

RELIGION

Ch. 6 Keys 1-4

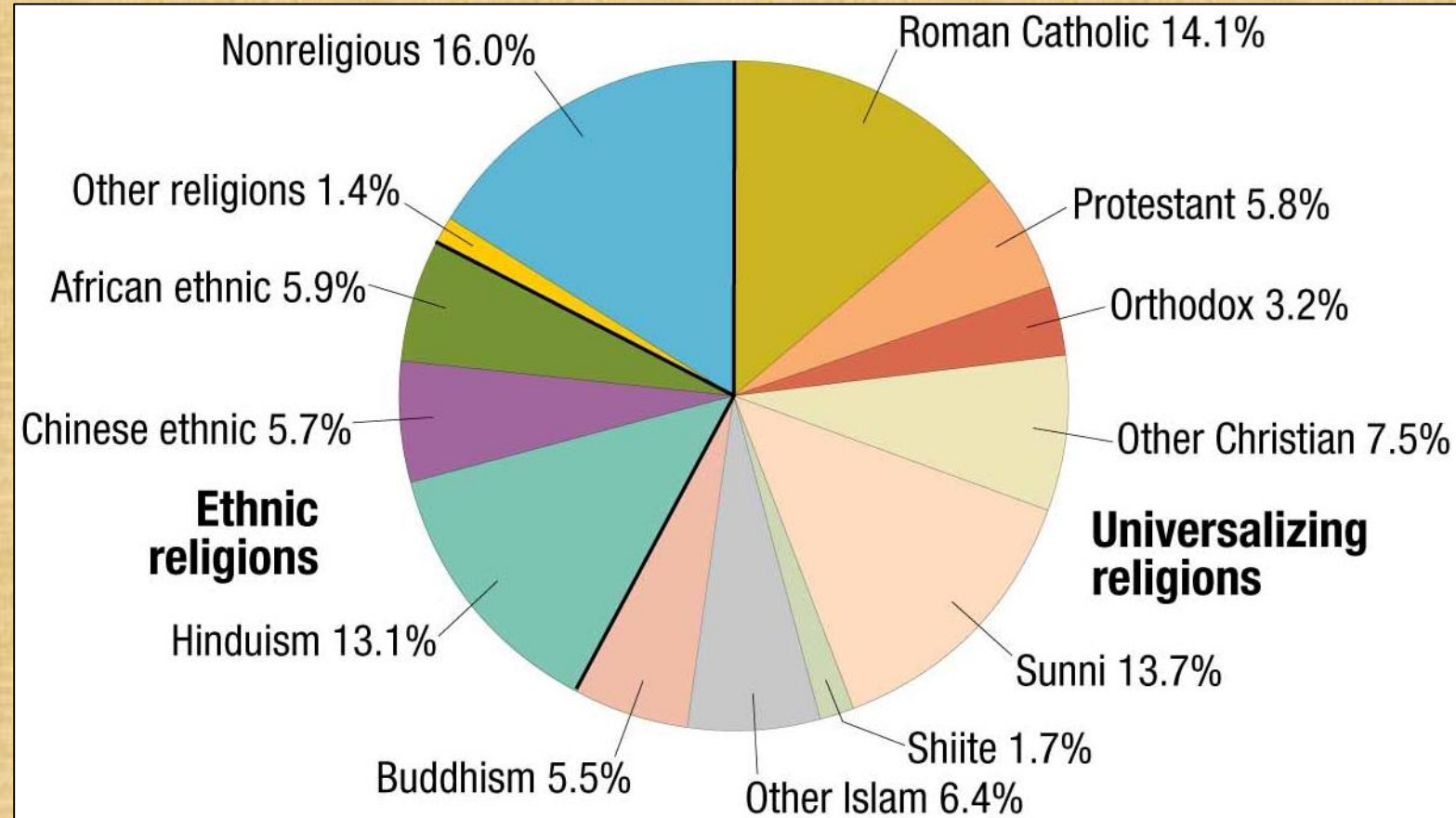
1. Where are religions distributed?
2. Why do religions have different distributions?
3. Why do religions organize space and distinctive patterns?
4. Why do territorial conflicts arise among religious groups?

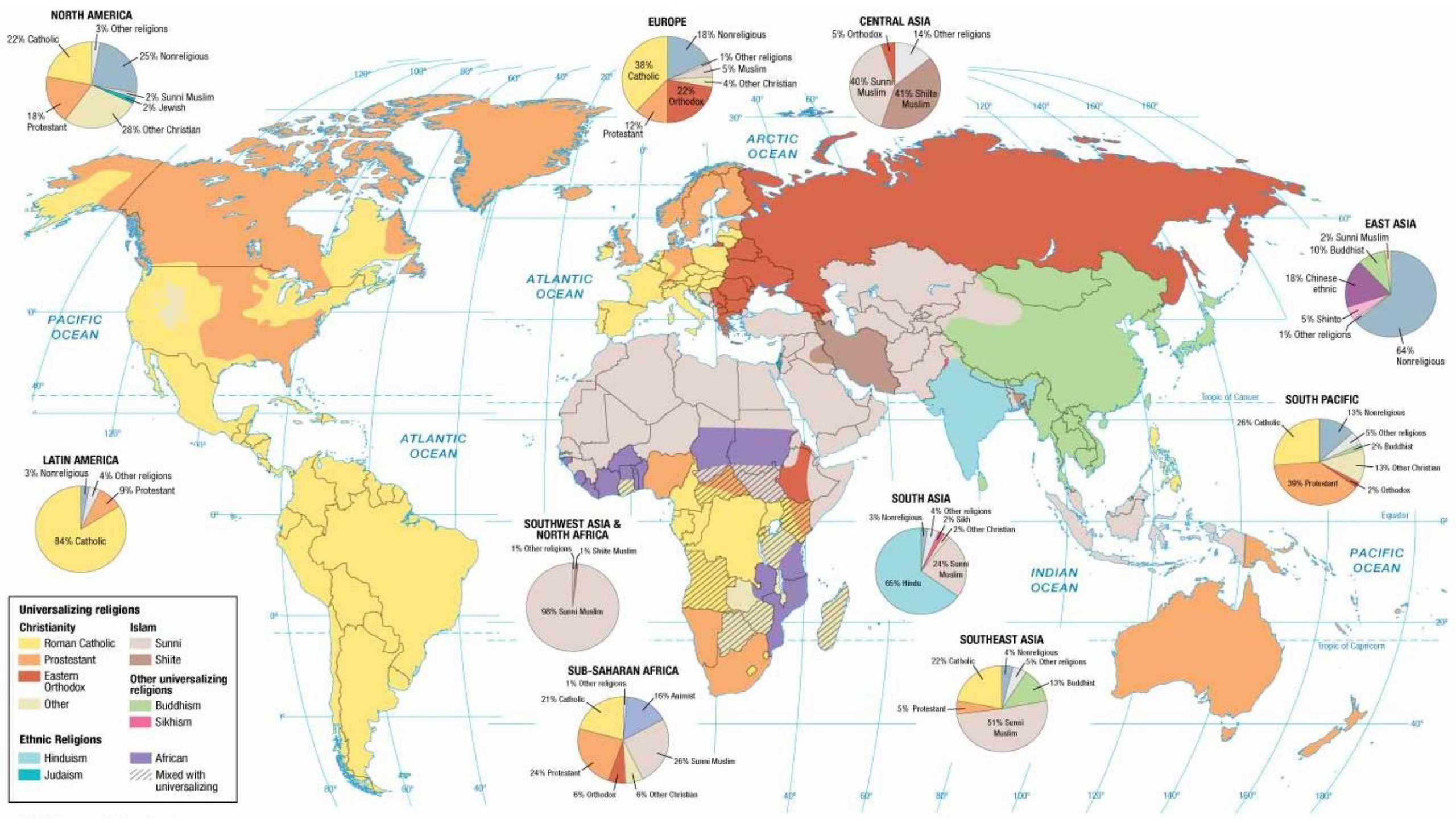


Distribution of Religions

1. **Universalizing:** attempt to be global by appealing to all people regardless of location or culture. (58 %)

