

AS I ENTER...

- **THINK ABOUT IT...**

- How did all these religions diffuse?
 - What type of diffusion did the major Universalizing and Ethnic religions experience?
 - What were each of the Cultural Hearths?

- **Agenda**

- Overview of Buddhism and Hinduism
- Diffusion of religion

- **Objectives**

- Determine how these religious groups reflect and influence cultures on a local and global scale
- Determine religious hearths and their paths of diffusion

Review

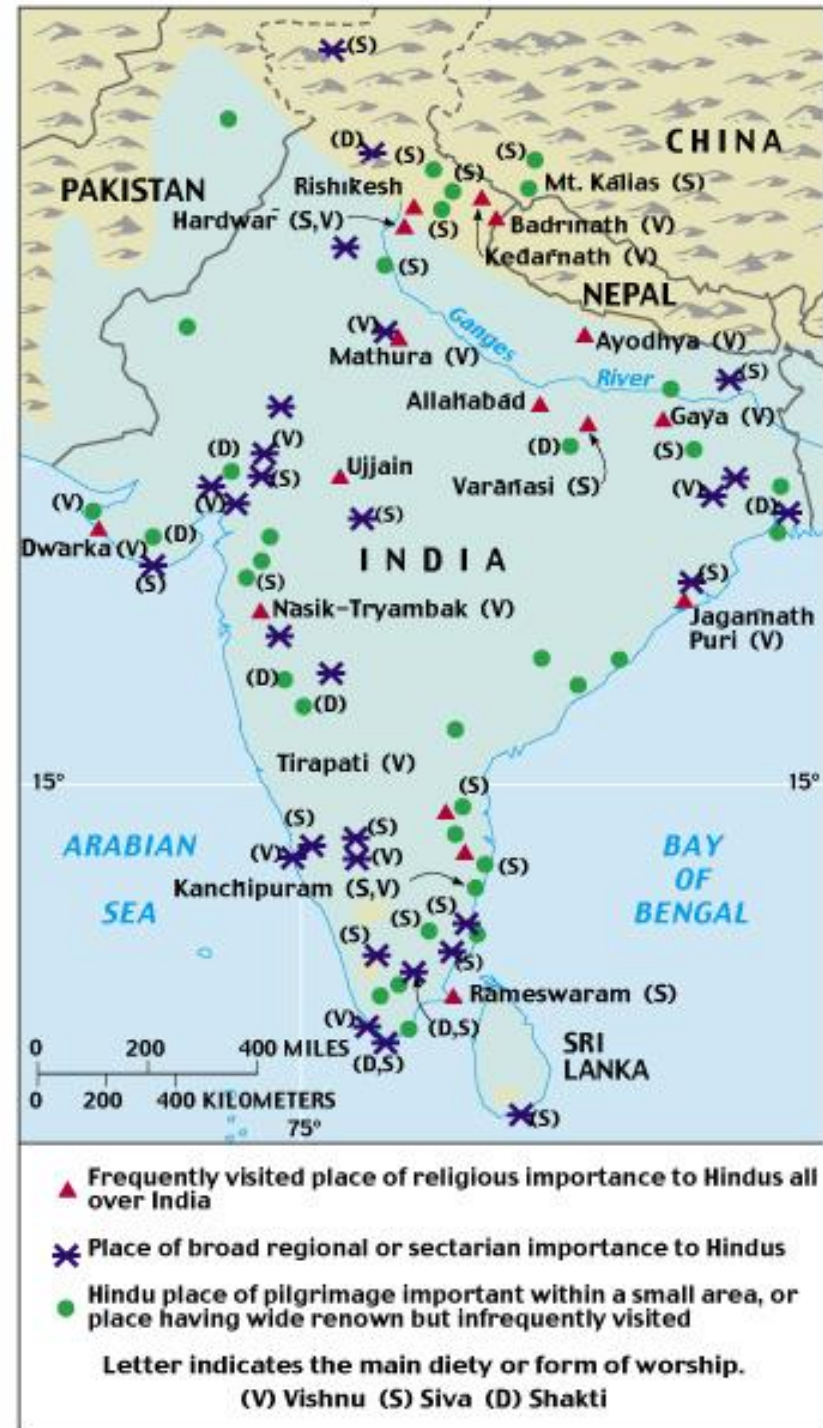
- You still may have to think through these answers, review doesn't always mean easy 😊
1. What region of the world did Judaism originate from? (aka, what is it's hearth?)
 - **Middle East**
 2. What are the major regions or states that have a high concentration of Jews?
 - **Israel, United States, Europe**
 3. What type of migration would you consider the diaspora (when one group of people is dispersed to various locations) of the Jews
 - **Persecuted Jews- forced migration**

Buddhism and Hinduism...

...As well as hearths and diffusion
of major Universalizing and Ethnic
religions

Hinduism

- 900 million + adherents primarily in India and Nepal
- Hinduism is an ancient term for the complex and diverse set of religious beliefs practiced around the Indus River.
- Monistic Religion
- No central statement of beliefs...individualistic
 - Reincarnation
 - endless cycles.
 - Karma and dharma.
- Coastlines and river banks most sacred sites.



Hinduism is based on the concept of reincarnation (Spirits return to earth many times in different forms trying to become one with Brahman). The soul moves up or down a hierarchy depending on their behavior in life.



A person moves closer to Brahman by obeying the law of karma (the sum of all your deeds, good and bad). Good deeds involve following your dharma, (duties dependent on your position, gender and occupation).



Karma Kat

by Barry Geller

KARMA IS
LIKE HAVING
A GIANT BANK
ACCOUNT



© 1988 Barry Geller

EVERY THOUGHT IS AN ACTION.
EVERY ACTION IS A DEPOSIT IF
YOU BORROW FROM IT, SOONER
OR LATER YOU HAVE TO
PAY IT BACK.



EVERYONE IN THE WORLD
HAS AN AUTOMATIC
TELLER MACHINE AND
A BANK CARD.



KARMA CARD

You CAN'T Leave Home
Without It!

Nirvana

- How long is the cycle of reincarnation?
 - All people are reincarnated until they reach the goal of **Nirvana**.
- **Nirvana** is reached through the interaction between one's **Karma** and **Dharma**

