

# Hinduism

✓ *mitram varuṇamagnimāhuratho divyaḥ sa  
urṇo gharutmān, ekam sad viprā bahudhā  
vāntyagnim yamaṃ n* Many forms of One Deity

✓ **CASTE**

✓  REINCARNATION

✓ **Karma**

# Buddhism

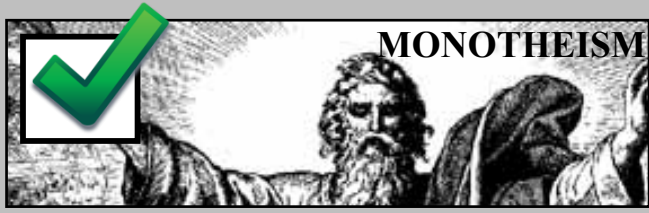
✓  SIDDHARTHA  
GAUTAMA

✓ *Four Noble  
TRUTHS*  
*the way to end of suffering*

✓ 8 FOLD  
PATH 

✓  ASOKA THE GREAT

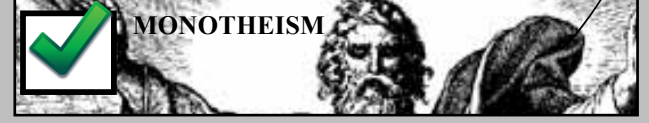
# Judaism

✓  MONOTHEISM

✓  TEN  
COMMANDMENTS

✓  TORAH

# Christianity

✓  MONOTHEISM

✓  JESUS

✓ AFTERLIFE 

✓  Holy Bible  
New Testament

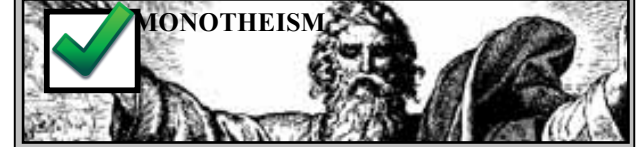
✓  EARLY CHURCH COUNCILS

Freeman



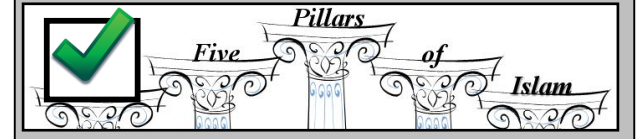
MAJOR RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD

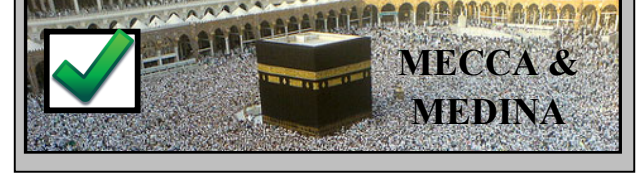
# Islam

✓  MONOTHEISM

✓ **MUHAMMAD**  
PEACE BE UPON HIM

✓  THE NOBLE QUR'AN

✓  Five Pillars  
of Islam

✓  MECCA &  
MEDINA



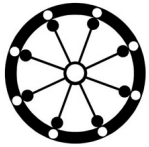




MAJOR RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD

# MAJOR WORLD RELIGIONS

THE FOLLOWING **PREVIEW** HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR  
**ALL AUDIENCES**

BY THE MOTION PICTURE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.

RELIGION	SYMBOL	GLOBAL LOCATION	LEADER	FOUNDER	3 BASIC BELIEFS	HOLY BOOK	GOD(S)?	COOLEST THING YOU LEARNED
				<u>NAME:</u>  <u>DATE:</u>	1. 2. 3.		MON O POL	
				<u>NAME:</u>  <u>DATE:</u>	1. 2. 3.		MON O POL	
				<u>NAME:</u>  <u>DATE:</u>	1. 2. 3.		MON O POL	
				<u>NAME:</u>  <u>DATE:</u>	1. 2. 3.		MON O POL	
				<u>NAME:</u>  <u>DATE:</u>	1. 2. 3.		MON O POL	



# Hinduism



“The One Truth, sages know by many names”


