

# RELIGIONS OF SOUTHWEST ASIA: ISLAM



# What do you **ALREADY** know?

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- **Age of religion**
- **Founder/Important People/Prophets**
- **Holy Text(s)**
- **Beliefs**
- **Laws/guidelines**
- **Views on Jesus**
- **Holy Places**
- **Places of Worship**



# TIMELINE OF ABRAHAMIC RELIGIONS



1,400 BCE

TORAH ESTABLISHES THE JEWISH RELIGION

ISRAEL ENTERS RECORDED HISTORY WITH A PANTHEON OF GODS

ISAIAH WRITES "I AM THE FIRST AND I AM THE LAST; BESIDES ME THERE IS NO GOD" AND MERGES PREVIOUS GODS AND THEIR NAMES INTO ONE ENTITY. LEVITICUS IS WRITTEN AND EXODUS CHANGED TO COMBINE GODS.

600 BCE

OLD TESTAMENT WRITERS SWITCH FROM POLYTHEISM TO MONOTHEISM  
BELIEF "ONE GOD" STARTS



4 BCE

"BIRTH" OF JESUS GIVES RISE TO CHRISTIANITY



610 AD

PREACHINGS OF MOHAMMED START THE ISLAMIC FAITH

Nonreligious

Confucianism

Secular Humanism

Animism

Judaism

Hinduism

Buddhism

Christianity

Islam

Sikhism

2000 BC

1500 BC

525

446 BC

30 AD

610 AD

1496 AD

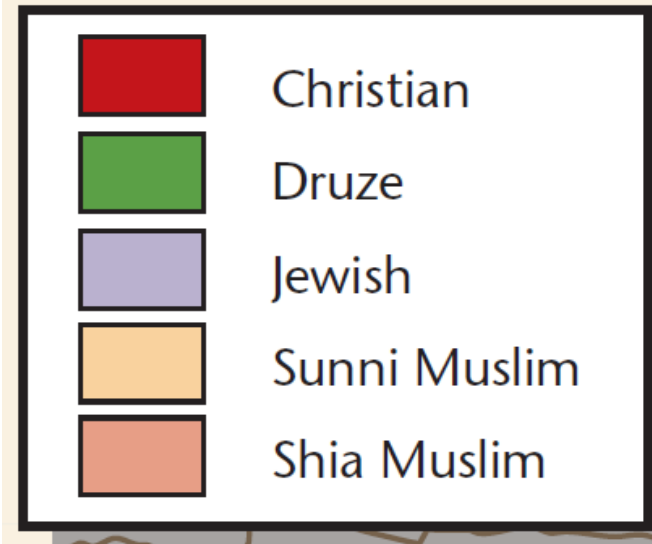
prehistoric

520 BC

18<sup>th</sup> Century

# MAJOR RELIGIONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST



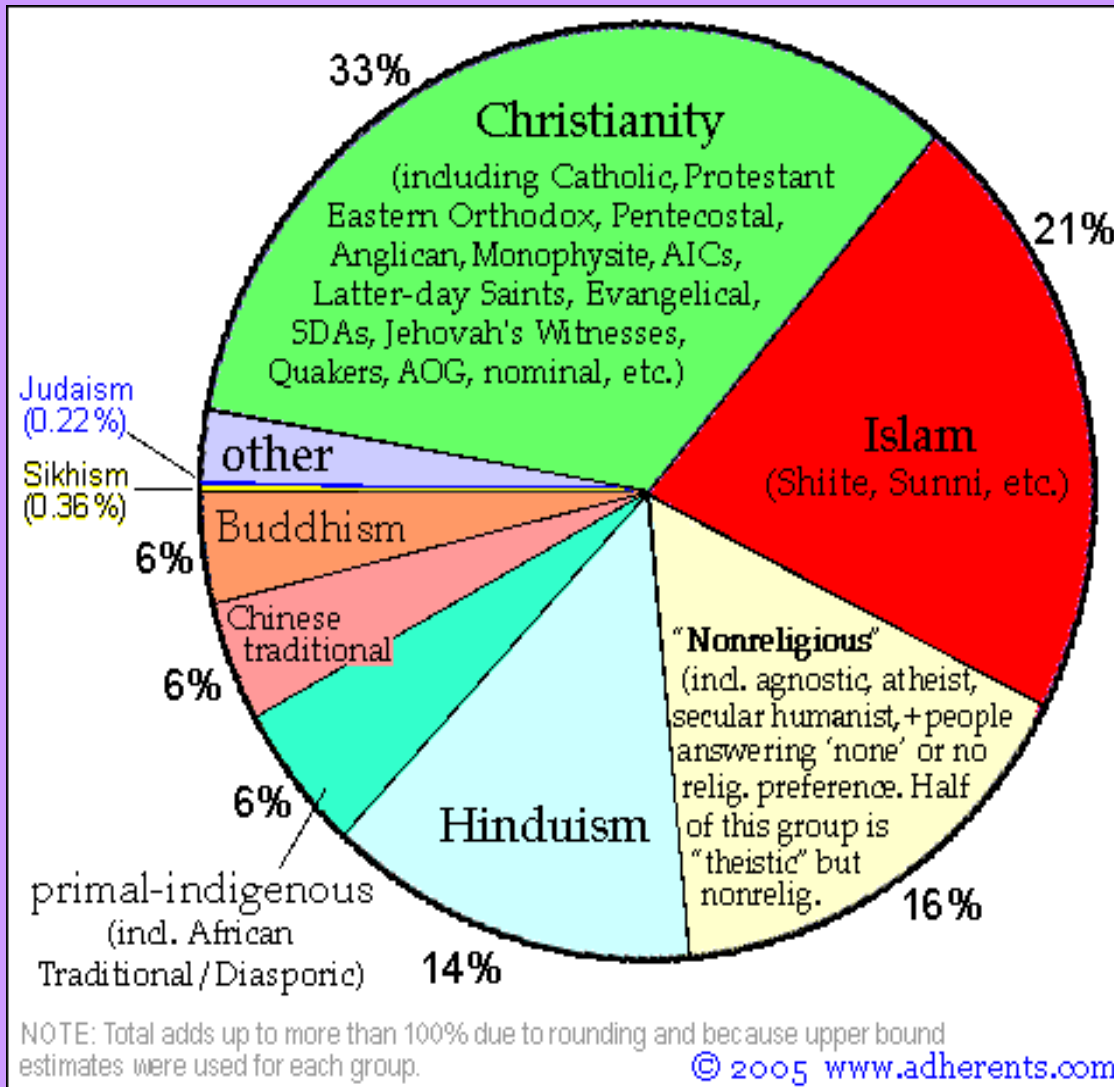






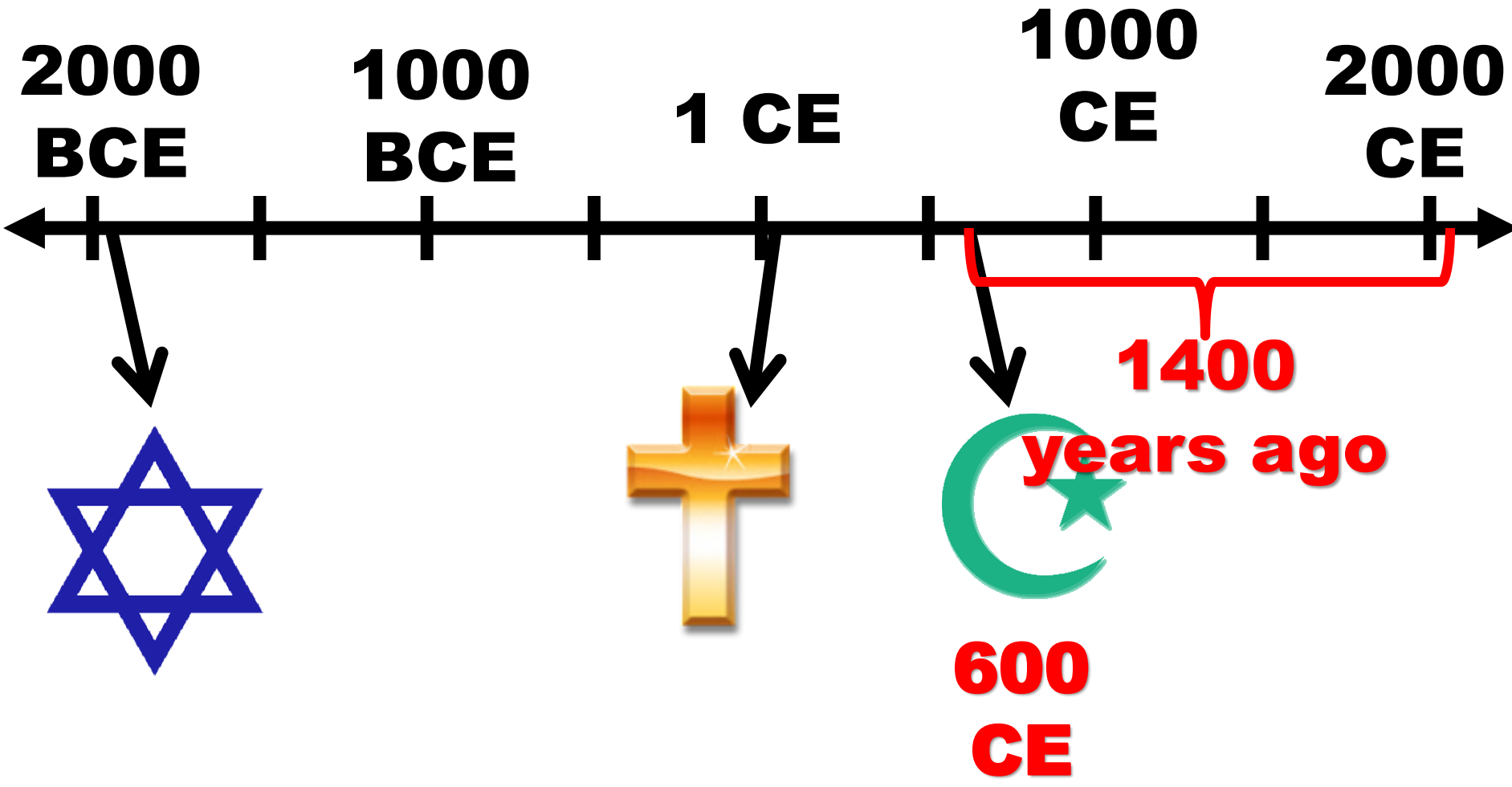