Reincarnation

- The Lion King

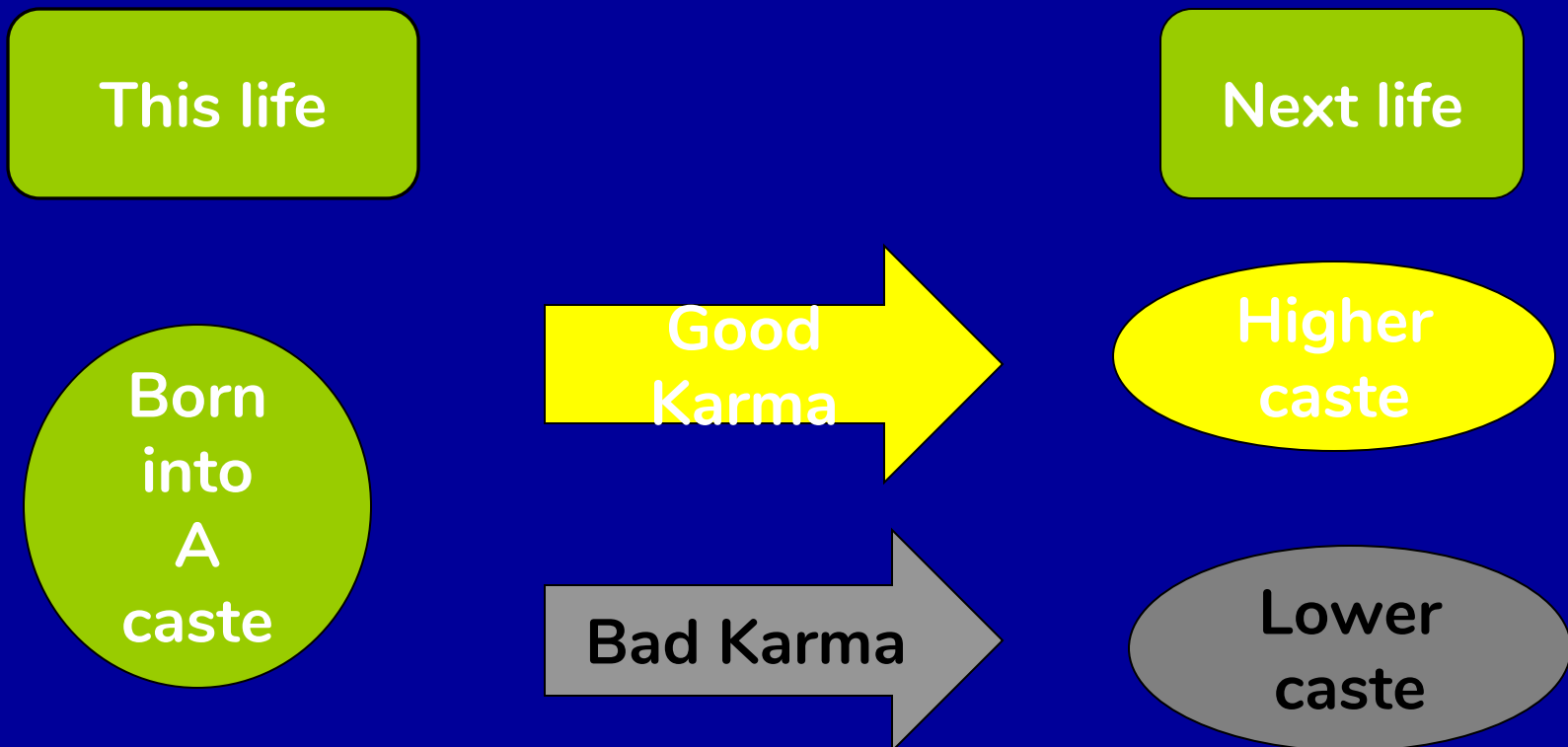
The Lion King © The Walt Disney Company

Mufasa: Everything you see exists together in a delicate balance. As king, you need to understand that balance and respect all the creatures, from the crawling ant to the leaping antelope.

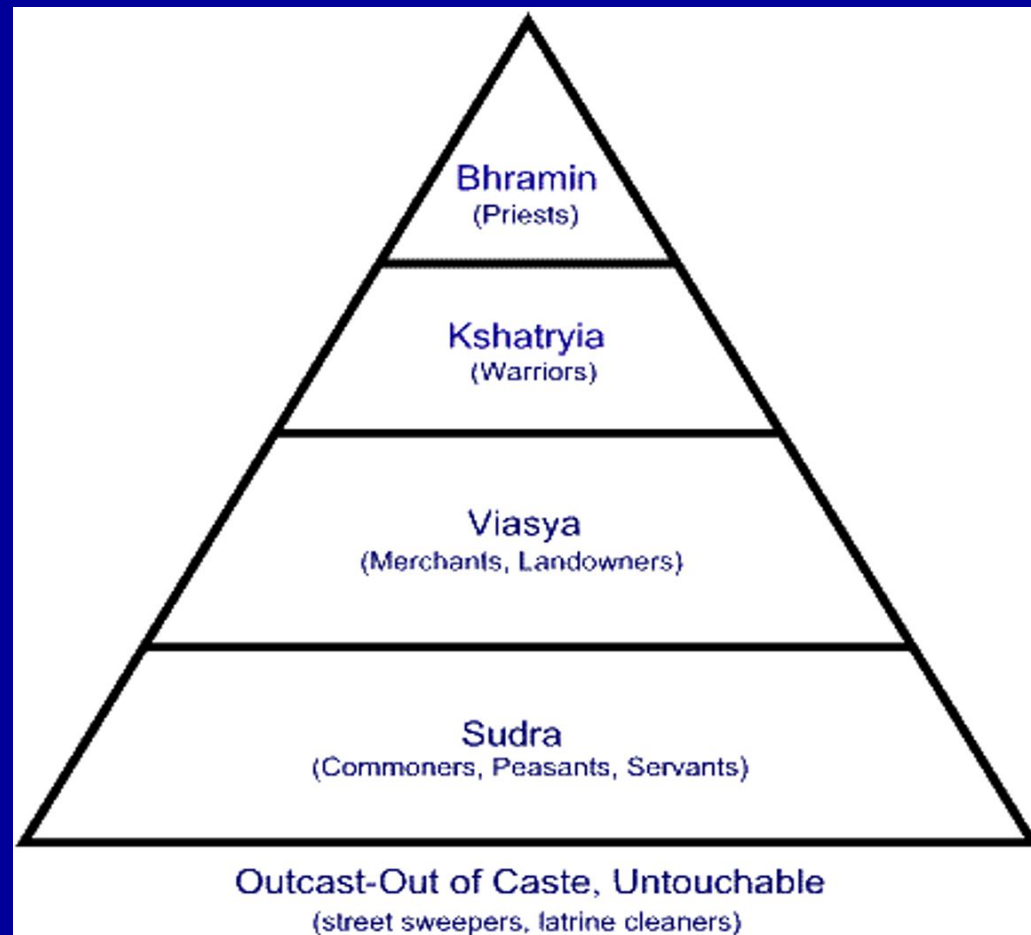
Simba: But Dad, don't we eat the antelope?

Mufasa: Yes, Simba, but let me explain. When we die, our bodies become the grass, and the antelope eat the grass. And so, we are all connected in the great circle of life.

The caste system was an important part of Hinduism. Castes are social classes into which a person is born and lives their entire life. If a person has a good karma they may be reincarnated into a higher caste.



The caste system separated Indian society into distinct social classes in which everyone knew their place and believed that if they followed the dharma of their caste, they would be reincarnated into a better caste. No social mobility while on Earth



Hinduism Gods



Dancing Shiva



Ganesha



Vishnu



Lord Shiva

- There are five major gods
 - based for the worship of **Ganesha**, **Shakti**, **Surya**, **Shiva**, and **Vishnu**.
- There are also many lesser gods who assist human beings in achieving the ultimate aim of the Hindu faith:
 - Nirvana

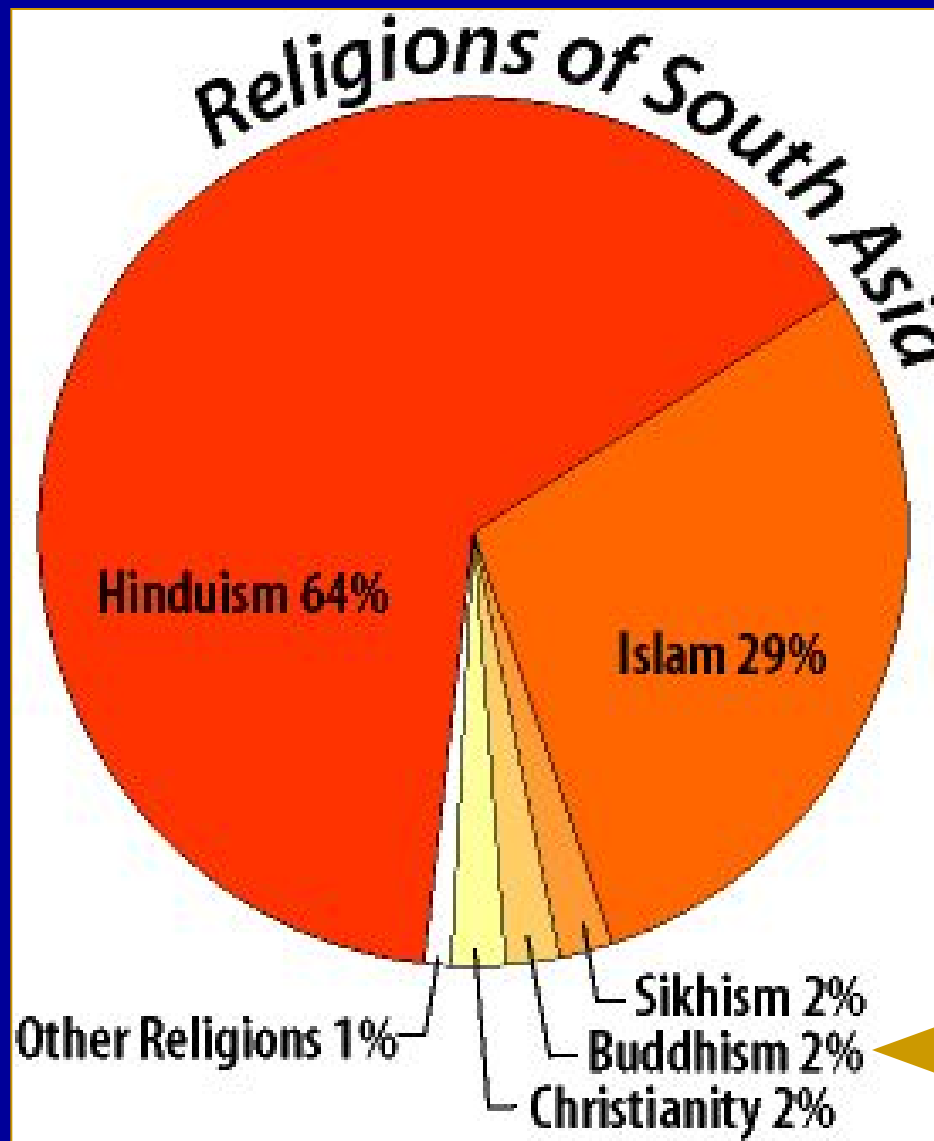
Hinduism and Marriage...

