Women.
 - **People by** city, company, continent, educational institution, ethnicity, descent, origin etc.

- Activists, Actors, Astronauts, Billionaires, Chief executives, Composers, Cyborgs, Defectors, Generals, Humanitarians, Innovators, Inventors, Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered (LGBT) people, Monarchs, Musicians, Musical groups, Philosophers etc.
- **Self**-Alter egos, Consciousness studies, Gender, Personality, Sexuality, Sexual orientation
- **Personal life**-Clothing, Employment, Entertainment Food and drink, Games, Health, Hobbies, Home, Income, Interpersonal relationships, Leisure, Love, Motivation, Personal development, Pets.

➤ **Philosophy and thinking:**

- **Philosophy**-Branches, Schools and traditions, Movements, Concepts, Theories, Arguments, Philosophers, Literature, History, By period, By region, Aesthetics, Epistemology, Ethics, Logic Metaphysics, Social philosophy.
- **Thinking / Thinking skills**-Attention, Cognition, Cognitive biases, Creativity, Decision theory, Emotion, Error, Imagination, Intelligence, researchers etc.

➤ **Society and social sciences:**

- **Society**-Activism, Business, Communication, Crime, Education, Ethnic groups, Family, Finance, Globalization, Government, Health, Home, Industries, Infrastructure, Law etc.
- **Social sciences**-Anthropology, Archaeology, Cultural studies, Demographics, Economics, Information science, International relations, Linguistics, Media studies, Political science, Psychology, Public administration, Sexology, Social scientists, Sociology, Social work, Systems theory.

➤ **Technology and applied sciences:**

- Agriculture, Agronomy, Architecture, Biotechnology, Cartography etc.
- **Computing** – Artificial intelligence, Classes of

computers, Companies, Computer architecture etc.

- **Electronics-** Avionics, Intergrated circuit (RF and MMIC design, Circuits, Companies, Connectors etc.
- **Engineering** – Aerospace engineering, Bioengineering, Chemical engineering, Civil engineering etc.
- **Transport** – By country, Automobiles, Aviation etc.

Wikipedia has 5,192,194 content articles and 39,737,862 pages in total as on 11July, 2016.

Kind of Information

- Each article in Wikipedia gives information about the topic along with applicable pictures and videos, animated picture etc. Each article includes a content in which the points of that article are included and then the article gives information on those points. In maximum times, at the end of the article, it includes see references, see also references, external references, further readings, references, foot notes etc. The article also gives the date of last modification at the end of the article.
- Under the article page “**View History Date**” the article also gives update history date with the name of the person who has edited the article.
- Under the article page “**View Source / Edit**”, Wikipedia gives provision to view and copy the source of the article.
- Under “**Talk**” page of the article there is provision for discussion about the improvements made to the article but this is not a forum for general discussion of the article's subject.

With this article the encyclopedia provides following tools:

- **What links here**
Under this tool there is a hyperlinked list of pages which are linked to the article.
- **Related changes**
There is a list of recent changes to pages linked from a specified page (or to members of a specified category). Changes to pages on the watch list are shown with a green bullet.

➤ **Upload file**

This is a project page named “Wikipedia: File Upload Wizard”. This page is for uploading images and other media files to Wikipedia. When one clicks the link below, the wizard will guide he/she through a questionnaire prompting for the appropriate copyright and sourcing information for each file.

➤ **Special pages**

This page contains a list of special pages. Most of the content of these pages is automatically generated and cannot be edited.

➤ **Permanent link**

A permanent link (or permalink) is a link to a specific version of a wiki page. Normal links always lead to the most current version of a page, but the permalink leads to the text as it was at the time; the text does not include any edits made since.

➤ **Page information**

Page information under the “Tools” option provides the following information on the particular article:

Basic information,
Page information,
Information on edit history,
Information on page properties,
External tools for other information like,
Revision history search,
Revision history statistics,
Edits by user,
Page view statistics,
WikiChecker

➤ **Wikidata Item:** Wikidata acts as central storage for the structured data of Wikipedia articles.

➤ **Cite This Page:** This is a special page. Wikipedia has a tool to generate citations for particular articles. It provides following citing styles:

APA style, MLA style, MHRA style, Chicago style, CBE/CSE style, Bluebook style, AMA style etc.

➤ The article also gives appropriate links to other Wikimedia projects, like Wikiquote, Wikinews, Wikimedia Commons etc.

As for example, the article page on “Tsunami” gives detailed information on “Tsunami”. It also includes coloured pictures of the event. It also includes animated graphics, diagrams to discuss the causes of Tsunami.

The article includes the following contents, by which it describes the topic “Tsunami”:

Contents [hide]	
1	Terminology
1.1	Tsunami
1.2	Tidal wave
1.3	Seismic sea wave
2	History
3	Generation mechanisms
3.1	Seismicity
3.2	Landslides
3.3	Meteotsunamis
3.4	Man-made or triggered tsunamis
4	Characteristics
5	Drawback
6	Scales of intensity and magnitude
6.1	Intensity scales
6.2	Magnitude scales
7	Warnings and predictions
7.1	Forecast of tsunami attack probability
8	Mitigation
9	See also
10	Footnotes
11	References
12	Further reading
13	External links

The article includes 19 see also references, some of these are:

- ❖ Deep-ocean Assessment and Reporting of Tsunamis,
- ❖ Earthquake Early Warning (Japan),
- ❖ Emergency management,
- ❖ Higher Ground Project etc.