# ISLAM: Size of Religion



- **2<sup>nd</sup> largest** religion in the world
- **1.5 billion** followers





# Islam

## FOUNDER



- **Muhammad (Mohammed)** is the founder of Islam.
- He claims to be the **final prophet**, or messenger, of God.
- **Abraham** is considered the father of the Muslim people.

# HOLY BOOK/SACRED TEXT



## Qu'ran (Koran)

- Muslims see it as the final & complete word of God
- contains much of the Old Testament (Judaism) and the New Testament (Christianity).





Country of Origin:  
**SAUDI ARABIA**

Middle East



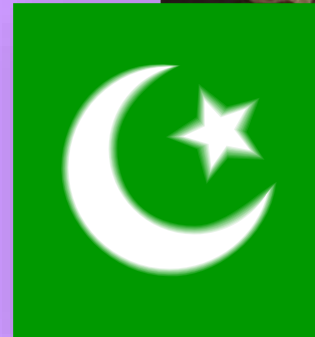
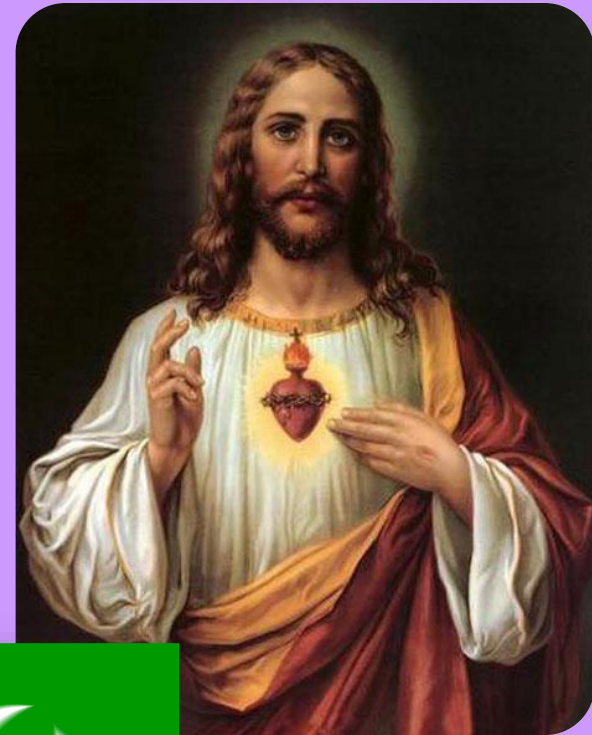
# **Monotheistic**