- Arranged Marriages still very common
- Dowries to the Husband
- Bride Burning and Divorce
 - Roopa's Story – stop at 3:24



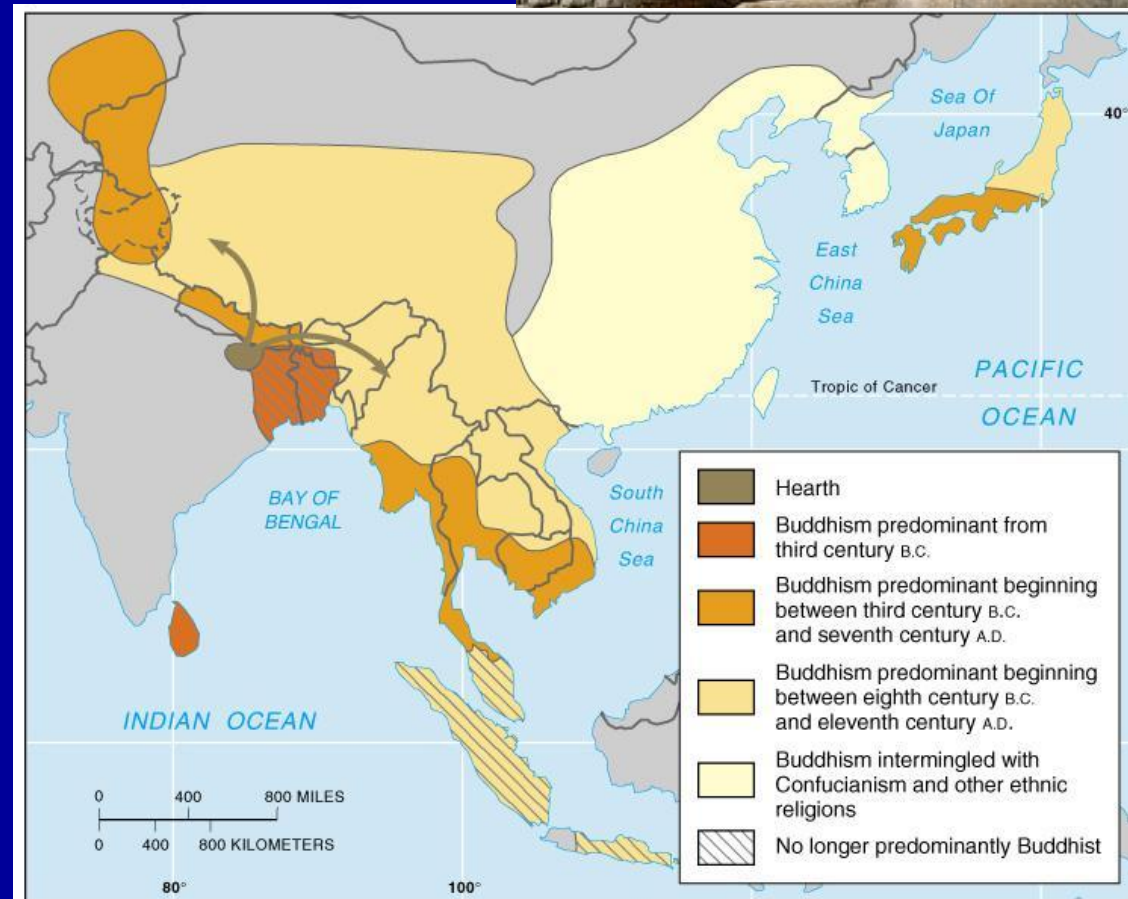
“Bride-burning accounts for the death of at least one woman every hour in India. ”