-Rig Veda 1.164.46

- Not so much a RELIGION, as an ALL ENCOMPASSING WAY OF LIFE
- The World’s OLDEST organized religion
  - Made up of 1,000s of different groups
- Hinduism dates as far back as the Harappan River Valley Civilization (up to 5500 Years ago!)
- Today, Hinduism is the world’s THIRD LARGEST RELIGION (just under 1 BILLION people)

What Hinduism Does NOT Have

- Single Founder
- Single concept of God
- Single Holy Text
- Single system of morality
- Specific Theological system
- Central Religious Authority
- Concept of a prophet

## MAJOR BELIEFS

- REINCARNATION
  - When you die, your soul returns in a different form
- KARMA
  - One’s actions in this and past lives determine your current situation
  - “If we sow goodness, we will reap goodness”
- Important Texts:
  - Vedas- Oldest Hindu texts
  - Ramayana- Epic poem from India
- Caste System 

## India’s Traditional Corporate Ladder

Rooted in Hinduism, India’s complex caste system includes 3,000 castes and 25,000 sub-castes, all traditionally related to occupation. They fall under four basic “varnas” or categories:

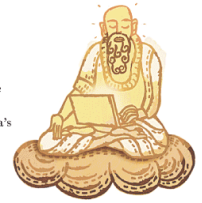
### BRAHMINS:

Priests, scholars and teachers.

Famous members include:

Jawaharlal Nehru: First prime minister of independent India

Rahul Dravid: captain of India’s cricket team



### KSHATRIYAS:

Warriors and rulers

Famous members include:

Vasundhara Raje Scindia, chief minister of the Indian state of Rajasthan



### VAISHYAS:

Traders

Famous members include:

Lakshmi Mittal: chief executive, Arcelor Mittal steel company

Mohandas Gandhi: Independence leader, the “father of the nation”



### SUDRAS:

Manual workers and servants



### DALITS:

Formerly known as

“Untouchables,” Dalits perform unpleasant jobs like cleaning or leather tanning. With changes in India, some Dalits are now becoming entrepreneurs or getting jobs in high-tech.

Famous members include:

KR Narayanan: Former President of India

BR Ambedkar: Political leader and chief architect of the Indian Constitution







# Judaism



“For thou [art] an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that [are] upon the face of the earth.”

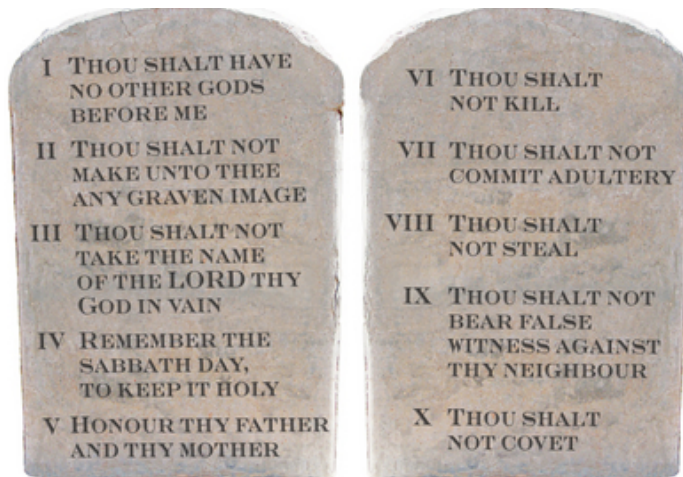
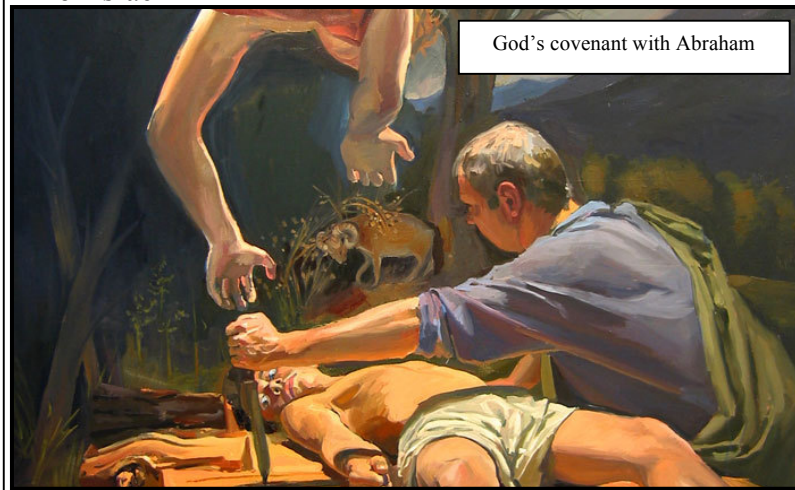
- World's oldest surviving monotheistic religion
  - Abraham father of the Jewish people lived around 2,000 BCE
- God told Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac
  - God sent an angel to stop him just before Abraham sacrificed Isaac (below)
- For his faith, God stated that Isaac would inherit the land of Israel