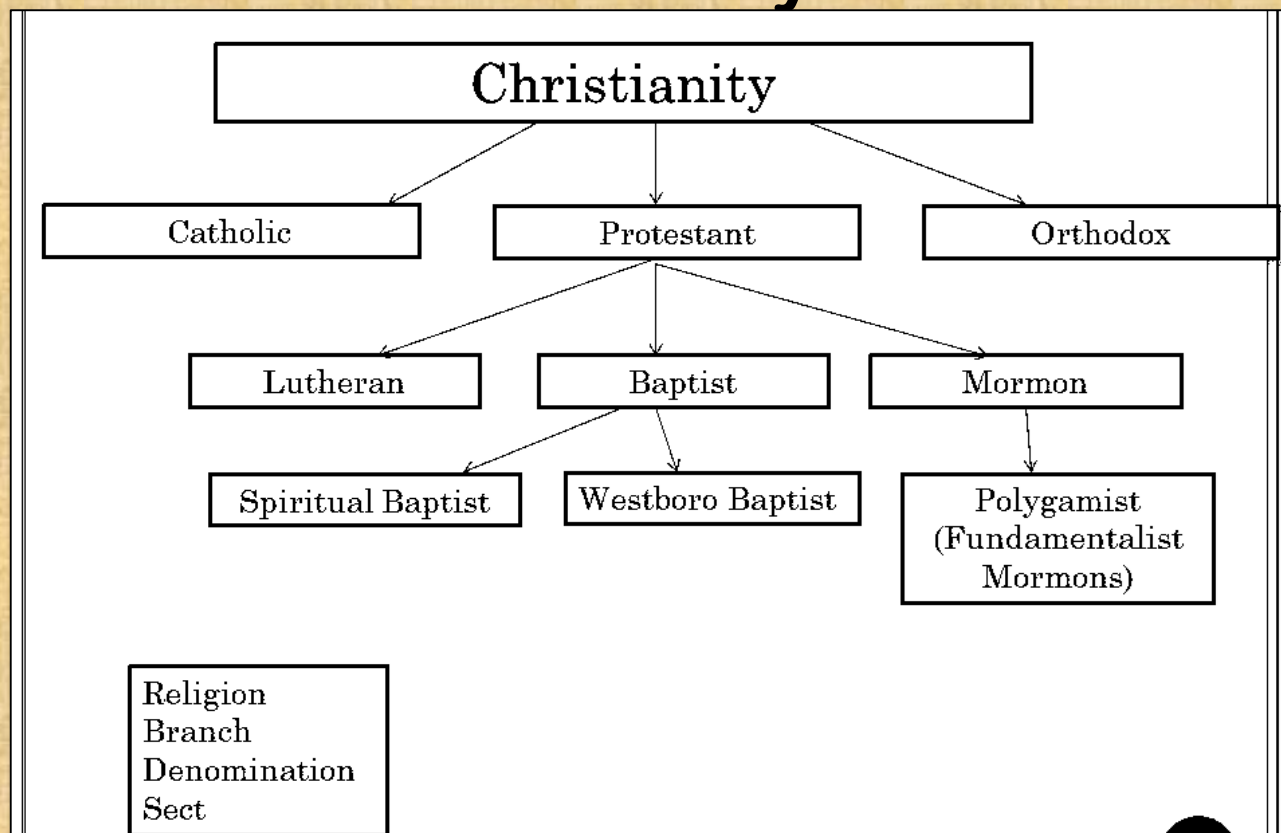
2. **Ethnic:** appeal primarily to one group of people living in one place. (26%)





Branches of Universalizing Religions

- **Branch:** large and fundamental division within a religion.
- **Denomination:** division of a branch that unites a number of local congregations in a single legal and administrative body.
- **Sect:** relatively small group that has broken away from an established denomination.



