

SS7G12 The student will analyze the diverse cultures of the people who live in Southern and Eastern Asia.

- a. Explain the differences between an ethnic group and a religious group.
- b. Compare and contrast the prominent religions in Southern and Eastern Asia: Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Shintoism and the philosophy of Confucianism.
- c. Evaluate how the literacy rate affects the standard of living.



- What describes a religious group?
 - People who share **belief in god** or gods
 - People who share same religion
- What describes an ethnic group?
 - People who share **language, religion, or culture**
 - Examples: Kurds share language, religion and culture

Predominate Asian Religions



Confucianism



Islam



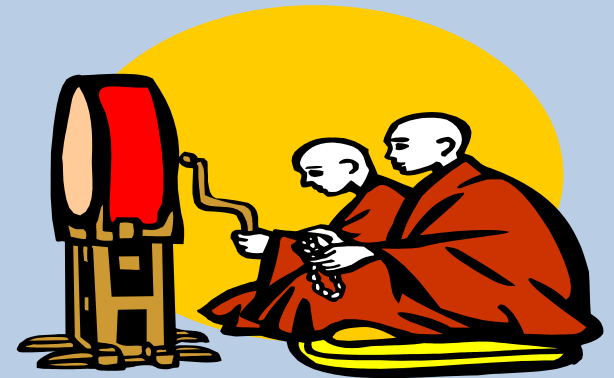
Christianity



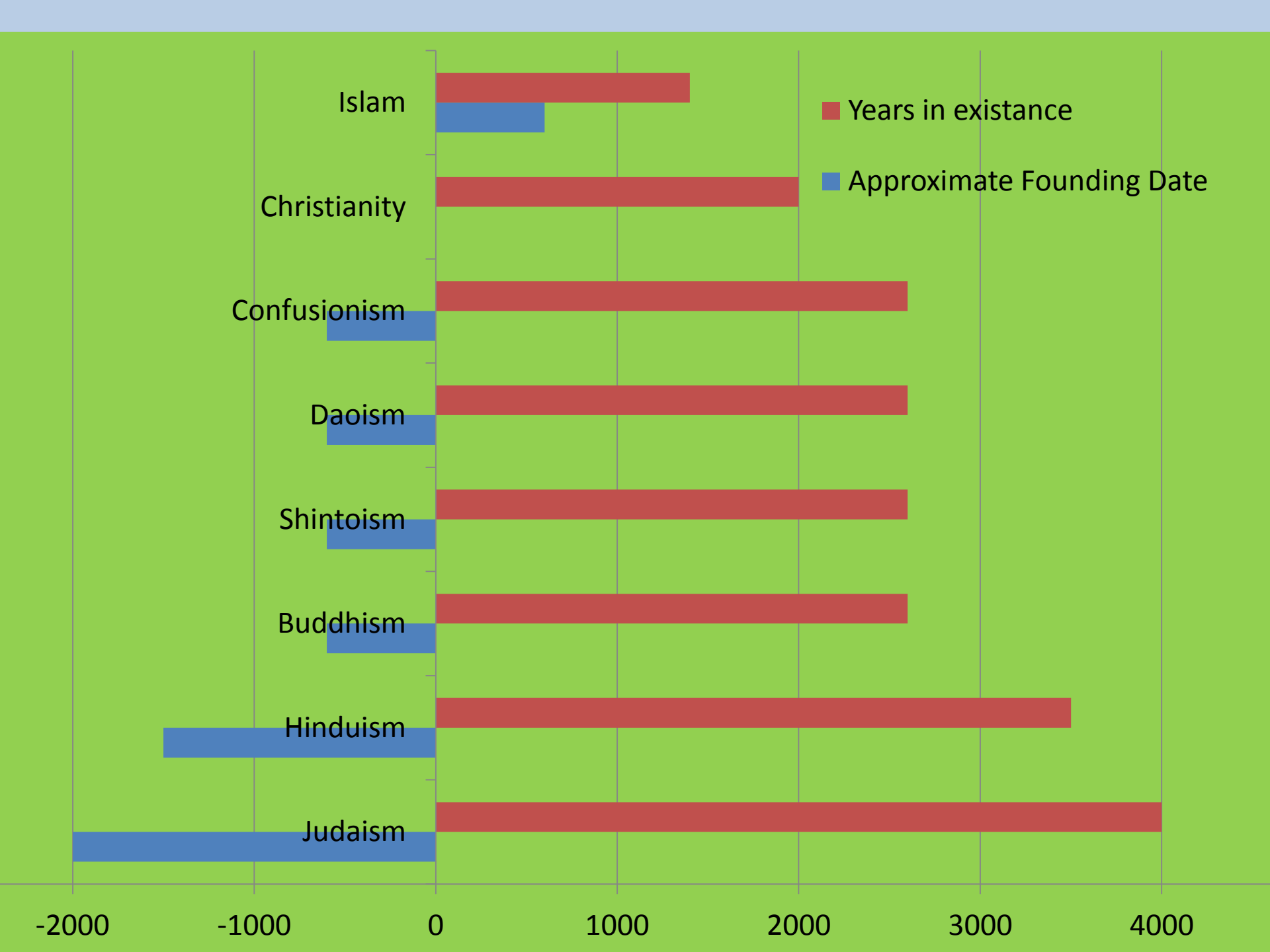
Shintoism

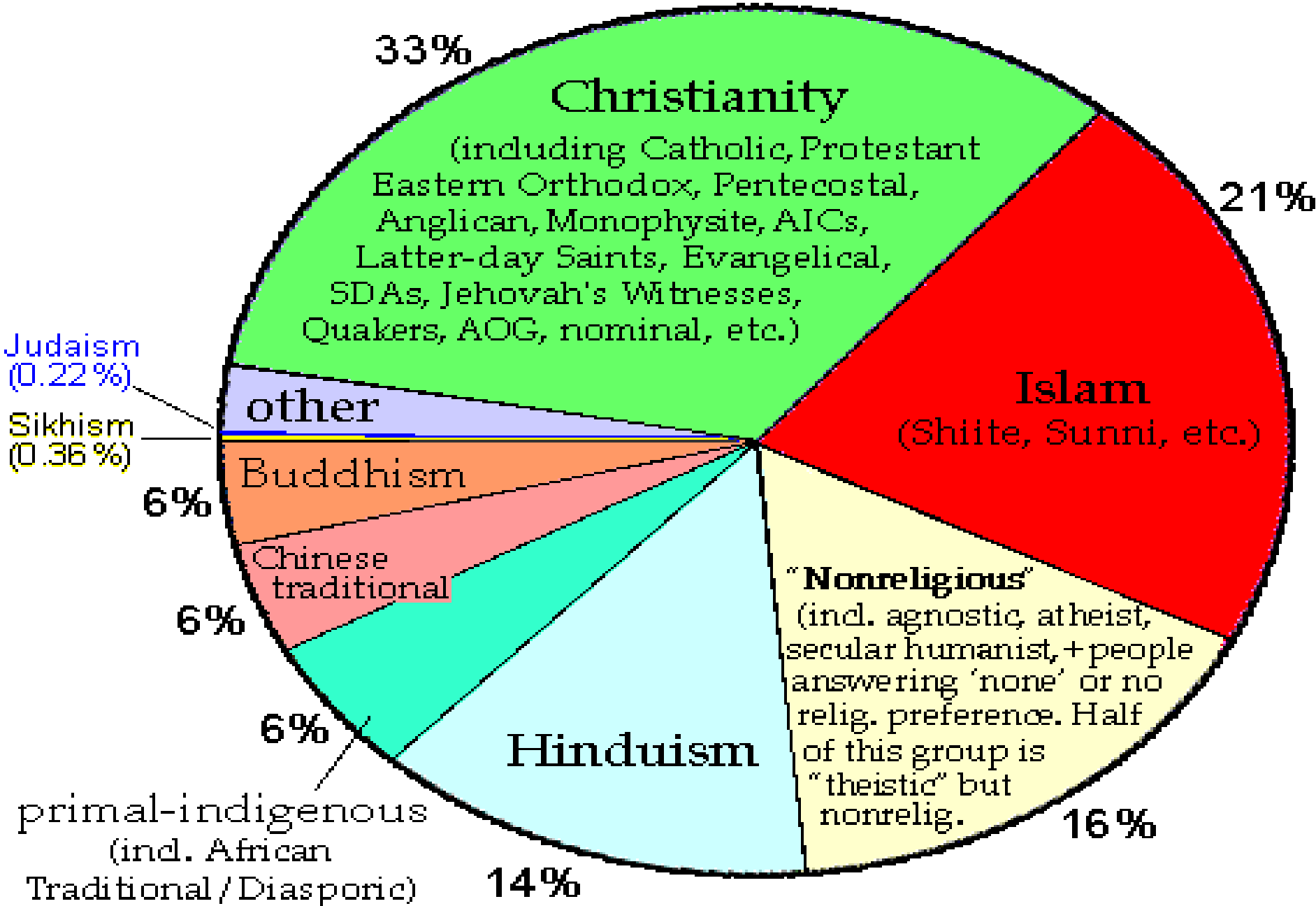


Hinduism



Buddhism



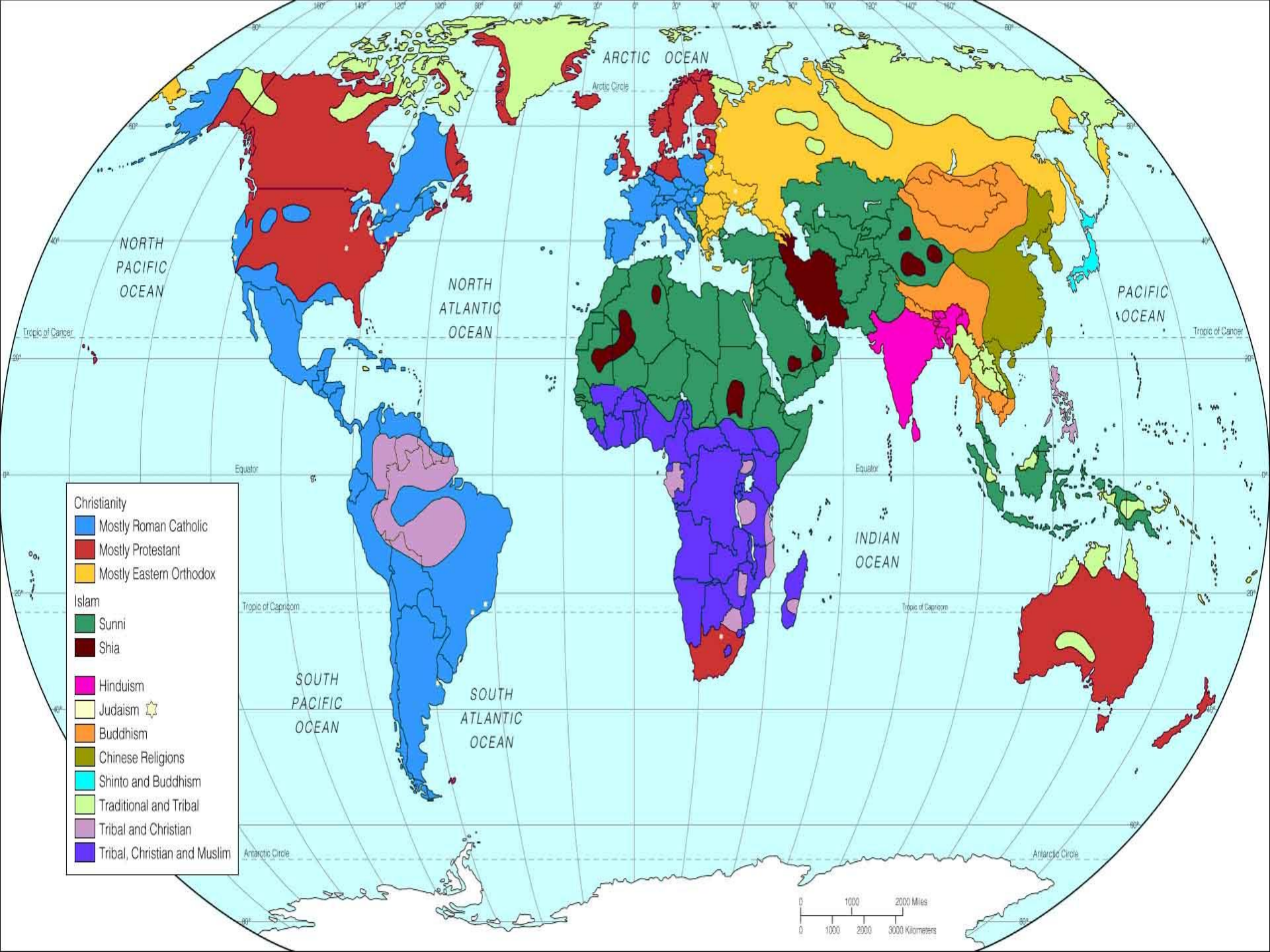


NOTE: Total adds up to more than 100% due to rounding and because upper bound estimates were used for each group.