Religions of South Asia

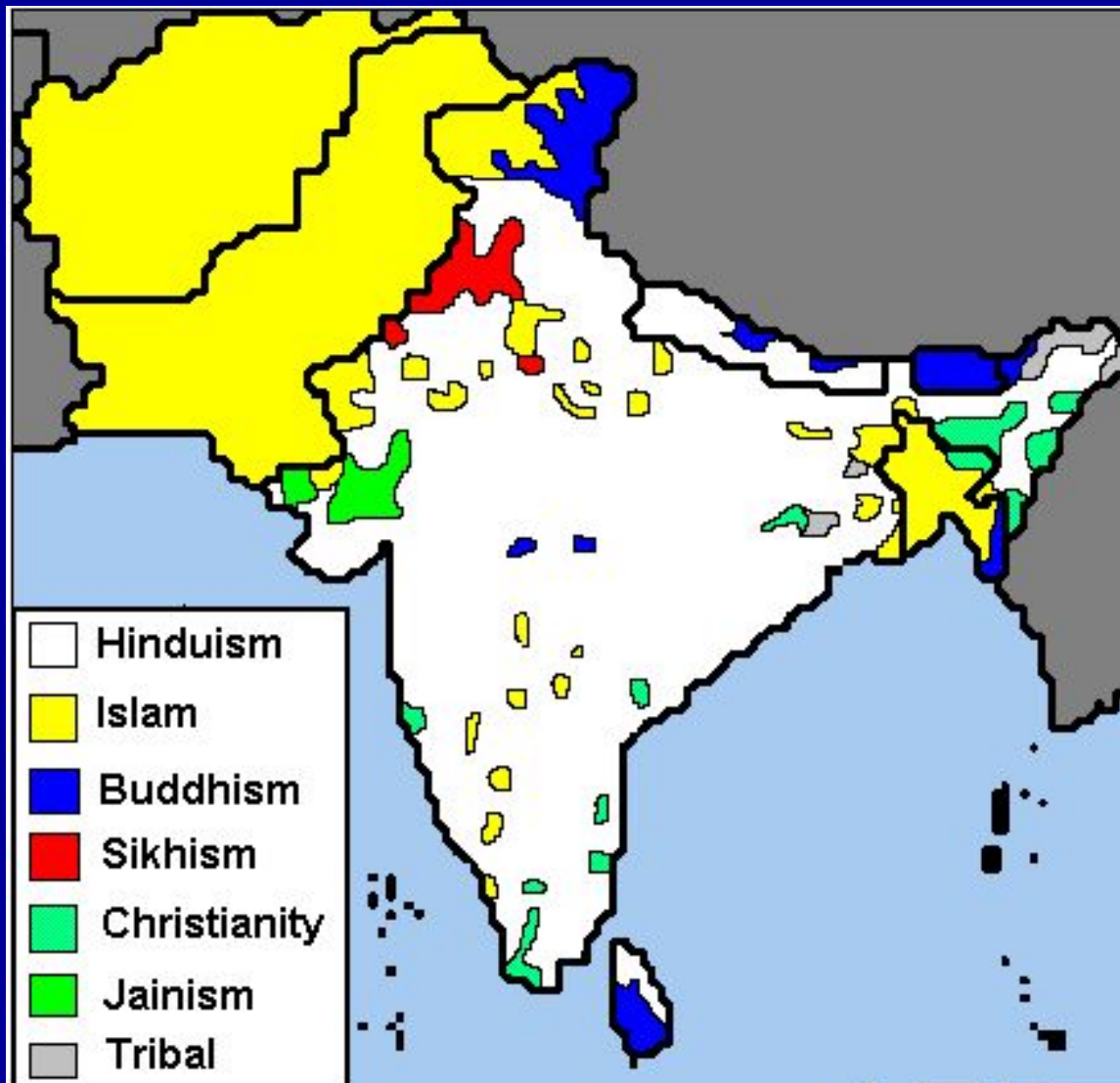


Buddhism

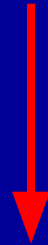
- 300 million + adherents primarily in China and S.E. Asia
- Founder: Siddhartha Gautama
- The 3 jewels of Buddhism
 - Buddha, the teacher
 - Dharma, the teachings
 - Sangha, the community



Buddhism in the Subcontinent



**What is the
fundamental cause of
all suffering?**



Desire!



Therefore, extinguish the self,
don't obsess about oneself.

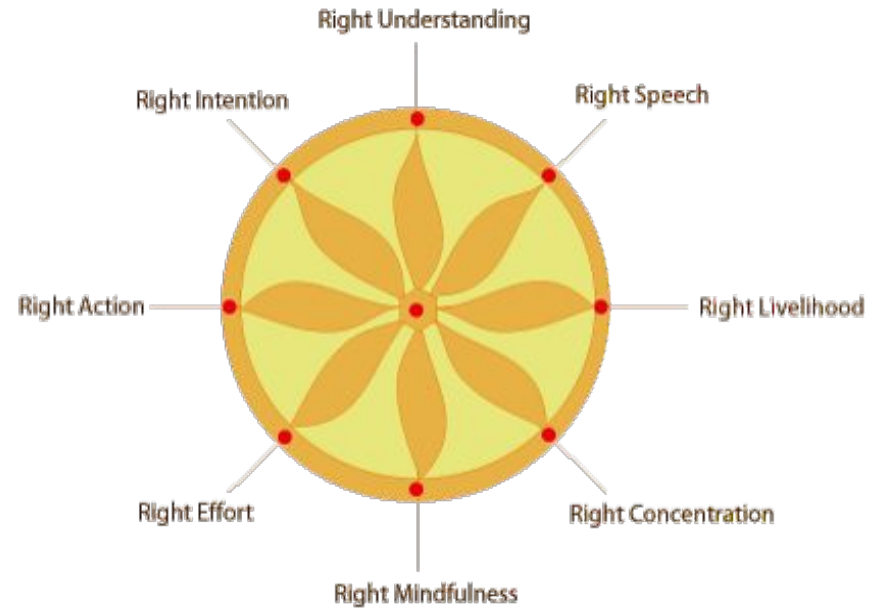
Four Noble Truths:

1. All living beings must endure suffering.
2. Suffering, which is caused by desires (for life), leads to reincarnation.
3. The goal of existence is an escape from suffering and the endless cycle of reincarnation by means of Nirvana.
4. Nirvana is achieved by the **Eightfold Path**, which includes rightness of understanding, mindfulness, speech, action, livelihood, effort, thought, and concentration.

Karma:

- your past bad or good actions determine your progress toward Nirvana through reincarnation. You are your own God.

Buddhism



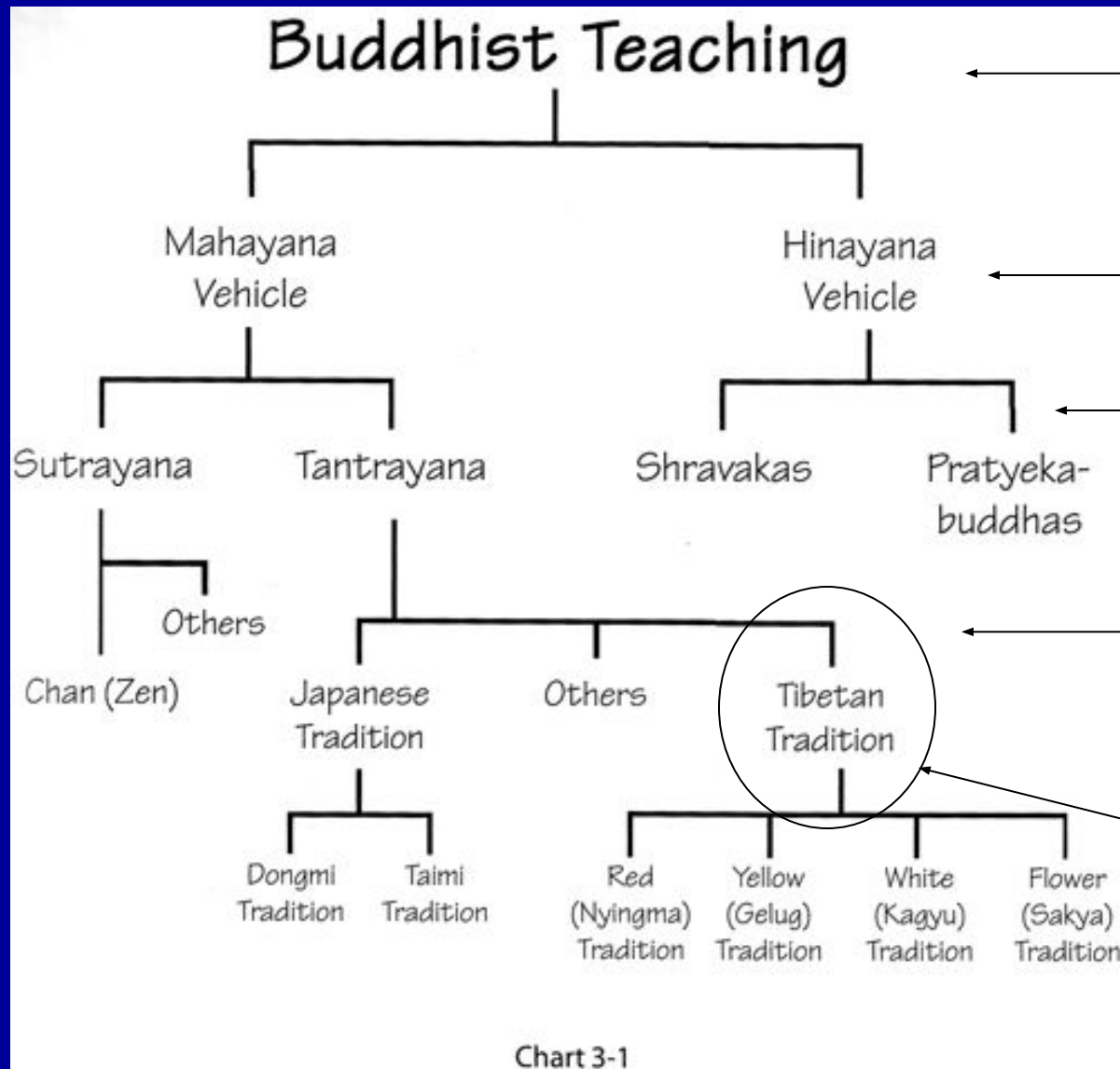
Theravada:

- the older, more severe form which requires the renouncing of all worldly goods and desires.

Mahayana

- focuses on Buddha's teachings and compassion.