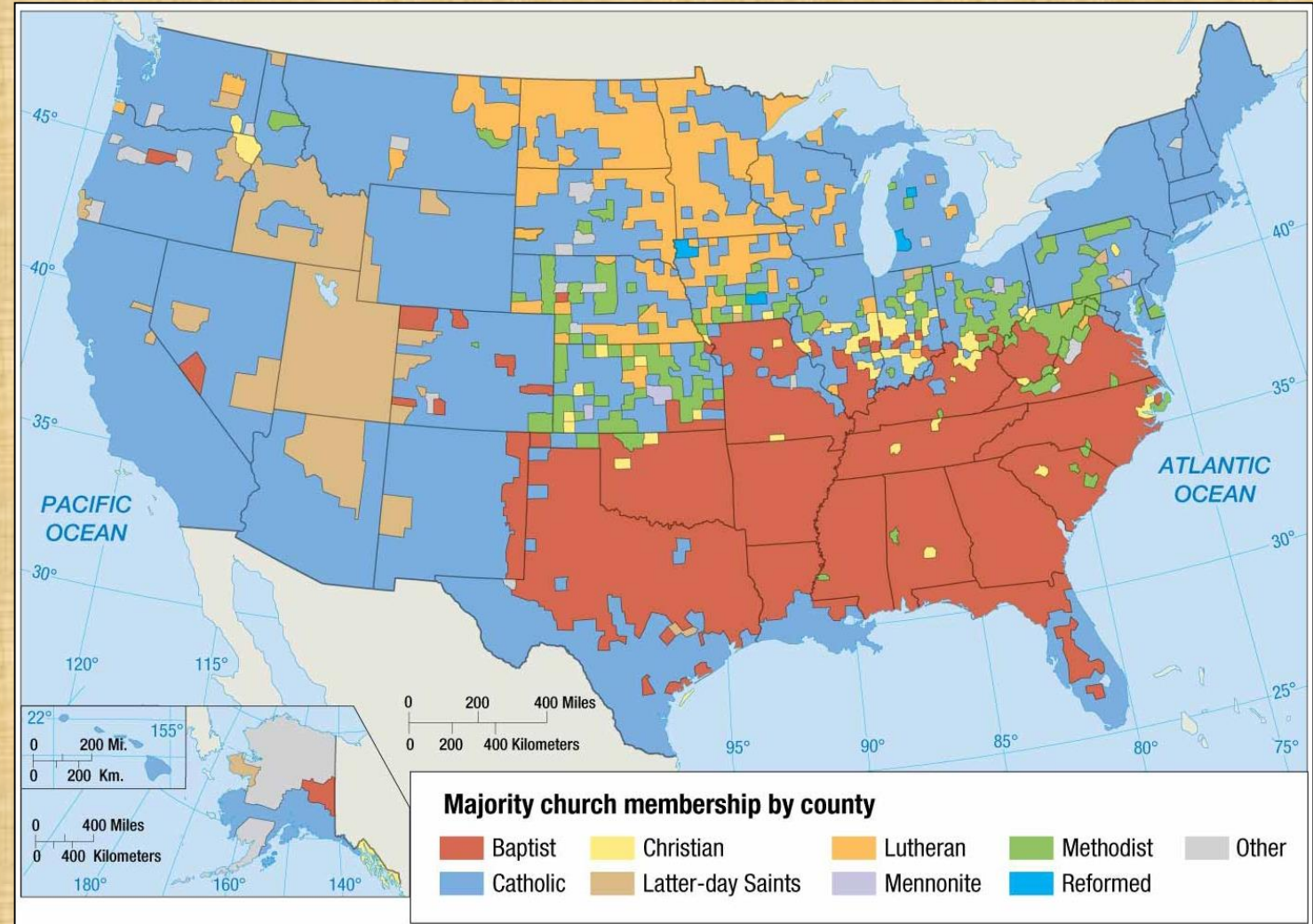
Branches of Christianity in Europe

1. Roman Catholic: 51%, in SW and E Europe.
2. Protestant: 24 %, in NW Europe.
3. Orthodox: 11%, in E and SE Europe.



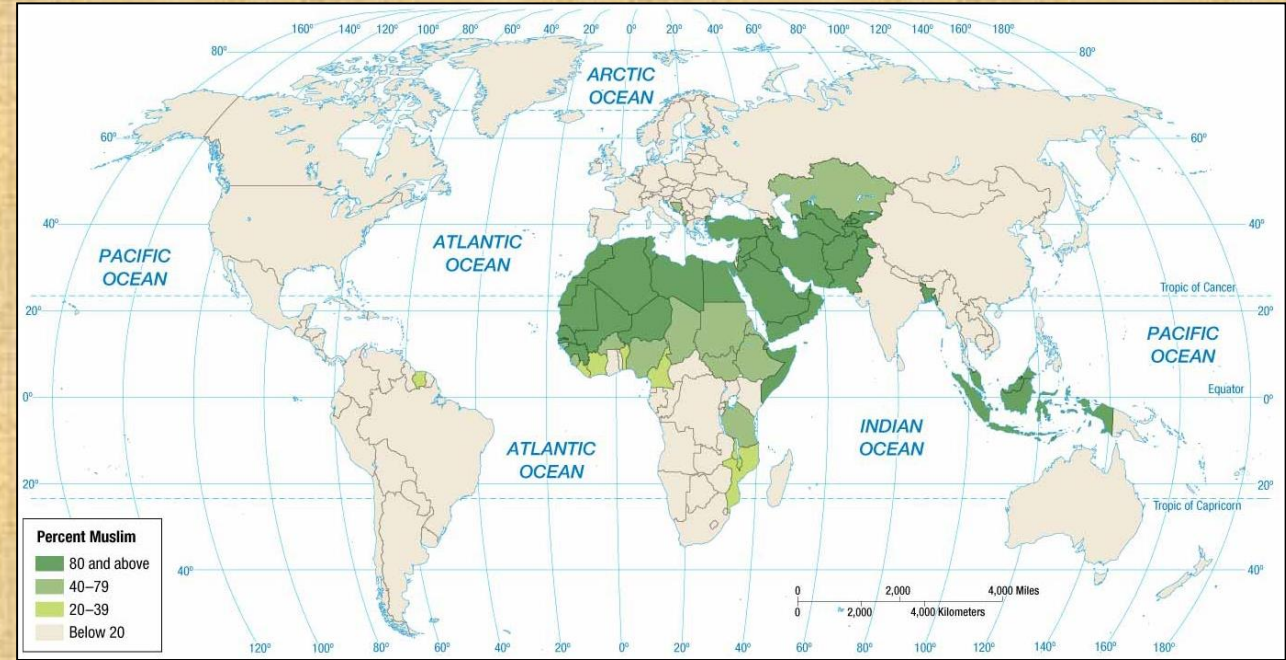
Branches of Christianity in Western Hemisphere

- 93 % of Christians in Latin America and 40% in North America are Roman Catholic.
- Protestant churches have 82 million members in the US. Baptist has largest number of adherents (37 million).



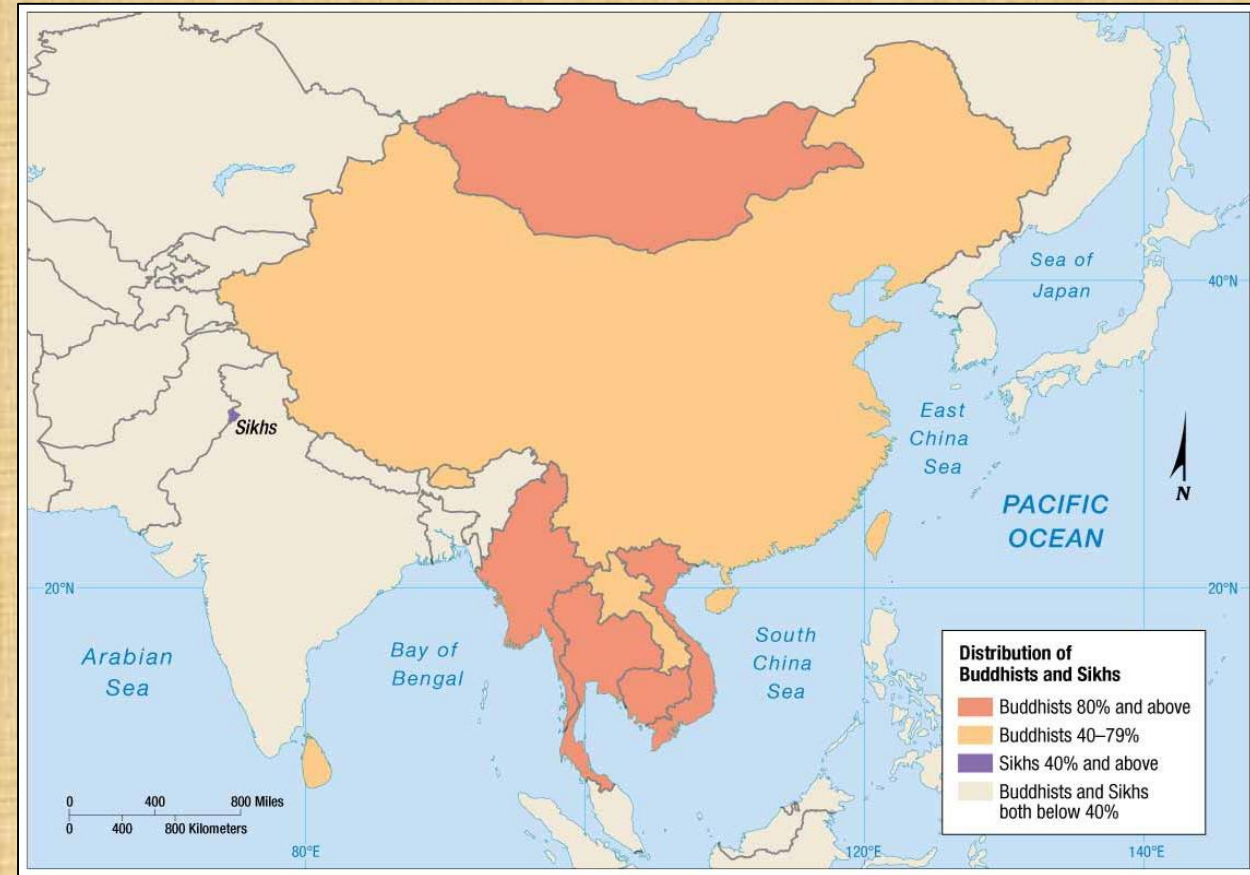
Branches of Islam

1. **Sunni: 83%, Largest in Southwest Asia and North Africa**
2. **Shiite: 16%, concentrated in Iran, Azerbaijan, Iraq, Oman, and Bahrain**



