



**GUIDE TO**  
**SOCIAL ETIQUETTE**  
**IN BRYNANIA**

RULES OF ETIQUETTE FOR ALL OCCASIONS,  
INCLUDING GREETINGS; INVITATIONS;  
FESTIVITIES; PEACE NEGOTIATIONS; WEDDINGS;  
RECEPTIONS; DINNERS AND TEA; ETIQUETTE  
OF COURTSHIP; PUBLIC PLACES, ETC ETC.

BY

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Ethnographic mission of 1906 under the French Third Republic

# PREFACE.

*B*rynanian hosts a vast array of tribal clans endowed with many intrinsic manners and customs, representative of their culture and of Cyberians more broadly. While conducting an ethnographic mission for 19 long months in the heat and difficult conditions of Equatorial Cyberspace, I have lived with and observed the indigenous of Grenoble, as well as met with many clans living around the St. Catherine River. Our expedition adventured from the depth of the tropics surrounding McGilldishu to the arid and mountainous regions surrounding Lake Icasia.

Despite what first impressions may convey, the people of Brynanian have an elaborated social code of conduct, respected throughout the country. Greetings, invitations, peace negotiations across clans, wedding rituals, and many more social interactions, all have a set of rules which the locals follow meticulously, organizing clans' behaviors throughout the vast landscape of Brynanian.

In order to continue our Third Republic's great mission in Equatorial Cyberspace, it is important for French men to become aware of the indigenous' local customs and social manners. Communicating accordingly to the locals' social etiquette has proven quite gratifying in establishing new commerce with clans, opening trading routes, and has renewed at times the locals' vigor in learning our great country's mother language.

As such, I hope you readers will truly value the richness of Brynanians' various social customs and etiquette. As you embark alongside our ethnographic expedition's mission and read our findings, you will hopefully appreciate what we have come to strongly believe in and defend ourselves: Given time, Brynanian truly has the makings of a great civilized nation.

Your Humble Servant,

Theophile M. Dubois

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# PEACE NEGOTIATIONS ETIQUETTE.

## GREETINGS AND SALUTATIONS

As opposing parties to a conflict greet each other, it is common for the leader of a group to advance first, with the rest of the clan or group leaders following suit. Such a stance communicates and grants to each contender respect. As such, Chiefs are demonstrating clan unity in the proposals at hand and commitment to follow their word.

When saluting each clan leader, it is common courtesy for Bynanians to firmly grasp one another's elbows and give one brief but important back and forth swaying motion. As the leaders rock elbows with each other, all other accompanying clan members start to settle down in a circle. Leaders may also sometimes take hold of one another's shoulder while maintaining vivid eye contact, when they are in particular good terms with another spokesperson at the negotiations.

While punctuality need not be the main worry in off-setting a peace negotiation gathering, enunciation is. It is recommended to address each party to the conflict by their preferred name in the first few exchanges had, but it is crucial to pronounce it perfectly. Enunciation is an art in social etiquette which is not lost in Brynania. It is better to not speak one's contender's name, then to mispronounce it. An annex sheet of enunciation practice may be found at the end of this volume to facilitate correct pronunciation.

Moreover, in order to set the tone of the meeting, most clans offer two verses of original poetry before addressing the group. A personal favorite of mine was:

*“As the morning rises and the simsims swoon, may our worries like dew evaporate soon.”*

Poetry has actually proven to be quite an efficient peacebuilding tool in Brynania. In the iconic fight between the Biku clans, poets had been victim, allegedly by accident, of a poisoned offering from one of the clans to the others. As the number of poets grew scarce and the conditions of the war harsher, poets were having difficulty creating new rhymes. Thus, in the legendary clearing of Thousand Songs, poets from different clans met in secret to share their ancestor's poems between them and ensure this sacred art's survival. After singing and speaking poetry all night, it is said that they came back wizened and with proposals to their respective leaders. Peace settled across Biku clan rivalries, in what is now remembered as the month of songs.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This document is fictional. Brynania does not exist. This work was inspired by Maud Cook's 1896 work: "Social Etiquette or Manners and Customs of Polite Society".

This was a work produced by Agnes Bouchet for Professor Rex Brynen for POLI 650, on March the 1<sup>st</sup> 2019.