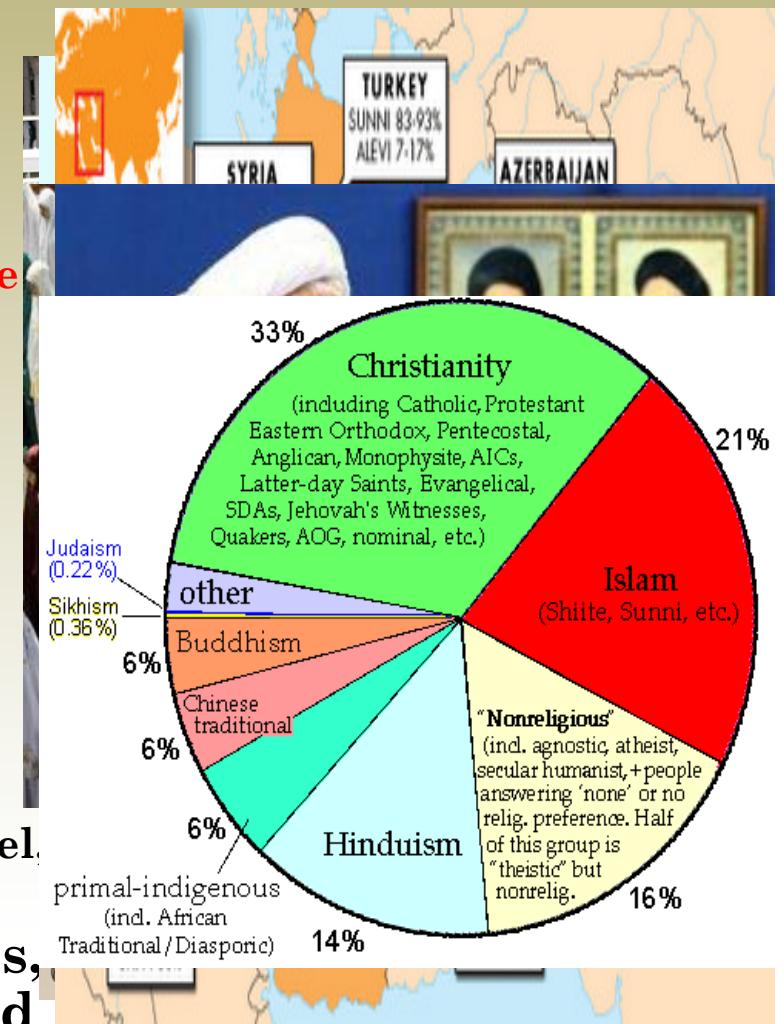


Islam

Two Groups of Muslims

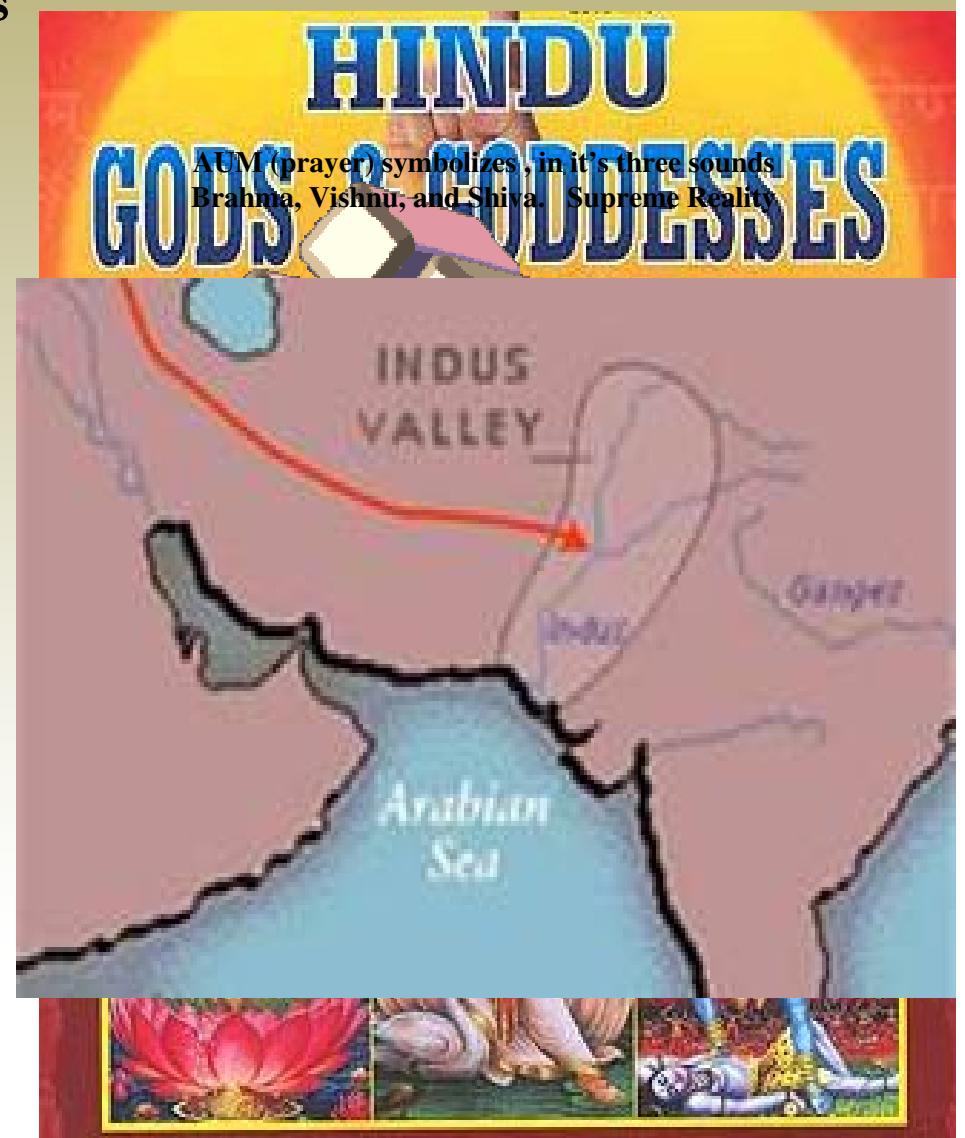
- **Sunni Muslims**
 - **85 % of Muslims**
 - No structured religious chain of command
 - Whomever would be best
 - Sunni in Arabic means, “**one who follows the traditions of the Prophet.**”
- **Shia Muslims**
 - **15% of Muslims (Iran's official religion)**
 - Heavy importance on individual clerics.
 - Shia in Arabic means, “**follower of Ali**”
 - Ali was the son-in-law of Muhammad.
 - 3rd caliph
- **The Ka'ba is a cubed shaped building in Mecca, Saudi Arabia.**
 - Holy sanctuary built by Abraham for Ishmael is the most sacred site for Islam
 - Islam has about 1.5 billion followers, representing about 21% of the world population.





Hinduism

- HINDUISM is one of the world's oldest religions.
 - Developing Since **3500 B.C.E.**
 - Over time Hinduism converged with other faiths
 - **No single founder**
 - **1500 B.C.E. Conquering Aryans and native Indians**
 - Indus River Valley
- Hindu means Indian
- Over 2/3's of the world's Hindus live in **India**.
- Hindus believe in **many gods, numbering into the thousands.**
 - Like Greece and Rome





Hindu Philosophy

- Main Gods
 - Brahma – the Creator
 - Vishnu – the Preserver
 - Shiva – the Destroyer
- Hindu's recognize one supreme spirit called **Brahman**.
 - Brahman lives in everything
 - This is sort of like The Force"
 - The goal of Hindus is to **some day join with Brahman.**
- Until that union takes place, believers are in a continuous process of rebirth called "reincarnation."