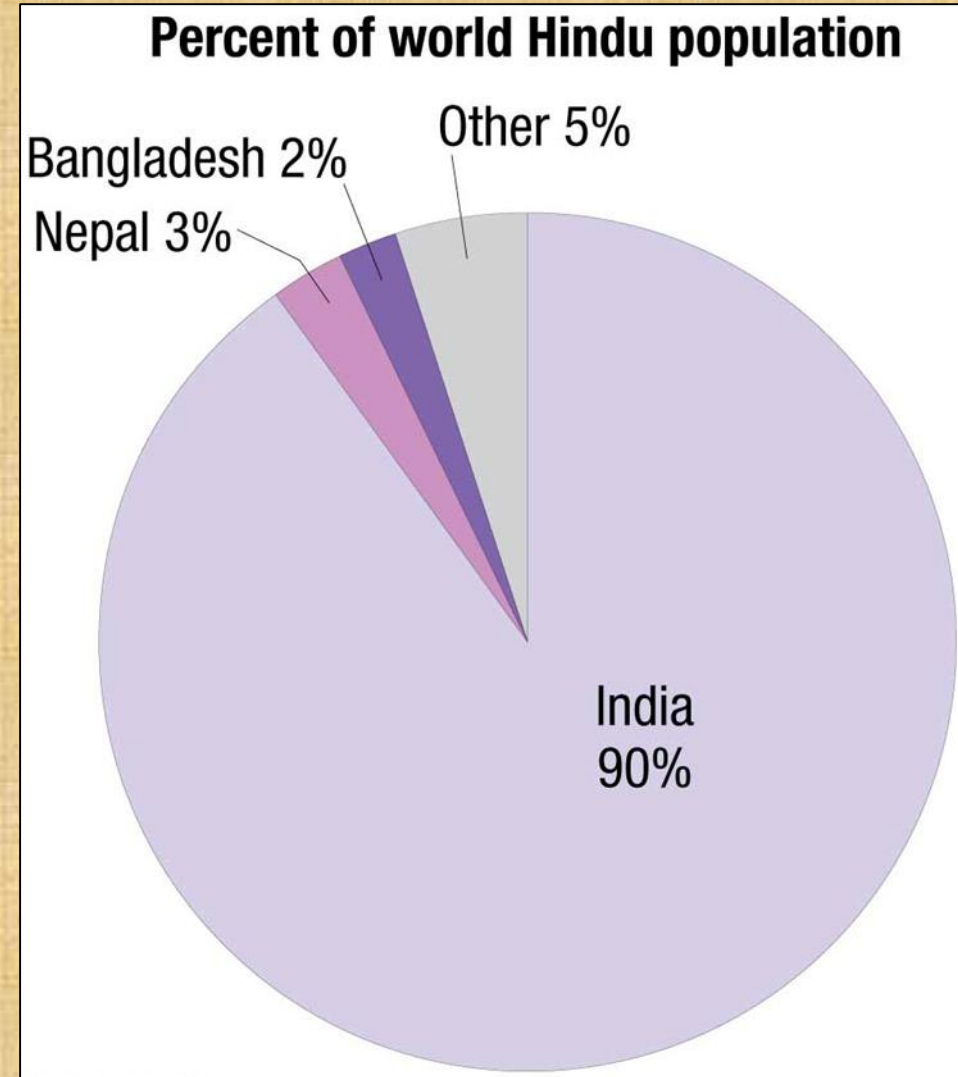
Branches of Buddhism

1. Mahayana: 56%, Located primarily in China, Japan, and Korea
2. Theravada: 38%, Located primarily in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand
3. Vajrayana: 6%, Located primarily in Tibet and Mongolia.



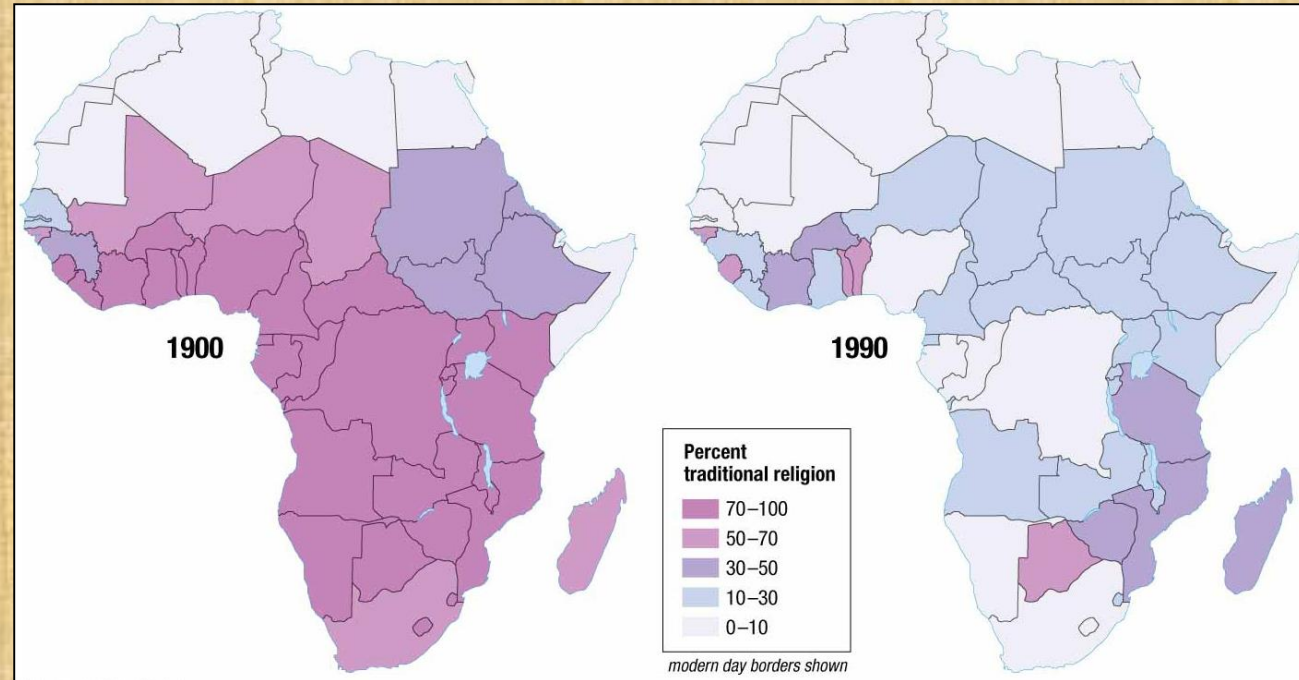
Where are Ethnic Religions Distributed?

- Often remain within the culture where they originated.
- Typically more clustered distributions than universalizing religions.
- Hinduism: ethnic religion with largest number of followers
 - 900 million adherents
 - Nearly all concentrated in India and Nepal



Where are Ethnic Religions Distributed?

- A combination of Buddhism (a universalizing religion) with Confucianism, Taoism, and other traditional Chinese practices is practiced in East Asia and Southeast Asia.
- Syncretism: blending or combining of several traditions
- Animism: believe inanimate objects or natural events have spirits and conscious life (100 million Africans)



Origins of Religions

- Universalizing precise place of origin; based on an influential man
- Ethnic often have unclear or unknown origins.