## MOSES & THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

- Moses frees the Hebrews from enslavement in Egypt and leads them to Mt. Sinai where God gave Moses the 10 Commandments

### TORAH (1<sup>st</sup> Five Books of the Old Testament)

- Foundation of Jewish legal & ethical texts
- Kept on a scroll of parchment





# Buddhism



**"This is the noble truth of the cessation of suffering: it is the remainderless fading away and cessation of that same craving, the giving up and relinquishing of it, freedom from it, nonreliance on it."**

*-Third Noble Truth: Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta, Buddha's first discourse after he achieved Nirvana*

## Four Noble Truths

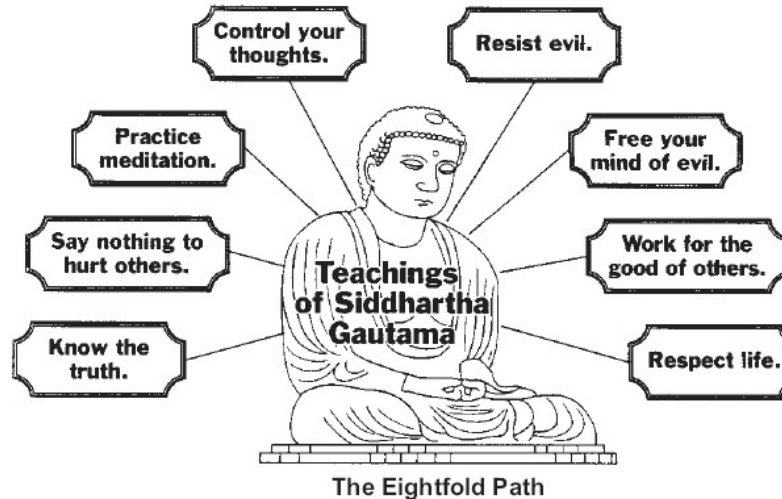
**1** Life means suffering

**2** Origin of Suffering is attachment (desire)

**3** Cessation of suffering comes from the ending of desire

**4** End desire by following the 8-fold Path

- Considered to be the world's 4<sup>th</sup> largest religion
- Founded by Siddhartha Gautama
  - Indian Prince who lived around 500 BCE
  - Left his sheltered life to try to find an end to suffering
  - Became the Enlightened One... The Buddha
- No concept of God
- GOAL=NIRVANA (End of want/desire/reincarnation)





# ROCK AND PILLAR EDICTS

*"In the history of the world there have been thousands of kings and emperors who called themselves 'their highnesses,' 'their majesties,' and 'their exalted majesties' and so on. They shone for a brief moment, and as quickly disappeared. But Asoka shines and shines brightly like a bright star, even unto this day."*