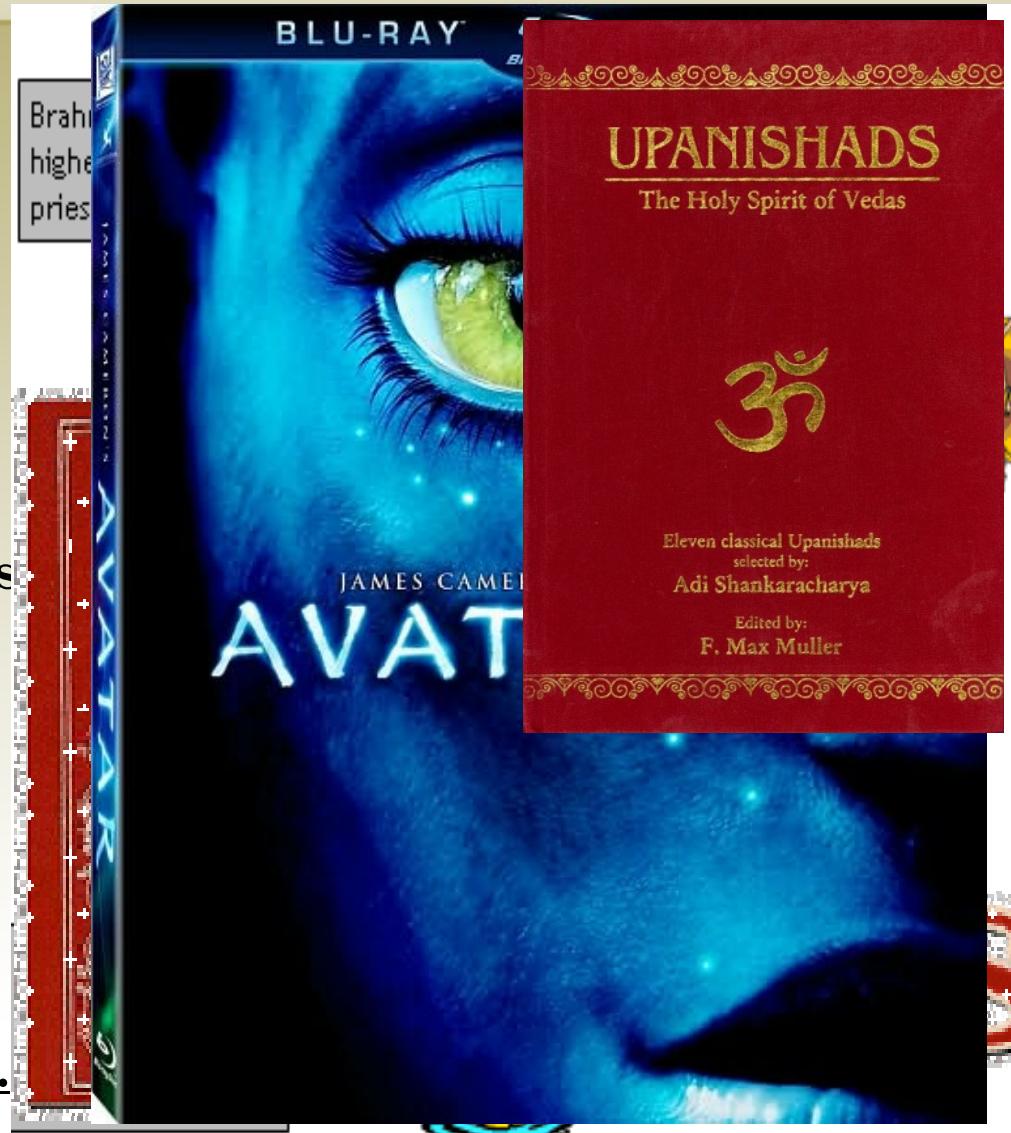
Hindu Philosophy

- At death, the Hindu's **deeds (karma)** determine what the next life will be.
- Followers work to break this cycle--birth, death, re-birth-- (referred to by writers as the "**Wheel of Life**") and gain release.
- The Hindu's soul then merges with Brahman in a condition of spiritual perfection (**moksha**).



Hinduism

- Hinduism has many sacred books, the oldest being a series called the “**Vedas**”.
 - The Last book of the Vedas is the **Upanishads**
 - Developed modern Hinduism and the idea of reincarnation
- Traditional Hindu society was divided into groups of four classes (or varnas). This was known as the “**caste system**”.
- Hindus believe gods and goddesses can take the form of people and animals in something called an **AVATAR**.





Buddhism

- Buddhism began **c. 525 B.C.E.**
 - Siddhartha Gautama reaching enlightenment beneath a Bodhi tree
- The Founder of Buddhism is **Siddhartha Gautama**, the Buddha.
 - Buddha means enlightened one
- Original Location **Northern India**
 - Buddhism is a major religion in **China, Japan, India, and Tibet**.
- Gautama Buddha said all beings possess enlightenment but we are just blinded by delusion.
 - To reach enlightenment we need to be liberated from three habits: **desire, anger and ignorance**.





Buddhism

- Hinduism and Buddhism have similarities
- Gautama Buddha accepted Hindu gods
- Don't have power over humans
- Have not yet attained the final liberation (Nirvana)
- Nirvana (ultimate reality) is the state of final liberation from the cycle of birth and death
- Hindus agree
- Gautama Buddha accepted reincarnation
- Beings are trapped in the cycle of birth and death until they achieve complete release, or Nirvana.
- Each person's position in life is determined by his or her behavior in the previous life. This is known as their "karma". Also a Hindu belief