- Buddhism

- Founded: ~2,500 years ago
- Founder: Siddhartha Gautama
- Origin: India



Origins of Religions

- **Christianity**
 - **Founded:** ~2,000 years ago
 - **Founding:** teachings of Jesus
 - **Origin:** present-day Palestine



Origins of Religions

- Islam

- Founded: ~1,500 years ago

- Founder: Prophet Muhammad

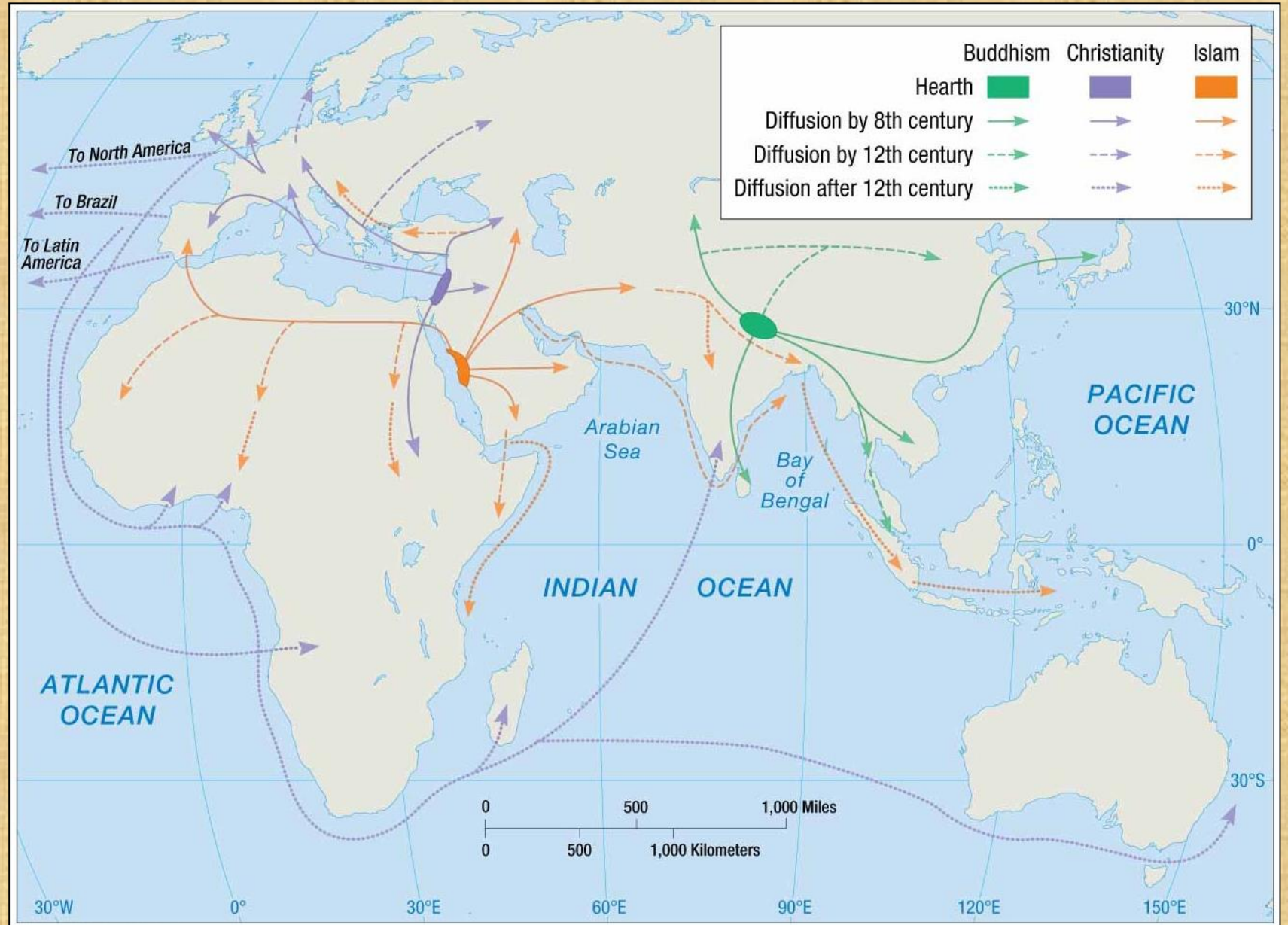
- Origin: Mecca in present-day

Saudi Arabia



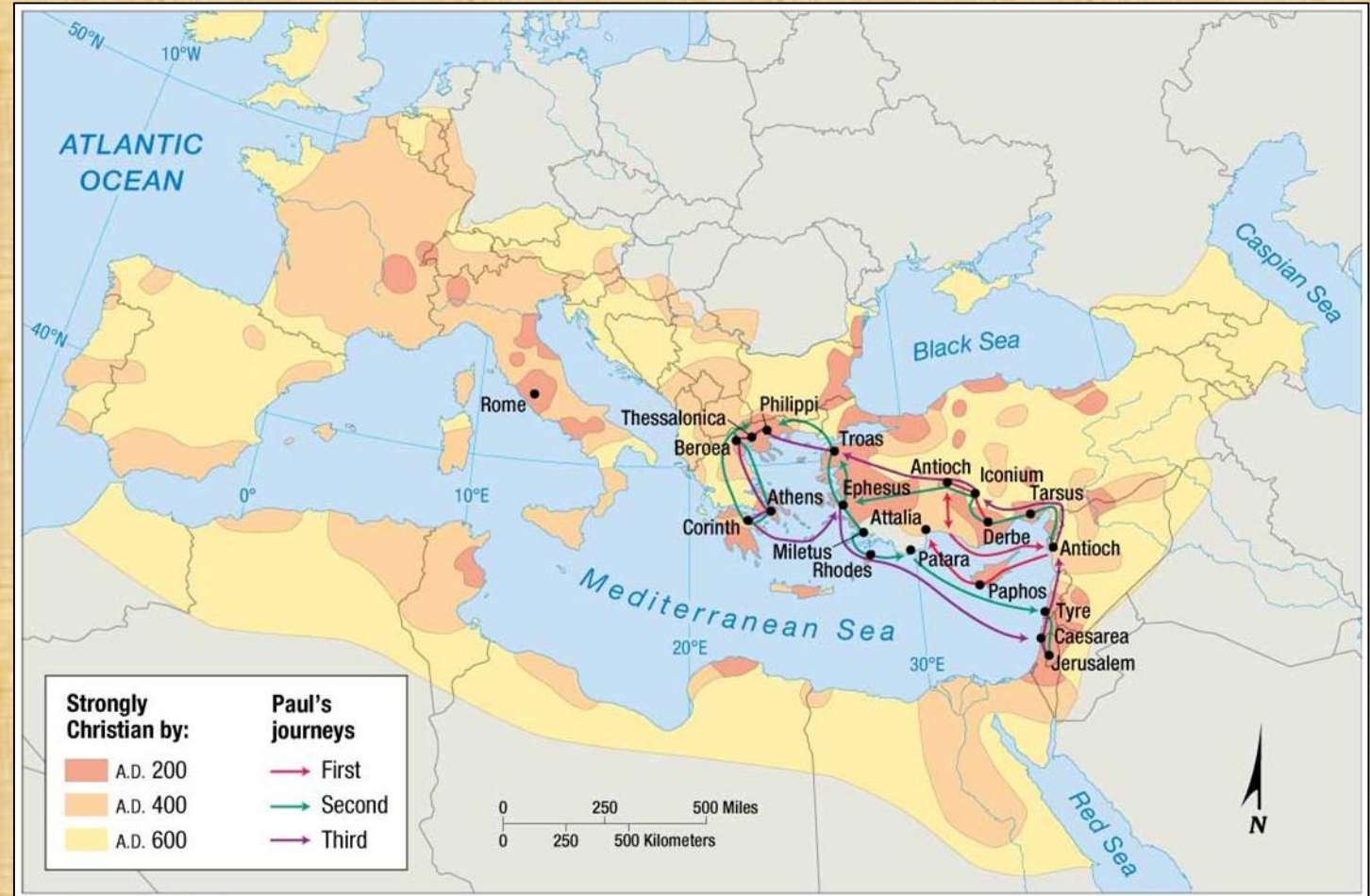
Diffusion of Religions

- Asia is the hearth for Christianity, Islam, and Buddhism.
- Followers transmitted messages preached to people elsewhere.



