



**Country:** Namibia  
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### **A Foreign Land, A Foreign Home**

An Israeli-born, Filipino by nationality and a temporary resident of Namibia is what I am. English was one of the first languages I learned to speak as a child, alongside Tagalog as my mother-tongue. Namibia, the land of the brave expressing a motto of unity, liberty and justice, is beyond what one would expect when they first hear that it is situated in South-western Africa. This beautiful country is not only comprised of its vast lands nor its large varieties of wildlife, but the welcoming and warming hearts of her people. From the Ovambos, Hereros, Damara-Namas, Coloureds, Basters, Boeres and many more ethnic groups, it can be greatly seen that their smiles are comparable to the broad landscapes of their country.

Six years of my existence have been spent in this majestic country, and I can assure people that living here is not and never a regret. Even though I miss my home country, this land still feels like home to me. I grew in this country spiritually, mentally and physically, and I cannot ask for more. This is the place where I learnt from challenges which arose in my life, and with that I had the strength to carry on. I guess it is why Namibia is called **the land of the brave**. It does not only necessarily contribute to its people by its own blood, since even I as a foreigner, can express bravery as well. Namibia is a physical example of a contradiction, as it can be as silent as the skies, yet as loud as the lion's roar. This then contributes to the fact that it is hardly ever lonely in this place for happiness is one of the foundations that allowed this country to stand up in freedom.

Namibia is the place where I learnt how to love. One of the aspects that made me fall in love with this place is its great taste of music. It has such a different vibe or sense to modern music nowadays. From "Kwaito" to "African House", you name it. Its surreal beats does not let you stop dancing, as one always dances the night away with their music. Aside from music, I have grown to love its people. People you can trust, open up to and just have deep connections with. There are a lot of interests which I have fallen in love with in Namibia, and I know that I will never lose that feeling, nor will I get tired of it.

In conclusion, Namibia might not be the country I was born in, nor the country where I spent my childhood, but I know for a fact that it is the country where I will spend the rest of my life in, expressing love, honesty, unity and most importantly, bravery.