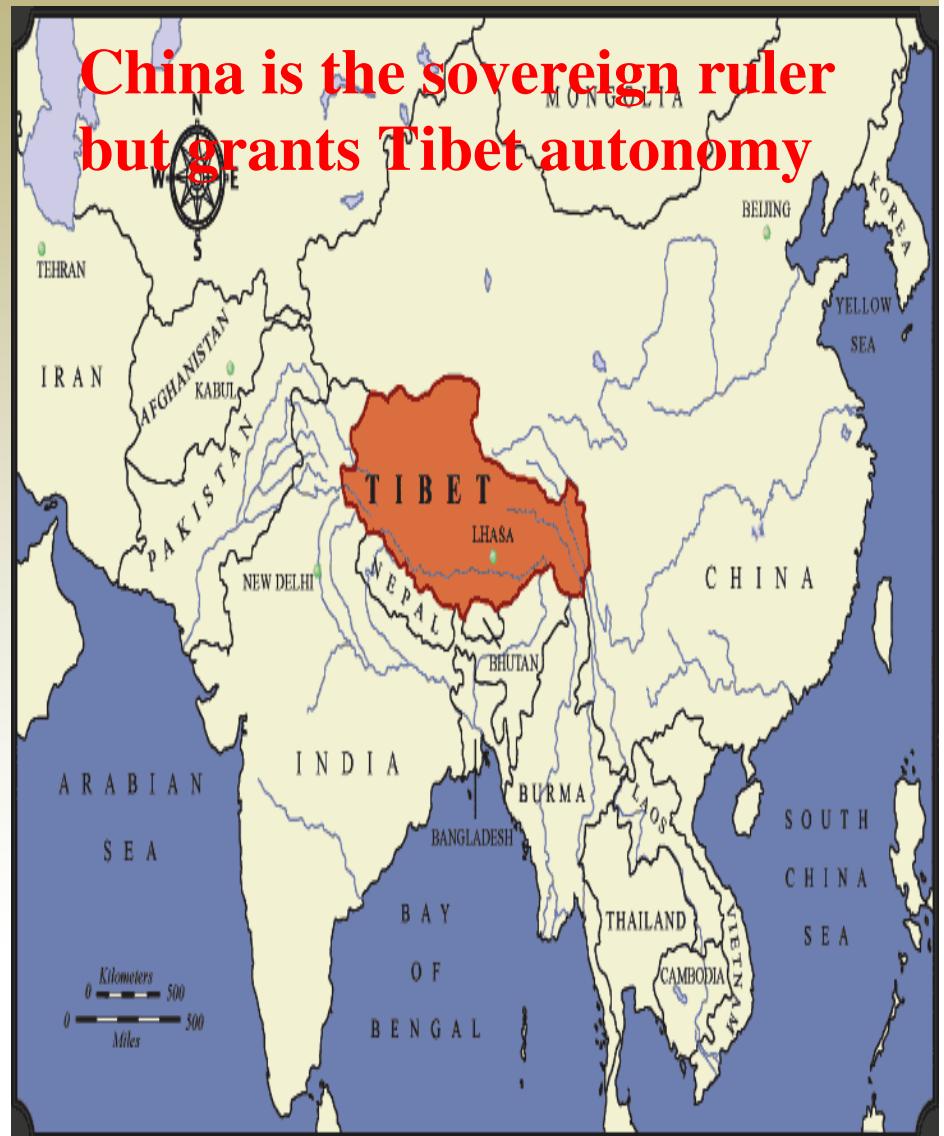
The Most Important Principles of Buddhism

- Buddhism sees no forms as permanent, nothing lasts forever, everything is subject to decay and division.
 - Holding on to what does not actually exist will only lead to **suffering**
- Buddha gave a road map to reach Nirvana called the ***Four Noble Truths.***
 1. Life is **suffering** (Nature of death and rebirth)
 2. Suffering has a cause: **craving and attachment**
 3. **Craving and attachment can be overcome** (one gives up selfish craving-achieves Nirvana)
 4. The path to end craving and attachment is an **Eightfold path.**



Buddhism

- The **Dalai Lama** is a Buddhist monk who remains the leader of the Tibetans.
- **Laughing Buddha** according to Chinese tradition, **Budai** was an unusual Chinese monk (**907–923 CE**) of China, and his Buddhist name was Qieci
- He was considered a man of good and loving character, happiness, plenitude, and wisdom of contentment.
- One belief popular in folklore maintains that rubbing his belly brings wealth, good luck, and prosperity.





The Worlds Five Major Religions' Time Line

- Make a timeline of the Five Major Religions' origin dates

Major World Religions		
Religion	Date Founded	Place of Origin
Buddhism	c. 525 B.C.	India
Christianity	c. A.D. 30	Southwest Asia
Hinduism	c. 1500 B.C.	India
Islam	c. A.D. 622	Southwest Asia
Judaism	c. 1800 B.C.	Southwest Asia

Religions of the World