Diffusion of Christianity

- Hierarchical: Emperor Constantine helped diffuse the religion throughout the Roman Empire by embracing Christianity.
- Relocation: migration and missionary activity by Europeans since 1500 have extended Christianity all over the world.



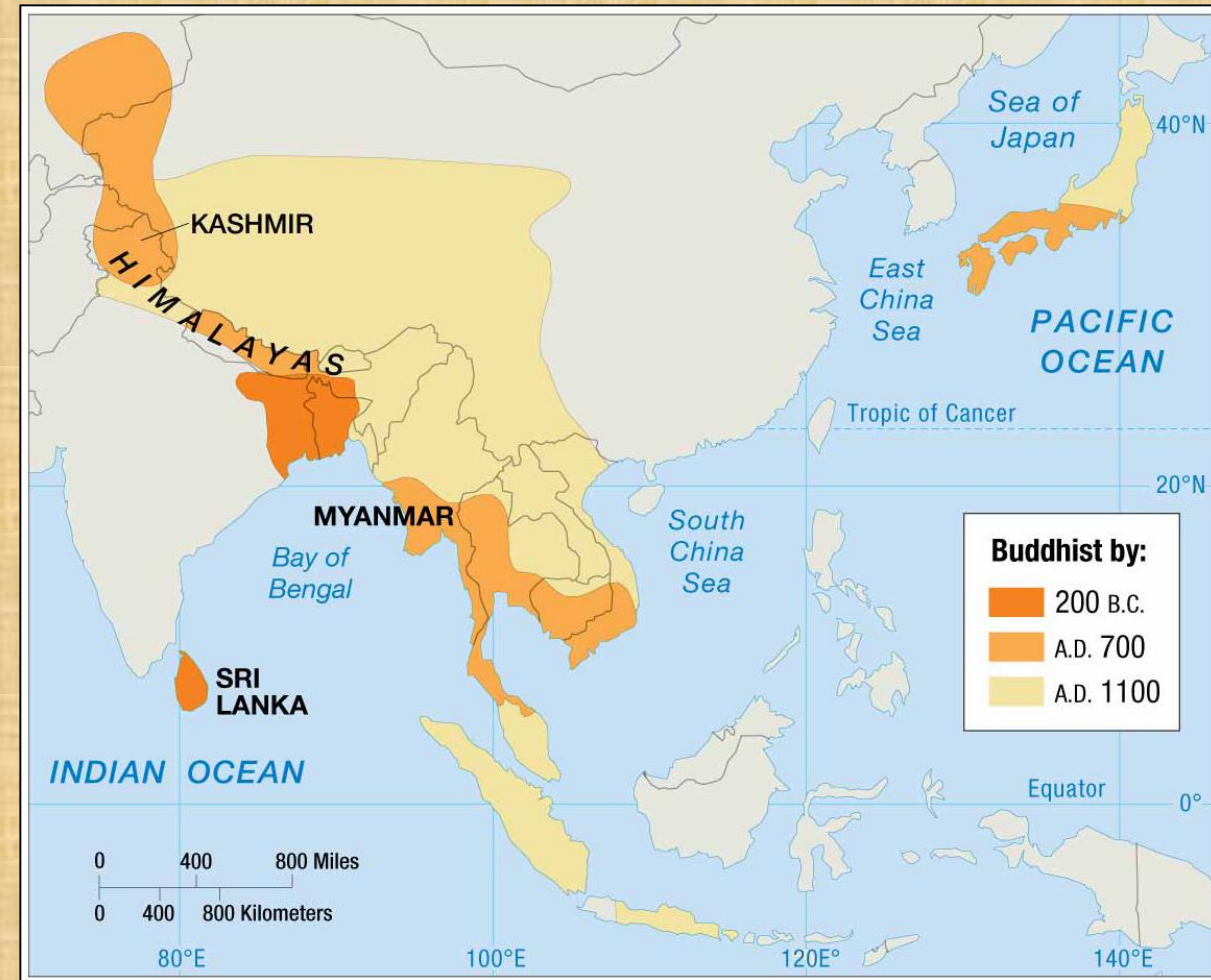
Diffusion of Islam

- Muhammad's successors organized followers into armies and led a conquest to spread the religion over an extensive area of Africa, Asia, and Europe
- Relocation diffusion of missionaries to portions of sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia transmitted the religion well beyond its hearth.



Diffusion of Buddhism

- Diffused relatively slowly from its origin in northeastern India.
- Emperor Asoka accredited with much of its diffusion throughout the Magadhan Empire (273 to 232 B.C.) by sending missionaries to territories neighboring the empire.
- Buddhism introduced to China along trade routes in first century A.D.



Diffusion of Ethnic Religions

- Most have limited, if any, diffusion (lack missionaries)
- Diffusion to new places is possible, if adherents migrate for economic gains and are not forced to adopt a strongly entrenched universalizing religion.
- Judaism's diffusion is unlike other ethnic religions because it is practiced well beyond its place of origin.
- Other nationalities have historically persecuted Jews living in their midst because of their retention of Judaism.