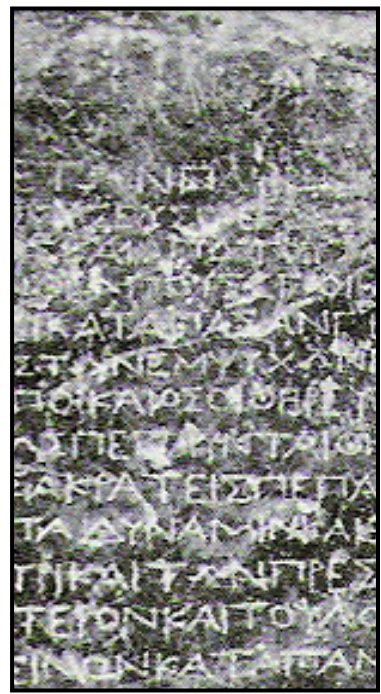
- H.G. Wells



"Everywhere has Beloved-of-the-Gods, King Piyadasi (Asoka), made provision for two types of medical treatment: medical treatment for humans and medical treatment for animals. Wherever medical herbs suitable for humans or animals are not available, I have had them imported and grown. Wherever medical roots or fruits are not available I have had them imported and grown. Along roads I have had wells dug and trees planted for the benefit of humans and animals."

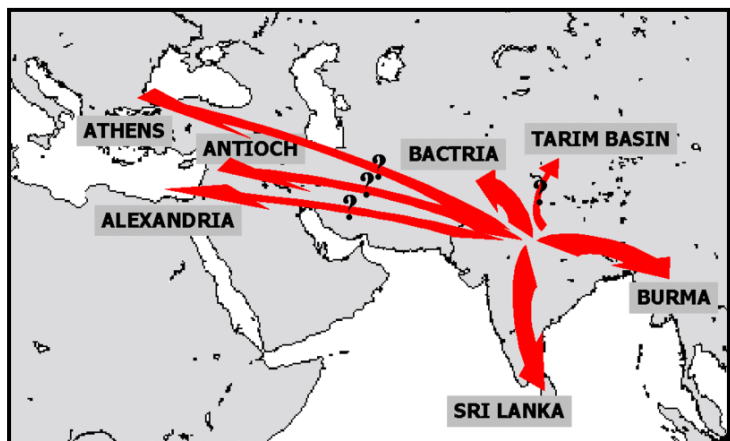
"Beloved-of-the-Gods, King Piyadasi, desires that all religions should reside everywhere, for all of them desire self-control and purity of heart. But people have various desires and various passions, and they may practice all of what they should or only a part of it. But one who receives great gifts yet is lacking in self-control, purity of heart, gratitude and firm devotion, such a person is mean."

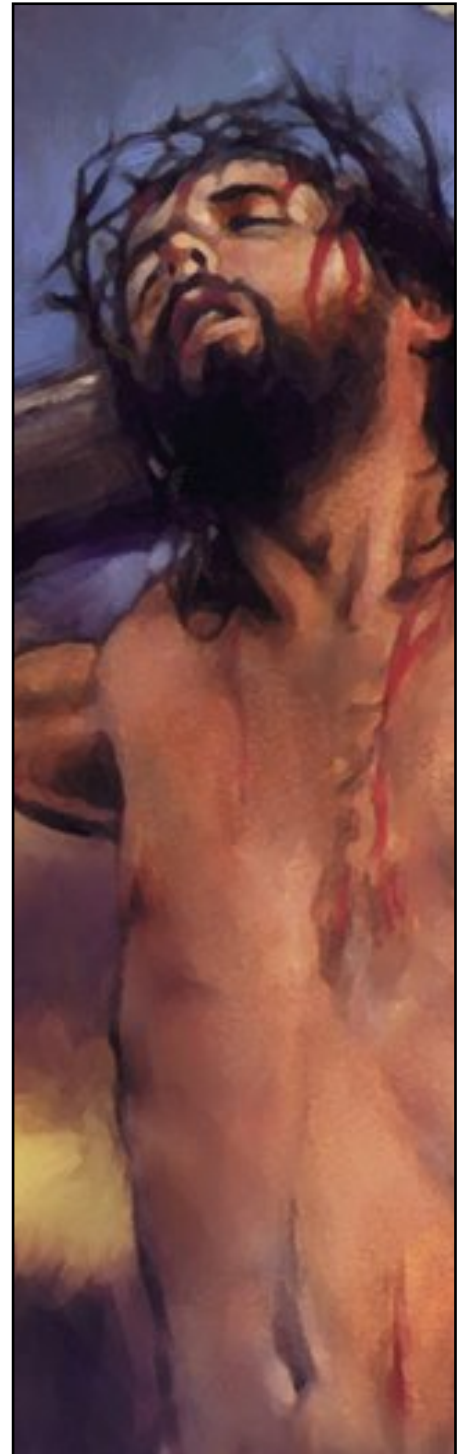
"Beloved-of-the-Gods, King Piyadasi, conquered the Kalingas eight years after his coronation. One hundred and fifty thousand were deported, one hundred thousand were killed and many more died (from other causes). After the Kalingas had been conquered, Beloved-of-the-Gods came to feel a strong inclination towards the Dhamma (Buddhism), a love for the Dhamma and for instruction in Dhamma. Now Beloved-of-the-Gods feels deep remorse for having conquered the Kalingas."