Buddhism Classification



Religion

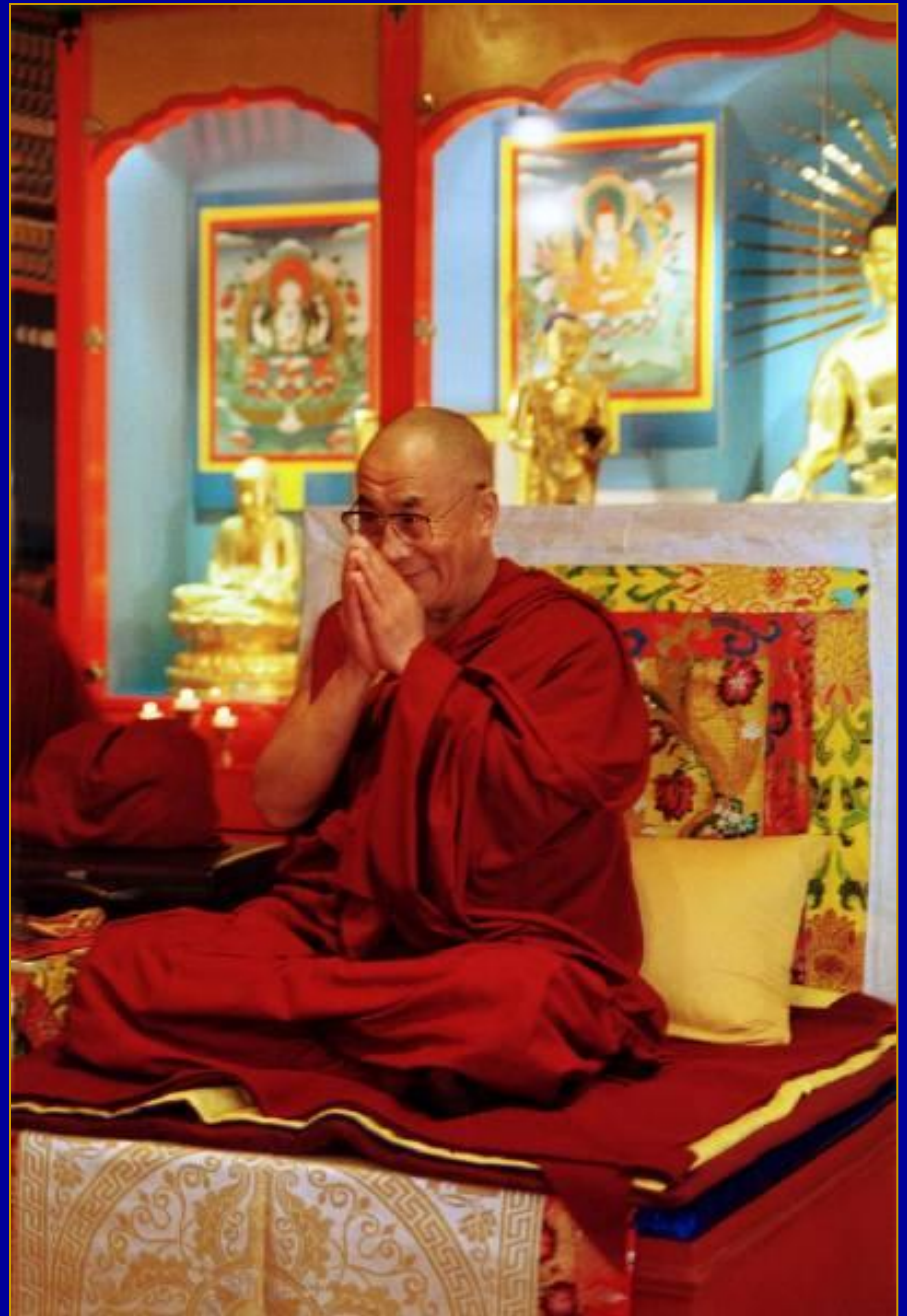
Branch

Denomination

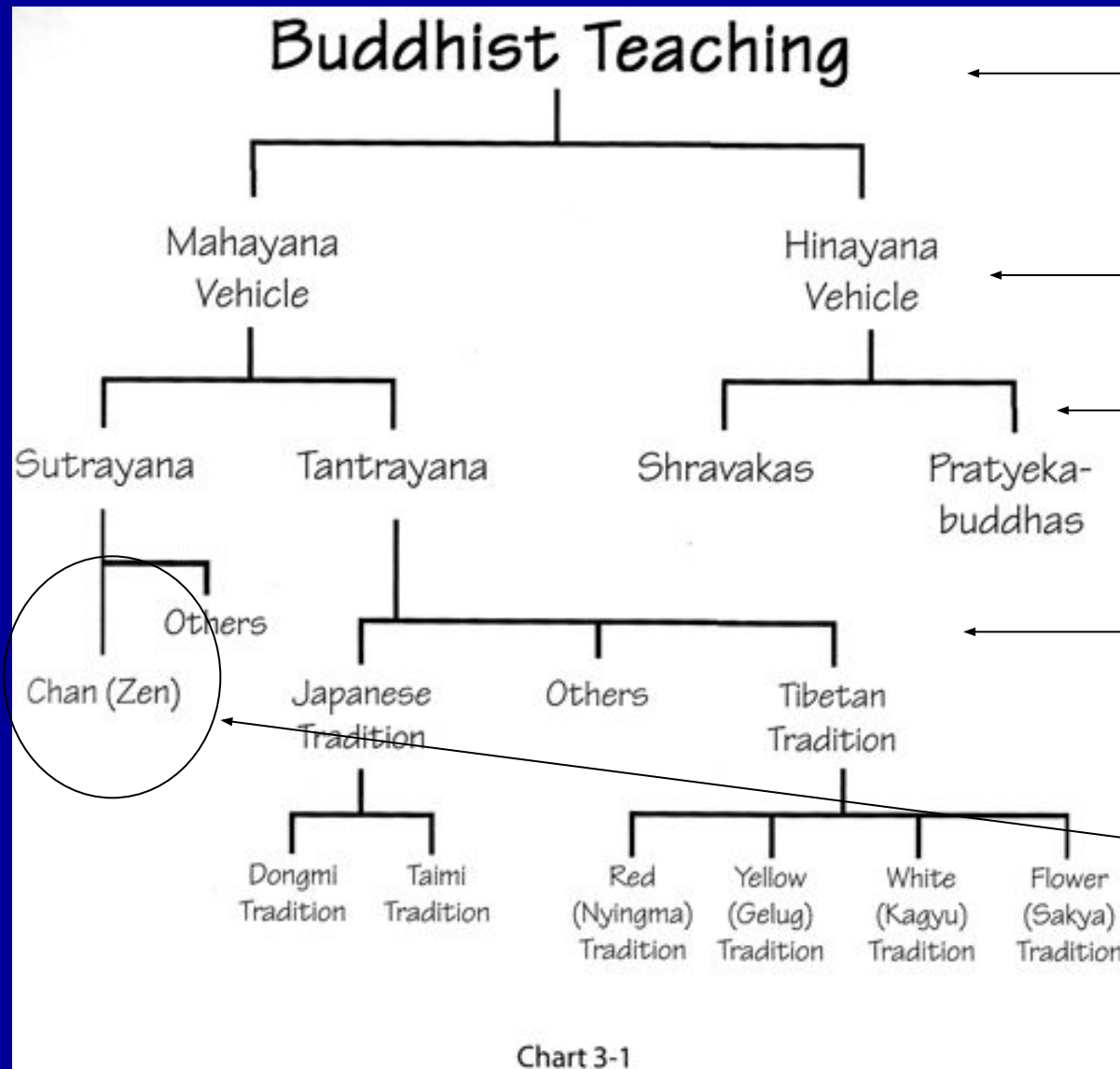
Sect

The one
you might
recognize!