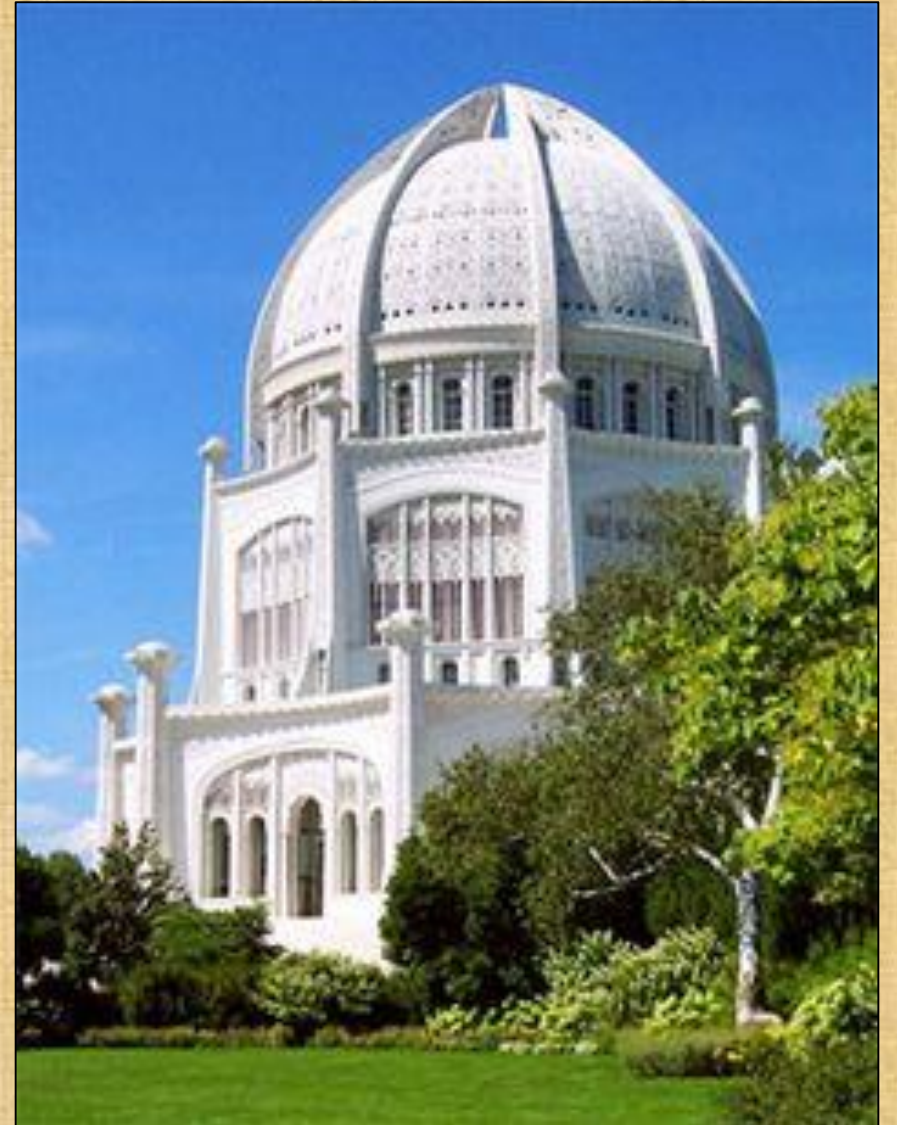
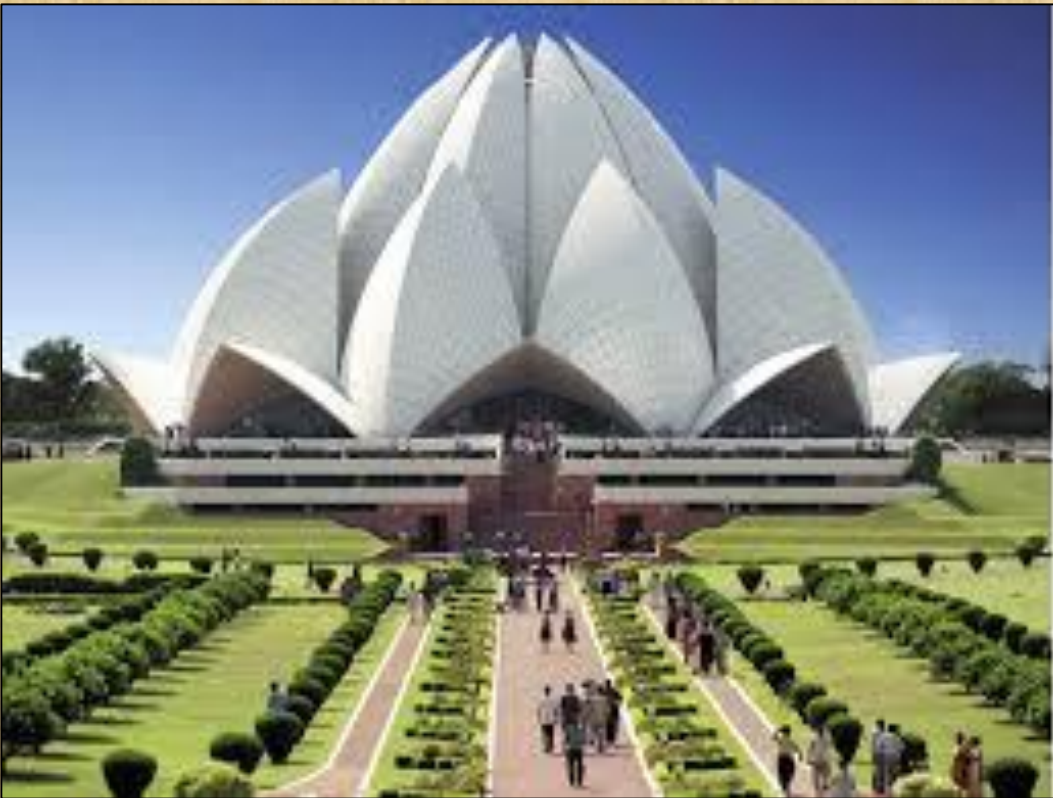
Sacred Spaces

- **Christian Church**
 - **More significant role than in other religions because of belief that building is house of God.**
 - **Traditionally largest and tallest building in a community.**
 - **Additional significance given to it by locating it in a prominent location (square or center of town)**
 - **No single architectural style**



Sacred Spaces

- Bahá'í Houses of Worship
 - Dispersed to different continents
 - Open to adherents of all religions



Sacred Spaces

- **Muslim Mosques**
 - **Space for community assembly**
 - **Attention to cardinal directions is emphasized (pulpit faces Makkah)**
 - **Minaret: a tower where a man (muezzin) summons people to worship.**



Sacred Spaces

- **Buddhist Pagodas**
 - **Prominent and ornate element on landscape that often includes tall, many-sided towers arranged in a series of tiers, balconies, and slanting roofs.**
 - **Contain relics believed to be a portion of Buddha's body or clothing.**
 - **Not designed for congregational worship.**



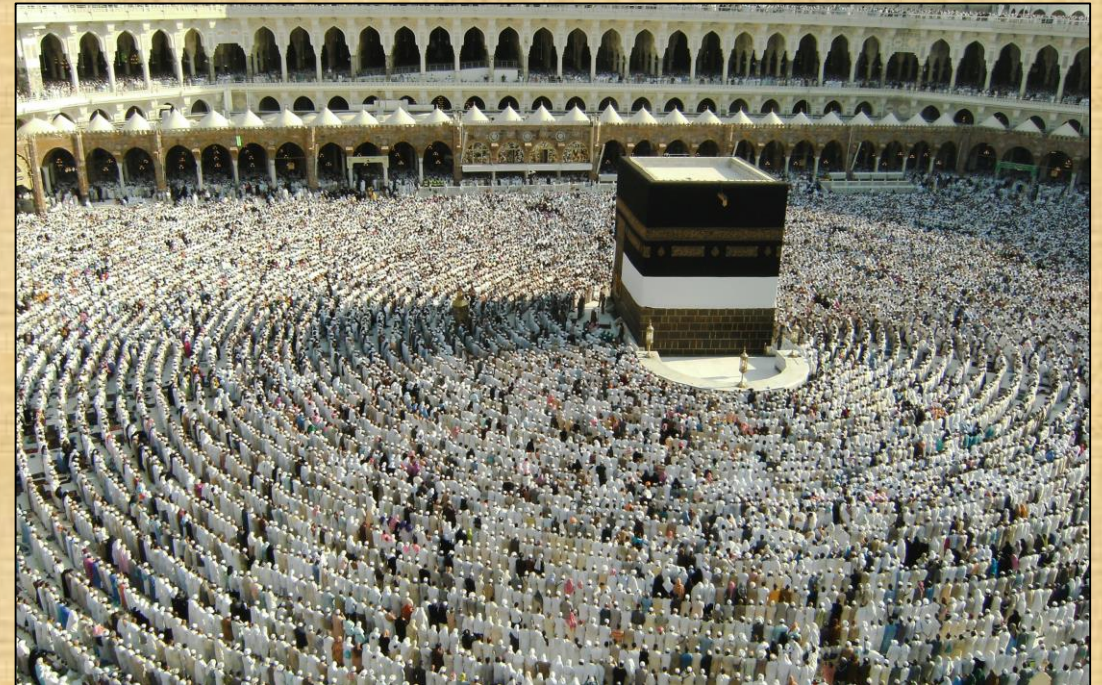
Sacred Places in Universalizing Religions

- Cities and places associated with the founder's life are endowed with holiness.
 - Not necessarily in close proximity of each other
 - Not needed to be related to any particular physical environment