WHAT IS ASOKA TRYING TO DO IN POSTING THESE EDICTS ON ROCKS AND PILLARS THROUGHOUT SOUTH ASIA?

WHAT CONVINCED ASOKA TO CONVERT TO BUDDHISM?





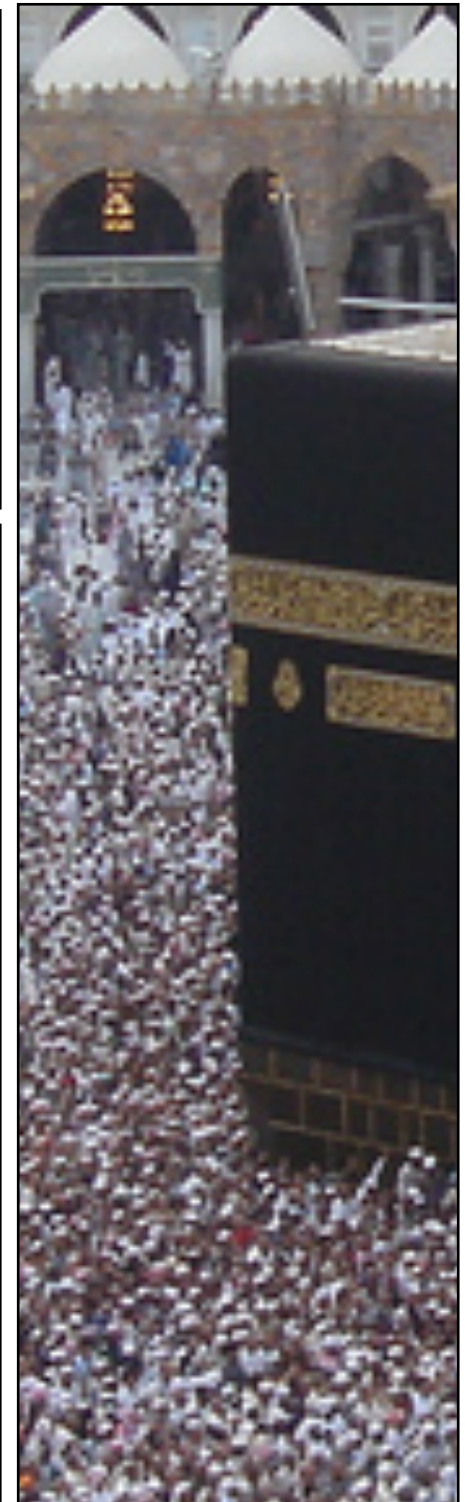
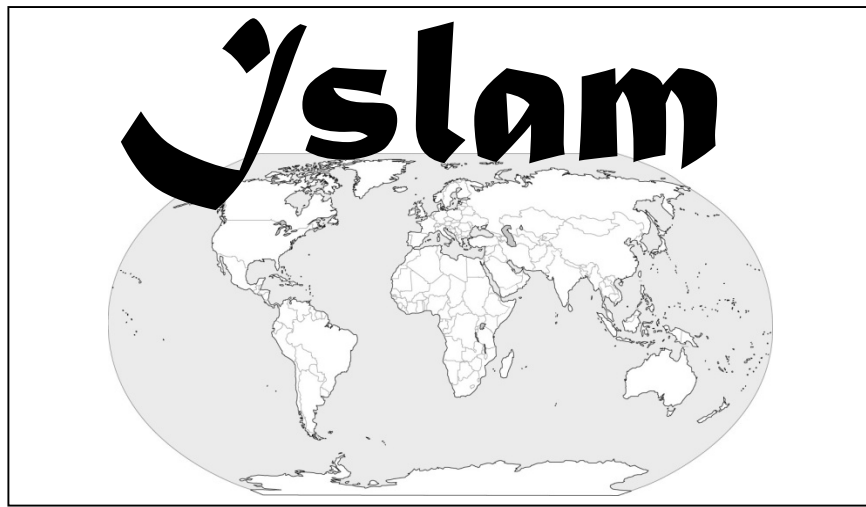
*"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life"*