It includes 51 foot notes, under which it directly is linked with Wikipedia and other sites, and some articles, like:

❖ Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology
(<http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/spaceimages/details.php?id=PIA04373>)

❖ Nature.com blog
(<http://blogs.nature.com/barbaraferreira/2011/04/17/when-icebergs-capsize>)

❖ Merriam Webster Dictionary

(<http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/tidal%20wave>)

- ❖ Article from JSTORE with doi number 10.2307/4135013 etc.

The article includes following references:

- ❖ Tsunami Glossary from International Tsunami Information Center
- ❖ Abelard.org
(<http://www.abelard.org/briefings/tsunami.php>)
- ❖ Earthquake Engineering Research Institute
(<http://www.eeri.org/>) etc.

The article includes list of further readings. Some of these are:

- ❖ Physics of Tsunamis by Boris W. Levin, Mikhail A. Nosov in 2008.
- ❖ Tsunami Events and Lessons Learned: Environmental and Societal Significance by Kontar, Y. A. et al. in 2015.
- ❖ Earthquakes: simulations, sources and tsunamis by Kristy F. Tiampo in 2008 etc.

It includes list of external links. Some of these are :

- ❖ World's Tallest Tsunami
(<http://geology.com/records/biggesttsunami.shtml>)
- ❖ Tsunami Data and Information from National Center for Environmental Information, NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration)
(<http://ngdc.noaa.gov/hazard/tsu.shtml>) etc.

At the end of the article, it shows the last updation date with time. In “**View History**” page, it also includes the total chronological list of date of updation of the article with the name of persons who have done the job of updating. The name of the author of the article with credentials is available in the “**User Page**” which is named after the

author. The page can be viewed by clicking the “**Oldest**” button found at the end of that chronological list and then by clicking the name of the person (mentioned as initial entry) which is found at the very end of the list. The “**Talk Page**” of the article is for discussing improvements on the Tsunami article.

Under the tool “**What links here**”, Wikipedia provides following links of pages for the article “Tsunami”:

Alaska (links | edit)
August 13 (links | edit)
April 1 (links | edit)
Atlantis (links | edit)
April 11 (links | edit)
Alexandria (links | edit)
Blizzard (links | edit)
Bronze Age (links | edit)
California (links | edit) etc.

Under the tool “**Related changes**” Wikipedia provides a list of recent changes related to “Tsunami”.

The “**Permanent link**” of the article provides the latest revision of article again with the name of the reviser and the time and date of the revision.

The “**Page information**” tool of the article provides various information on the article “Tsunami”.

Special Features

- Wikipedia is a free online encyclopedia that anyone can add to or edit. It puts control into the hands of users, who decide what topics are covered and at what depth.
- Under the tool “**Special pages**” Wikipedia contains a list of special administrative pages. Most of the contents of these pages are automatically generated and cannot be edited. These articles like Broken redirects, Dead-end pages, Dormant pages, Double redirects, Category tree, Disambiguation pages, Create account, Log in, Active user list, Blocked users etc. belong to various categories like maintenance reports, Lists of pages, Login/ create account, Users and rights etc.
- This encyclopedia gives provision to view and copy the source code of an article.
- The article on this encyclopedia provides many coloured

images, maps, animated films, audios, videos etc. where applicable.

- Provision for fuzzy logic is there.
- After clicking on the magnifying glass sign of the search bar one will get a special page named “Search”. Here in the search bar if one types a particular topic total number of multimedia files appears under the **Multimedia** button.
- Links to social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter etc. are available.
- Android mobile version of Wikipedia is also available.
- Wikipedia is also available in the shape of Simple English Wikipedia for students, children and for people who are learning English.

Arrangement Pattern

The content of this encyclopedia is arranged category wise according to editor’s discretion. The divisions and subdivisions of the content are also arranged category wise. In the **“Scope and Coverage”** section mentioned above this arrangement has been shown in a crystal clear manner.

Remarks

The site was launched in early 2001 and has since grown to include millions of articles in dozens of languages. Despite concerns about the quality of openly editable information, Wikipedia has become one of the most popular online resources — statistics put Wikipedia as the eighth most-visited Web site in the United States, behind sites such as Yahoo, Google, MySpace, and eBay. Article topics range from very broad to the highly specific and the site offers tools to organize information into various content areas — such as “academic disciplines” and “glossaries”— with numerous topic breakdowns within each category. Each article contains any number of links to other Wikipedia articles or to external resources.

An emergent term or an obscure idea not found in a dictionary or a traditional encyclopedia can easily show up in Wikipedia, and the length of an article indicates community interest in the topic. For any wiki to be worthwhile the community of participants must work on a foundation of trust and openness; Wikipedia is an example of what can be accomplished by a disparate group of individuals, with a shared interest in a topic, working on such a foundation. Wikipedia offers extremely timely and always changing information — the site can reflect the current scholarship on a topic or, as in the case of the

2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, can present a nearly up-to-the-minute account of an unfolding event.

Comparable Tools

- New World Encyclopedia
(http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Info:Main_Page)
- Citizendium (<http://en.citizendium.org/>)
- Scholarpedia
(http://www.scholarpedia.org/article/Main_Page)
- Appropedia
(http://www.appropedia.org/Welcome_to_Appropedia)
- Fact Monster: From Information Please
(<http://www.factmonster.com/encyclopedia.html>)

Date of Access

July 12, 2016