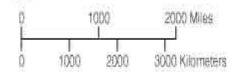


Prevailing Religion

- Catholic Christianity
- Orthodox Christianity
- Protestant Christianity
- Sunni Islam
- Shi'ite Islam
- Islam (other groups)
- Hinduism
- Judaism
- Chinese Religion
- Theravada Buddhism
- Mahayana Buddhism
- Vajrayana Buddhism
- Nature Religions
- Other Groups



- Christianity**
- Mostly Roman Catholic
 - Mostly Protestant
 - Mostly Eastern Orthodox
- Islam**
- Sunni
 - Shia
- Hinduism**
- Judaism
- Buddhism**
- Chinese Religions
 - Shinto and Buddhism
 - Traditional and Tribal
 - Tribal and Christian
 - Tribal, Christian and Muslim



Hinduism



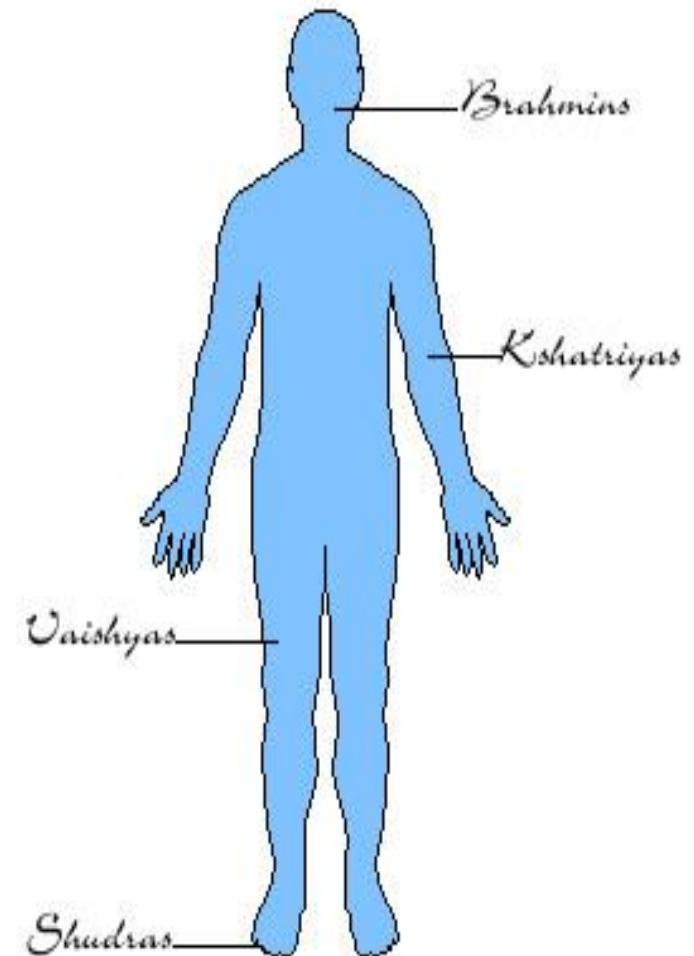
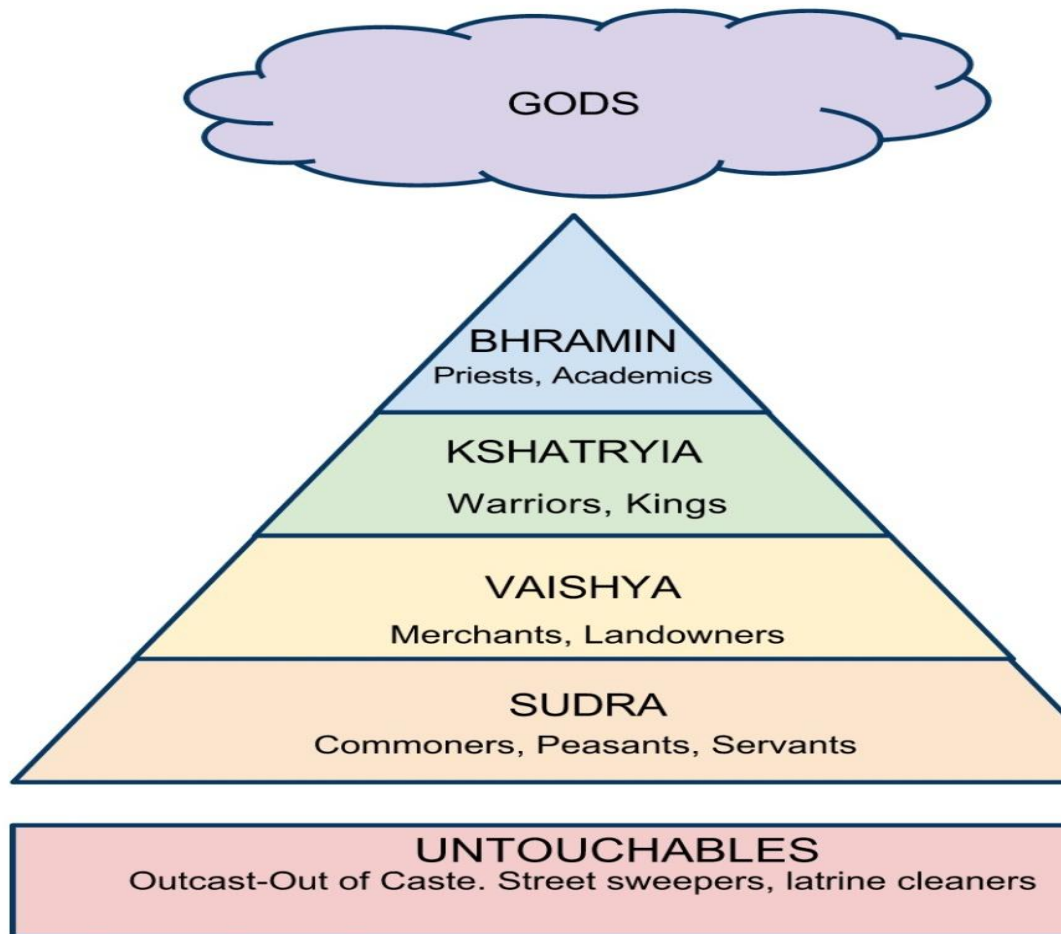
- **One of the oldest religions in world founded in India**
- Sacred Text is called the **Vedas** or Book of Knowledge and it was written in 1,500 BCE (3,500 years ago!)
- Hinduism is **Polytheistic** or they believe in **MANY** gods.
- **The supreme god is Brahman**
- Hinduism is a very complex religion and does not include strict religions doctrine like most world religions.
- Hinduism is the 3rd Largest religion in the world