- Bible, New Testament (John 3:16)

- World's Largest Religion (2 billion or 1/3 of Earth)
- Holy Book= Bible (Old + New Testament)
- Nearly 30,000 sects all with different beliefs
- After you die...
  - Good Christian believers go to Heaven
  - Bad Sinners go to Hell
  - Catholics believe in Purgatory
    - Temporary place of punishment
- Yeshua of Nazareth
  - Jewish carpenter born between 6-4 BCE
  - Known by the Greek form of his name as Jesus
  - Christians believe him to be the son of god
  - Jesus was crucified by the Romans for claiming to be the son of god
  - Christians believe that after his death he came back to life
- After Jesus & his Apostles died...
  - Early Christian leaders met in Councils to determine the future of the faith (Bible? Leaders? Etc.)
















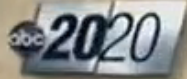
“إِلَهُهُ رَسُوْلٌ مَحْمُوْدٌ اِلٰهَ اِلٰهَ لَا اٰ”  
 “There is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is the messenger of Allah”

- Islam is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest religion (1.6 Billion or ¼)
  - Fastest growing religion
- Islam was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad in 610 CE
  - Muhammad is not seen as anything more than a Prophet
  - Muhammad restored the one true faith of Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, & Jesus
- Upset with his Meccan life, he retreated to a cave to meditate...
  - Angel Gabriel appeared and revealed the Qu’ran (“A recitation”)
- God=Allah (Arabic for “god”)
- Holy Cities
  - Mecca & Medina

### THE FIVE PILLARS OF ISLAM

 <p><b>Shahadah</b> (Faith)</p>  <p>To believe in no God but Allah and that Muhammad is his prophet and the messenger of Allah.</p>	 <p><b>Salah</b> (Prayer)</p>  <p>To pray five times each day: Fajr - Before Sunrise Zuhr - Early Afternoon Asr - Late Afternoon Maghrib - After Sunset Isha - Night.</p>	 <p><b>Sawm</b> (Fasting)</p>  <p>To give up food and drink during daylight hours in the month of Ramadan.</p>	 <p><b>Zakah</b> (Almsgiving)</p>  <p>To give a share of personal wealth to help people in need and support the Muslim community.</p>	 <p><b>Hajj</b> (Pilgrimage)</p>  <p>To perform a pilgrimage to Makkah at least once in a lifetime.</p>
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# ISLAM QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

More than 1.5 billion people are unified by the call to prayer, which sounds five times a day to summon Muslims around to world, from remote Somali villages to mosques in Dearborn, Michigan.