The Dalai Lama - video



Buddhism Classification



Religion

Branch

Denomination

Sect

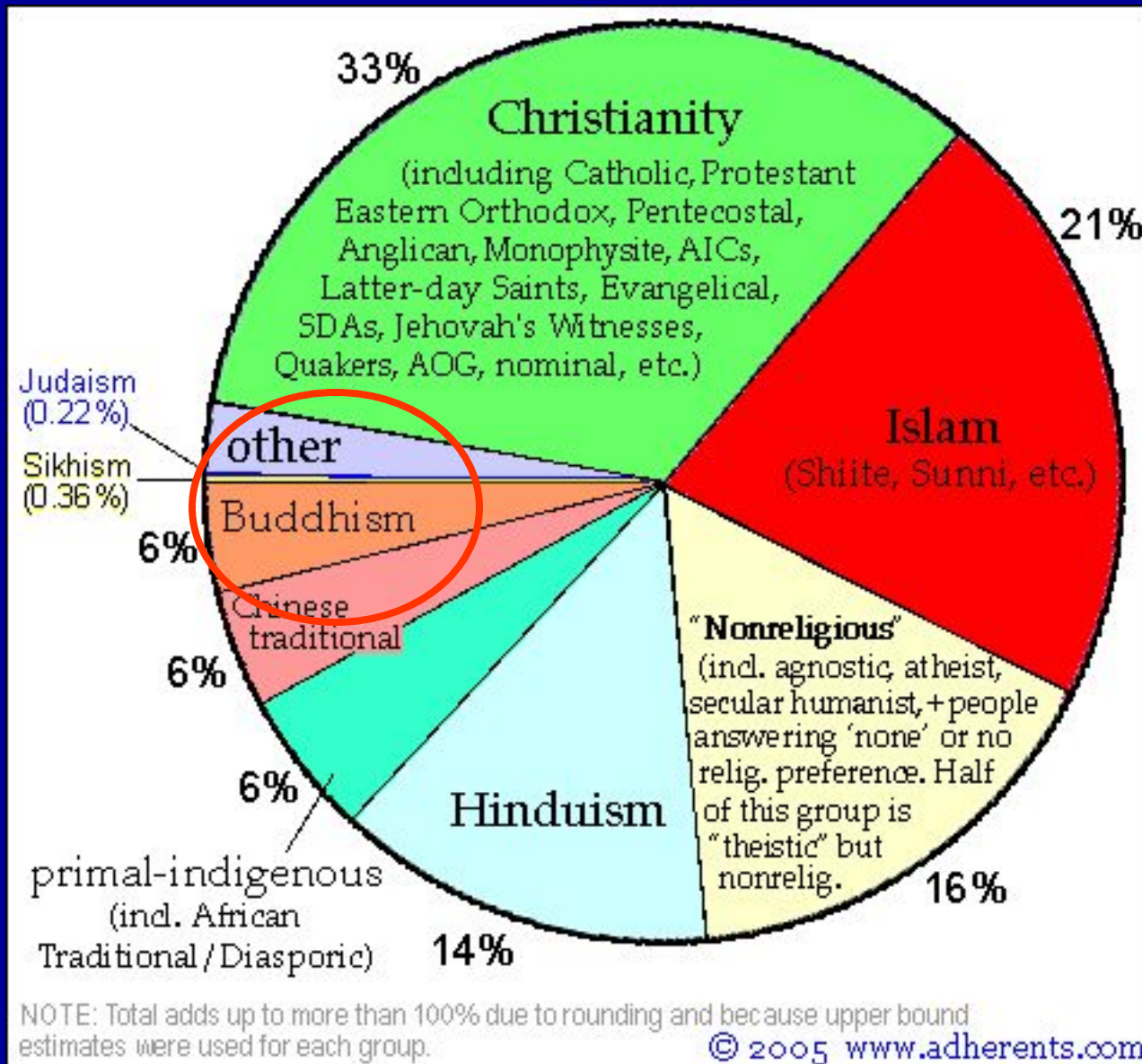
Or this one!

Zen Buddhism

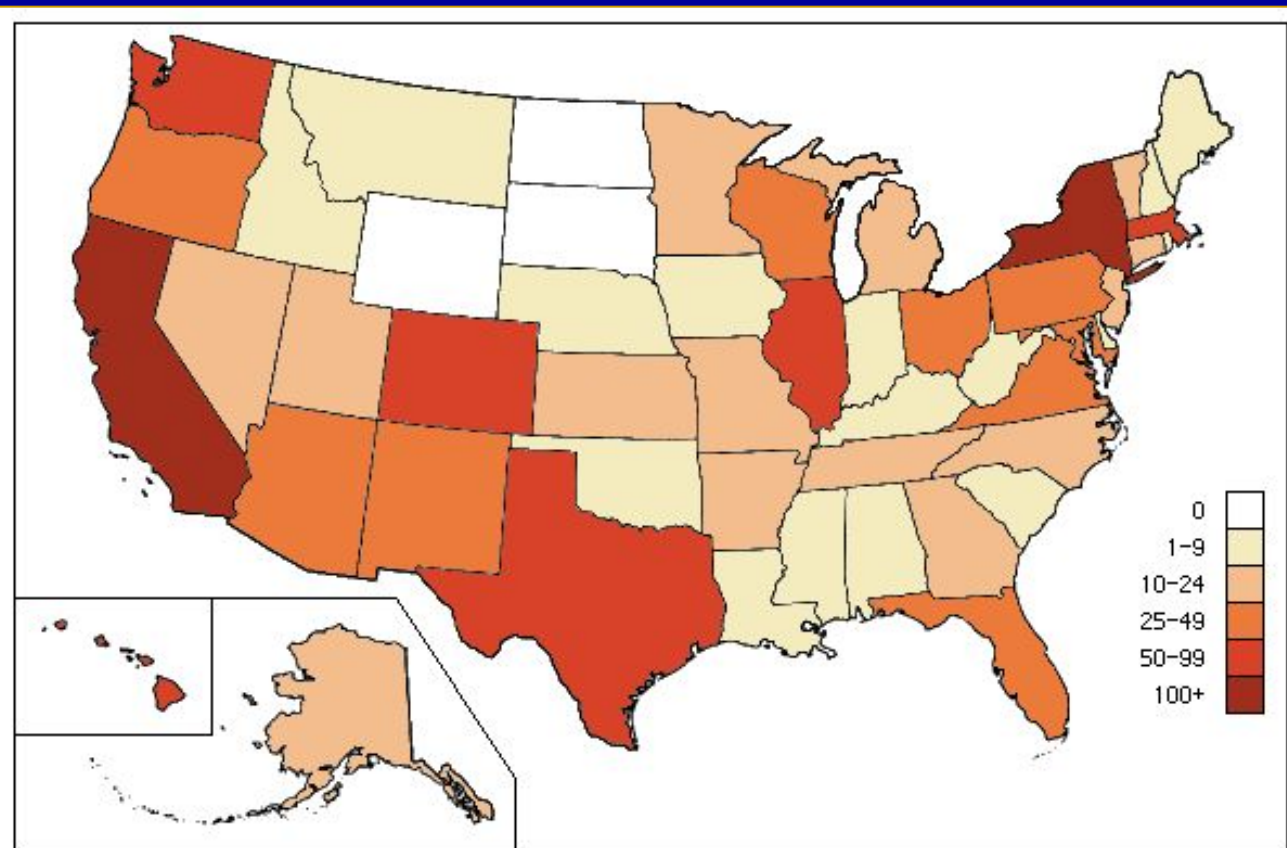
- The “Meditation School.”
- Seeks sudden enlightenment [*satori*] through meditation, arriving at emptiness [*sunyata*].
- Use of meditation masters [*Roshi*].
- Beauty, art, and aesthetics:
 - Gardens.
 - Archery.
 - Tea ceremony.
 - Calligraphy.



World Religion Pie



Distribution of Buddhism Centers in the U.S., 2001



Source - The Pluralism Project at Harvard University: Directory of Religious Centers
<http://www.pluralism.org/directory>

© 2001

Buddhism has much in common with Hinduism, but also has important differences.