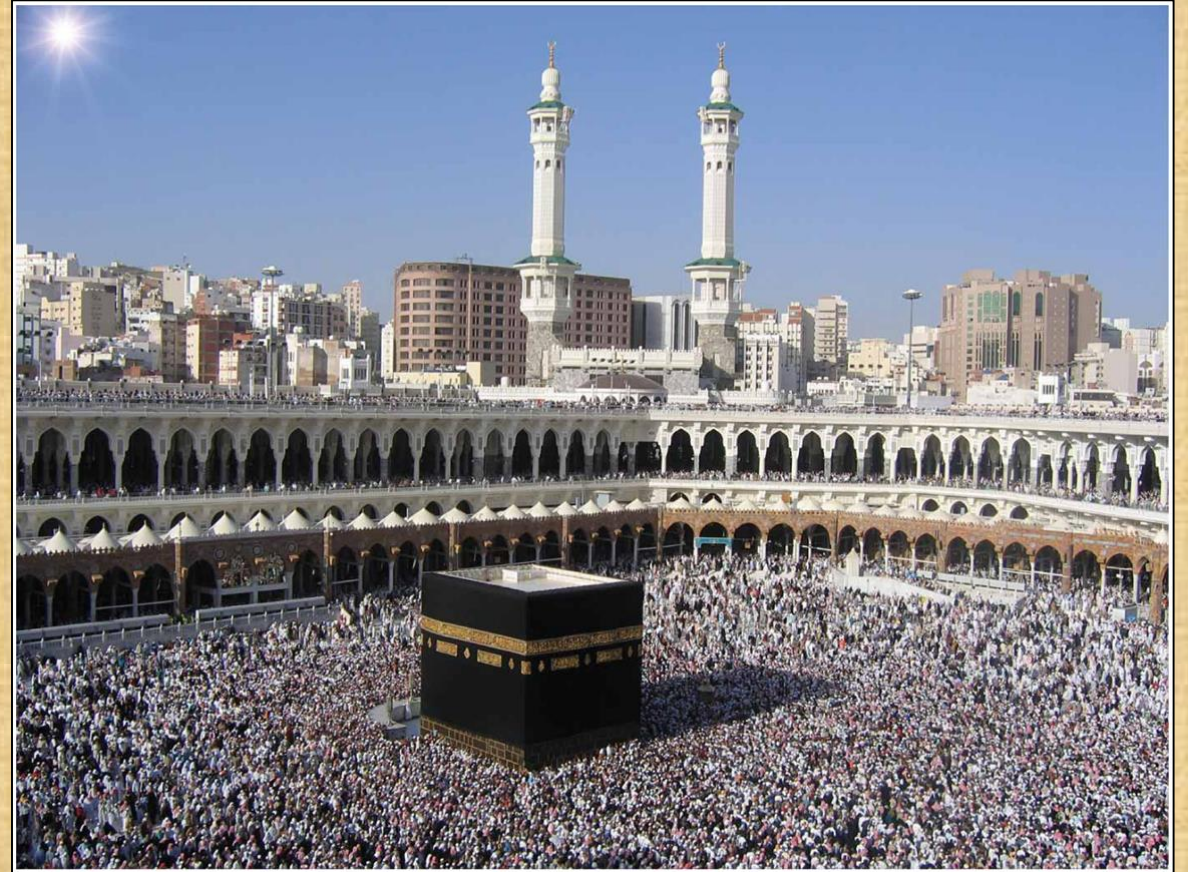
Sacred Places in Universalizing Religions

- Buddhism and Islam place most emphasis on identifying shrines that mark locations of important events in the life of Buddha or Muhammad.
- Pilgrimages: journeys for religious purposes in Islamic doctrine.



Holy Places in Islam

- Holiest locations are in cities associated with Prophet Muhammad.
 - Holiest City is Makkah (Mecca): birthplace of Muhammad.
 - Holiest object is Al-Ka'ba: a cube-like structure encased in silk that stands in Islam's largest mosque
 - 2nd most-holy place: Madinah (Medina): Muhammad's tomb



The Landscape in Ethnic Religions

- Hinduism closely tied to physical geography of India
 - Mt. Kailas is holy because it is home to Siva.
 - Believe purification by bathing in holy rivers (Ganges)
- Solstice: significance in some ethnic (pagan) religions (Stonehenge)



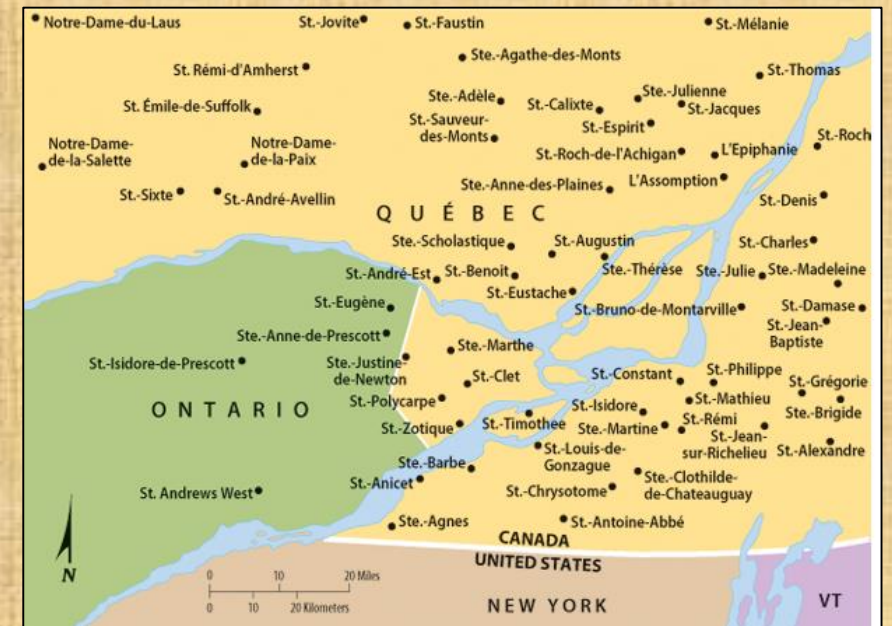
Disposing of the Dead

- **Burial:** Christians, Muslims, and Jews typically bury the deceased in designated areas called cemeteries.
- **Cremation:** Hindus wash the bodies of the deceased with water from the Ganges River first, then burn them with a slow fire on a funeral pyre.



Religious Settlements and Place Names

- Utopian Settlement: an ideal community built around a religious way of life (Salt Lake City built by the Mormons)
- Roman Catholic immigrants have frequently given religious place names (toponyms) to settlements in SW U.S. and Quebec, Canada



The Calendar

- **Ethnic: holidays aligned with natural events associated with the physical geography of the homeland.**
 - **Prominent feature is celebration of the seasons.**
 - **Closely tied to local agriculture**



The Calendar

- Universalizing: holidays relate to events in the life of the founder rather than the seasons of one particular place.
 - Ramadan (Islam): part of five pillars of faith
 - Easter (Christian): resurrection of Jesus

Bamiyan Musjid, Afghanistan

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1	2	3	4	5	6
(2006)	Oct. 23	Oct. 24	Oct. 25	Oct. 26	Oct. 27	Oct. 28
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Oct. 29	Oct. 30	Oct. 31	Nov. 1	Nov. 2	Nov. 3	Nov. 4
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Nov. 5	Nov. 6	Nov. 7	Nov. 8	Nov. 9	Nov. 10	Nov. 11
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Nov. 12	Nov. 13	Nov. 14	Nov. 15	Nov. 16	Nov. 17	Nov. 18
28	29	30				
Nov. 19	Nov. 20	Nov. 21				

Conflicting Perspectives of the Holy Land

- After 1973 war, Palestinians emerged as Israel's main opponent.
- Palestinians viewed themselves as the legitimate rulers of Israel.
- Biggest obstacle to peace in Middle East is status of Jerusalem.
- Peace not possible if one religion has control over Jerusalem