Reincarnation

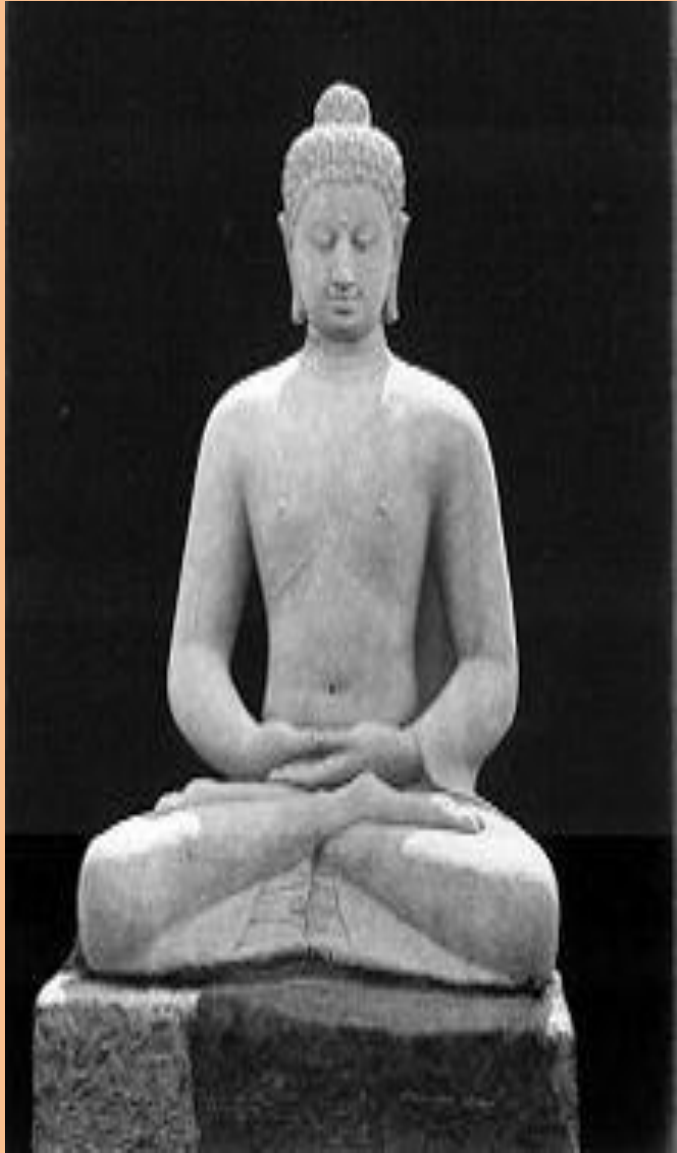


- Hindus believe **all living beings have souls** and many are vegetarians
- Hindus also believe in **reincarnation**, or the belief that the soul returns to another body after life.
- A good person will return to have a better life, a bad person will return to a worse life-this is called **Karma**
- **Karma** is the belief actions (good or bad) determine ones fate
- Ultimately the goal is to be removed from the Karmic cycle. If some is good enough, through many lifetimes, **they can become united with Brahman**

- Caste system is another important part of Hinduism and the Caste System is part of Karma
- **Caste System means that your social class is inherited** or determined at birth from the good or bad deeds in your previous life.



Buddhism



- **Buddhism also comes from India** and was founded around **500 BCE**
- It's founder is **Siddhartha Gautama** was born around a prince, but renounced (went away from) his life to find enlightenment and became known as the "Enlightened One" or **Buddha**.
- The teachings of Buddha were written down in the Pali Canon and have become Buddhism.
- Buddhism is found **in many Asian countries**, but only a few in India are Buddhists today.



“No one saves us but ourselves.
No one can and no one may. We
ourselves must walk the path.”

Pratītyasamutpāda
“Interdependant
arising”

- Buddha tried to teach others enlightenment through the **Four Noble Truths**
 - Life is Suffering
 - Greed causes suffering
 - Remove yourself and suffering ends (Nirvana)
 - Follow the Eightfold to attain Nirvana
- The **Middle Way** is part of the Eightfold path, but it is more a mindset of viewing the world. **The Middle Way mindset is necessary for Buddhists to find peace.**

Shintoism



- **Shintoism was founded in Japan** around 700 BCE
- It is considered the first religion in Japan
- It honors spirits in nature called Kami.
- **Kami are spirits found in all things.** These are very important to Shinto followers
- **Followers pray at small alters in their homes** or build alters in beautiful nature sites these honor the Kami
- Shintoism merged with Buddhism after 700 CE and together these are the most important religions in Japan

CONFUCIANISM



- **Confucianism is a Chinese way of life** or philosophy taught by Confucian in 550 BCE
- Confucianism is ethical way to live to build good character and virtue in people
- Confucian's **Golden Rule** was, **“What you do not like when done to you, do not to others.”**
- **Confucian thought strict ethical codes and behavior norms were key to social order and peace**
- Relationships were key to Confucianism. The younger was supposed to give obedience to the elder and woman should give obedience to the man.
 - Ruler-subject
 - Father-Son
 - Husband-wife
 - Elder brother-younger brother
 - Elder friend- younger friend
- Confucianism is not a religion, but a way of life. **In 121 BC the Han Dynasty (rulers) had Confucian scholars as advisors, who help establish the Government in China**

Predominate Asian Religions



Confucianism



Islam



Christianity



Shintoism



Hinduism



Buddhism