Buddhism like
Hinduism:

Reincarnation

Karma

Dharma

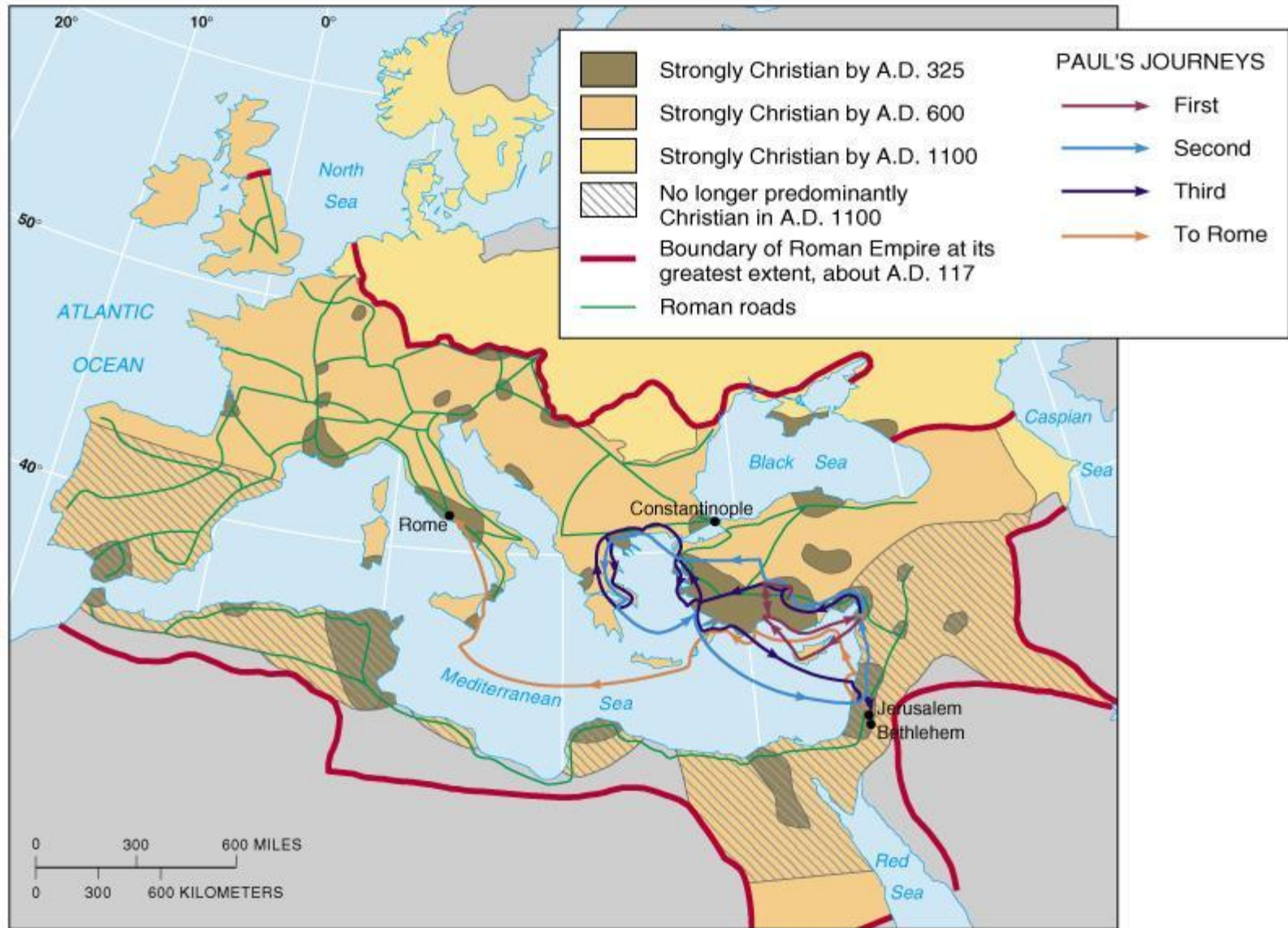
But not

Caste system

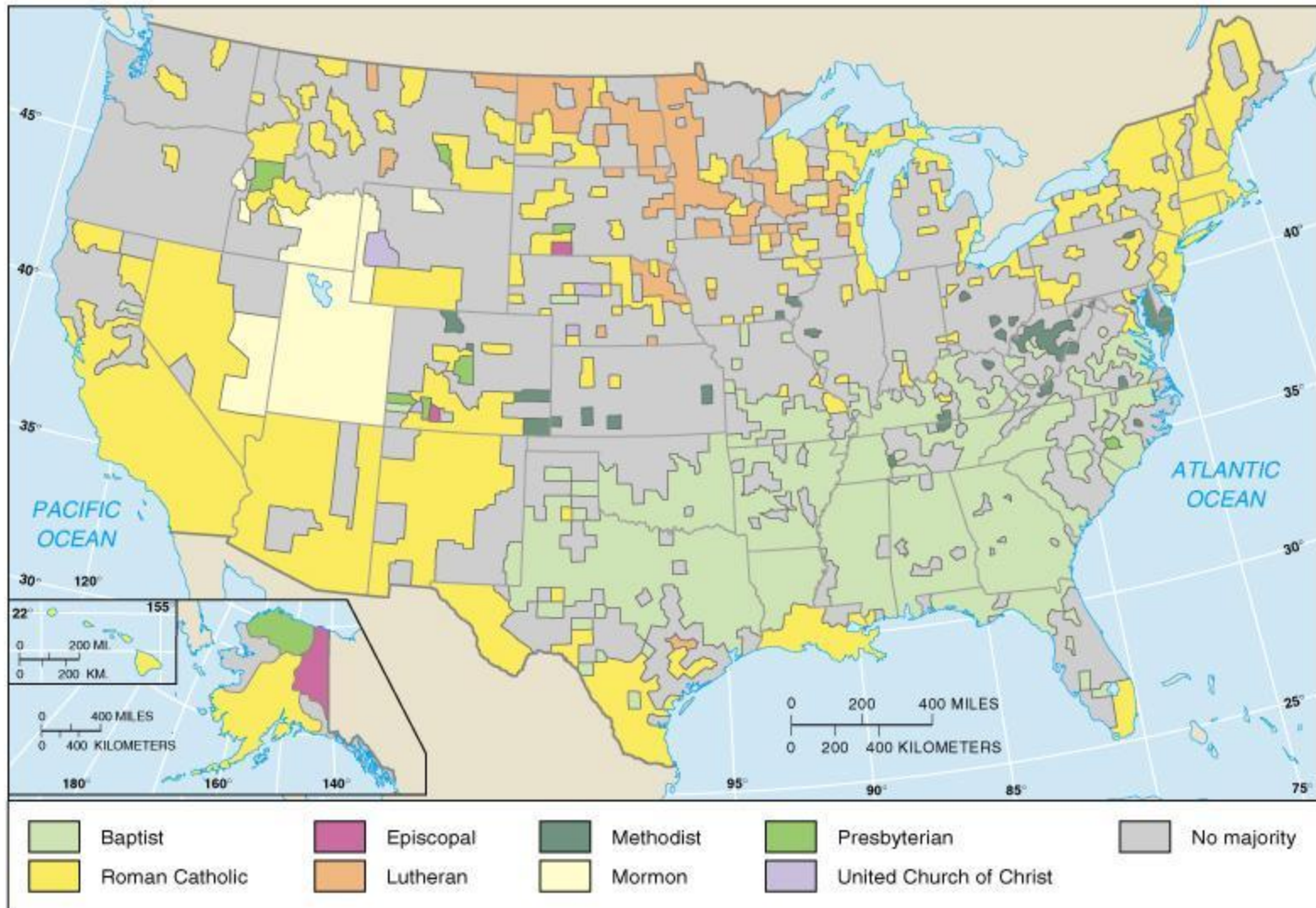
Hindu gods

Hindu
priesthood

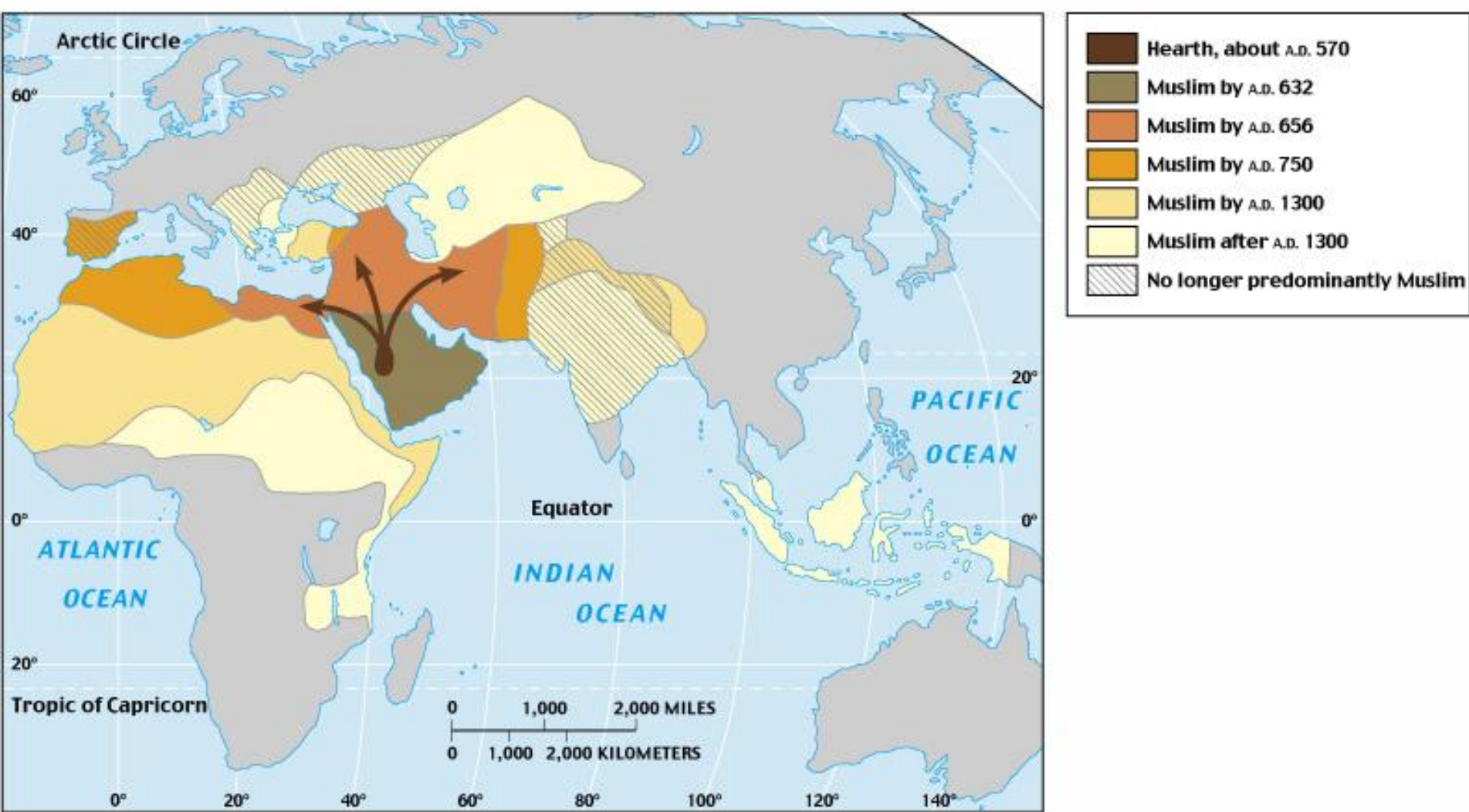
Diffusion of Christianity



Christianity in the U.S.

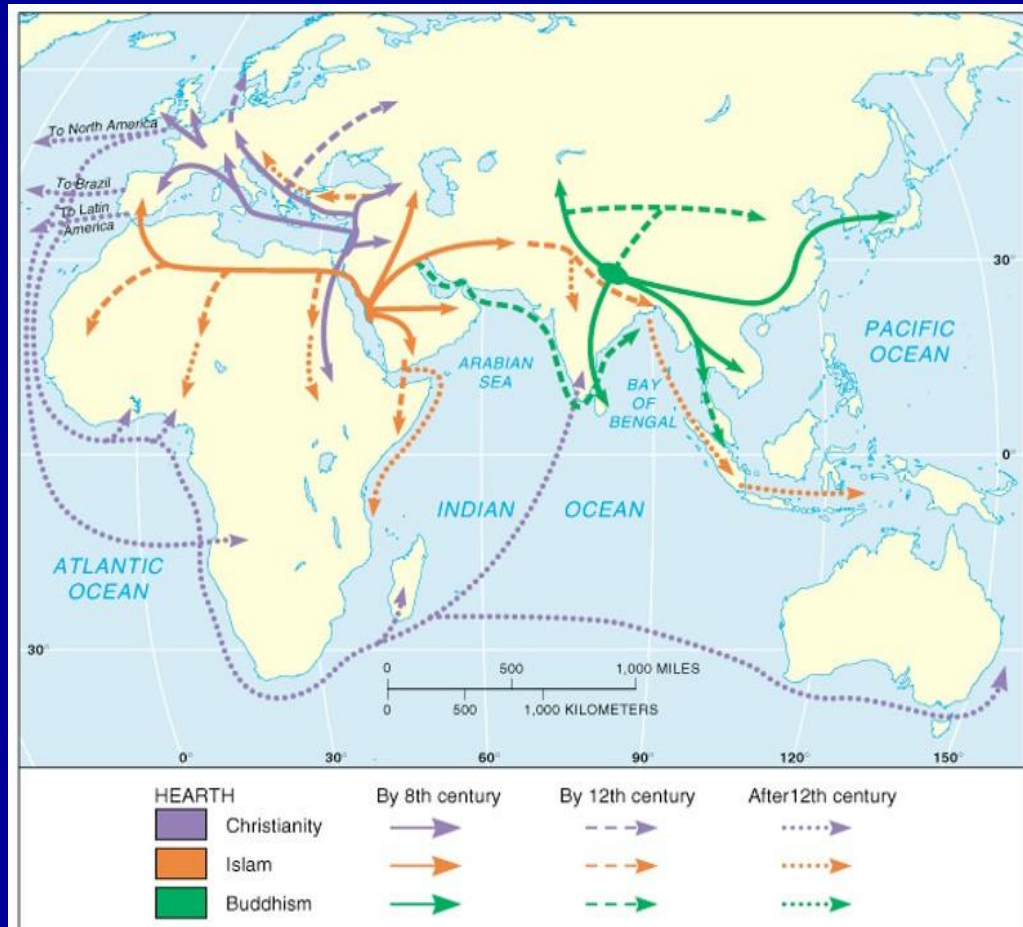


Diffusion of Islam



Islam is considered the fastest growing religion in America. Only a small part of this growth is from black Muslims and the *Nation of Islam*.

Diffusion of Buddhism



- Originated near modern Nepal around 530 BCE by prince Siddhartha Gautama.
- Spread originally in India and Sri Lanka by Magadha Empire (250 BCE).
- By 6th century it had lost its hold on India, but was now in Korea and Japan.

Diffusion of Hinduism



Key Terms

• Secularization

- a process that is leading to increasingly large groups of people who claim no allegiance to any church.
- Some of these people are atheists. Others simply do not practice. Still others call themselves spiritual, but not religious.
- Common in Northern Europe and the urban areas of the U.S.
- Common in Russia and China.

• Fundamentalism

- a process that is leading to increasingly large groups of people who claim there is only one way to interpret worship.
- Fundamentalists generally envision a return to a more perfect religion and ethics they imagine existed in the past.
 - Strict and literal interpretation of most scripture
 - Unwavering attachment to complex beliefs
- Common in some sects of Christianity in the U.S. Common in some majority Islamic states.