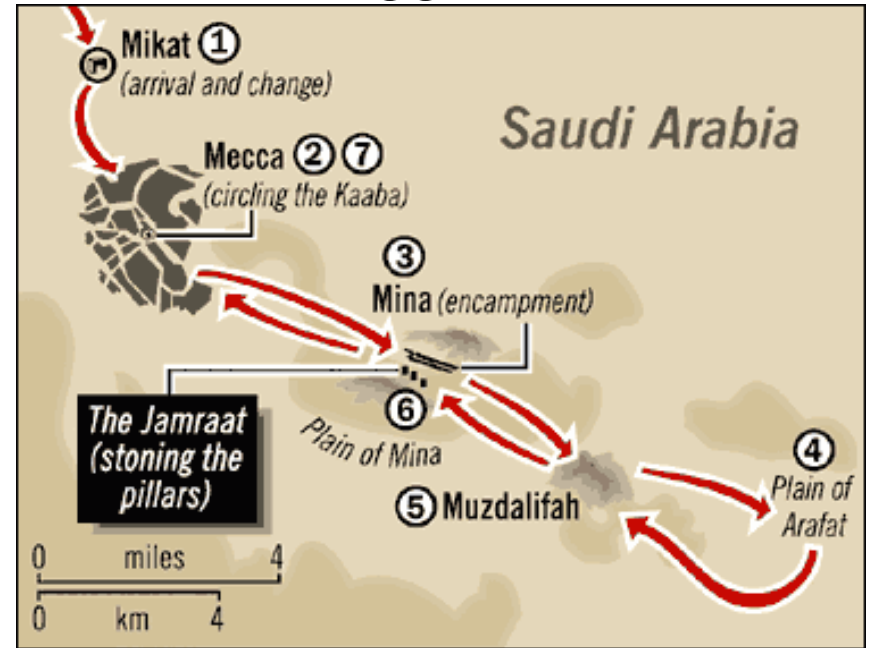
But in the United States, where less than 1 percent of the population practices Islam, many misconceptions persist. There's also a deeply-rooted suspicion of the religion.

## PART I: WHAT IS ISLAM?

1. What sparked the recent interest in Islam?
2. What % of the earth is Muslim?
3. What % of the earth is Christian?
4. What % of the United States is Muslim?
5. What % of Americans does not know a Muslim?
6. When did Muhammad have his revelation about monotheism?
7. What does Qu'ran mean?
8. What are some common stories found in both Islam and Christianity?
9. How do Muslims view Jesus?
10. What separates Islamic and Christian views on Jesus?

# The Hajj

One of the best known "Pillars", the Hajj is the pilgrimage Muslims must make to Mecca at least once in their lifetimes (if they can afford it).



The Hajj is the largest pilgrimage on the planet. It serves as a symbol of submission to Allah and solidarity with their fellow Muslims. Below are the steps the pilgrims take while on the Hajj.

- 1** Pilgrims must enter into the state of Ihram where they clean themselves and wear Ihram garments.
- 2** From there, the pilgrims travel to Mecca and circle the Ka'aba 7 times (keeping the Ka'aba on your left). You then trim your hair and remove your Ihram garments.
- 3** Then, they put the Ihram garments on again and head to Mina for prayer and preparation for travel.
- 4** After sunrise, they head out to the Mount Arafat where they pray for forgiveness to Allah
- 5** Another stop for prayer.
- 6** After collecting 7 pebbles, pilgrims throw them at the Jamraat (stone walls) to symbolize Abraham's stoning of the devil.
- 7** Back to the Ka'aba for one final Tawaaf (circling) of the Ka'aba

11. Why are there no drawings of Muhammad?
12. On what continent do most Muslims live?
13. What are some of the innovations achieved by the Islamic world?
14. How do American Muslims compare to average Americans in:
  - a. EDUCATION:
  - b. PAY:
15. How many mosques are in the United States?

**“WE SHOULD BE TOLERANT OF EACH OTHER’S RELIGION. OUR DIFFERENCES ARE GOD’S MERCY”**

- Muhammad

**“LET THERE BE NO COMPULSION IN RELGION”**

- Muhammad



**PART II: INTERPRETATION OF THE SCRIPTURE**

1. What book is the opening quote of this section from?
2. What part of the Qu/ran is more militant?
  - a. Beginning
  - b. End
3. What happened to Muhammad’s Infidels?
4. Where in the Qu’ran does it mention 72 Virgins?
5. What is the *REAL* translation?
6. How does Islam view suicide and murder?
7. What is a Fatwa?
8. What is Taqiyya?
9. Is it real?

**PART III: ISLAM & WOMEN**

1. What does the Koran say about how women should dress?
2. What movement occurred that changed the misogynistic ways of the Christians/Jews?
3. What do the above countries have in common?
4. What law did French recently pass on this subject?
5. What does the Qu’ran say about the differences between Men and Women?