Abraham was the first monotheist, a person who believes in only one God



# Islam's View of Jesus:

- Muslims see Jesus as **prophet (messenger of God)**.
- **NOT** the son of God

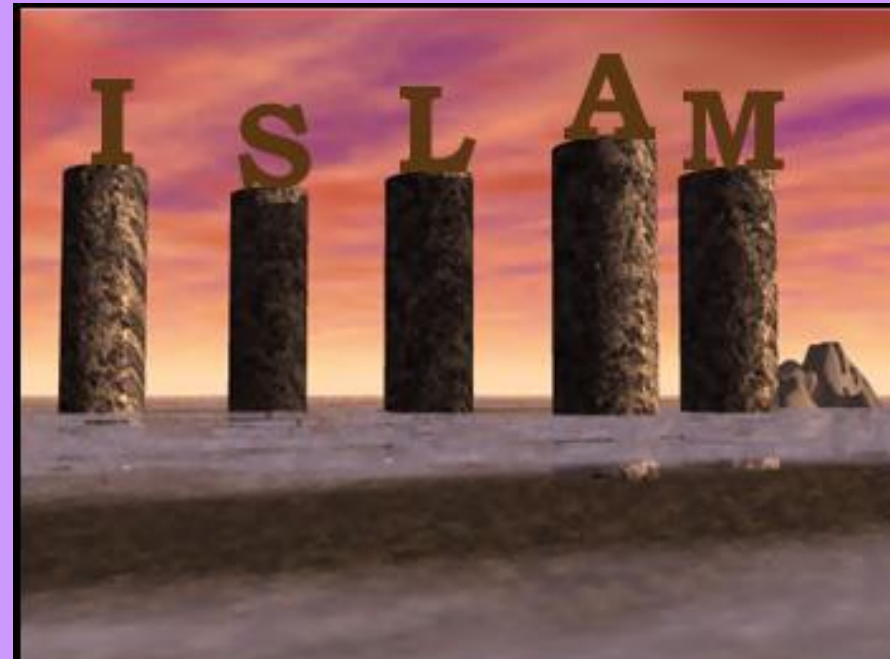


# BASIC BELIEFS:



## Five pillars of Faith – guidelines for Muslims

1. Shahada - belief in one God, Muhammad is his prophet
2. Salat - pray 5 times daily towards Mecca
3. Zakat - giving of charity
4. Sawan - fasting during the holy month of Ramadan
5. Hajj - pilgrimage to the city of Mecca, the birthplace of Muhammed



# IMPORTANT PLACES

## BUILDING



**Mosques** are the buildings in which Muslims worship.





# Abraham's Genealogy

HAGAR = = = ABRAHAM ::::: SARAH  
(Judaism)

Ishmael

Isaac

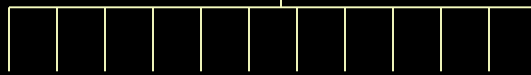


12 Arabian Tribes



Jacob

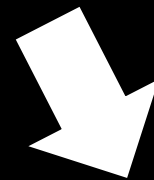
Esau



12 Tribes of Israel



Muhammad (570 AD)  
(Islam)



Hebrews & Jesus (1 AD)  
(Judaism) (Christianity)

# IMPORTANT PLACES CITIES



## 1. Mecca (Saudi Arabia)

- Muhammad's birth
- Ka'aba

## 2. Medina (Saudi Arabia)

- where Muhammad and his followers fled during the *Hijrah*.

## 3. Jerusalem (Israel)

- Dome of the Rock
- where Muhammad made a night journey to heaven

# What about these required prayers?

**The mandatory prayers  
performed 5 times a day:**

- \* dawn
- \* noon
- \* late afternoon
- \* sunset
- \* before going to bed

**Wash before praying.**

**Face Mecca and use a  
prayer rug.**



# ISLAM Basic Beliefs



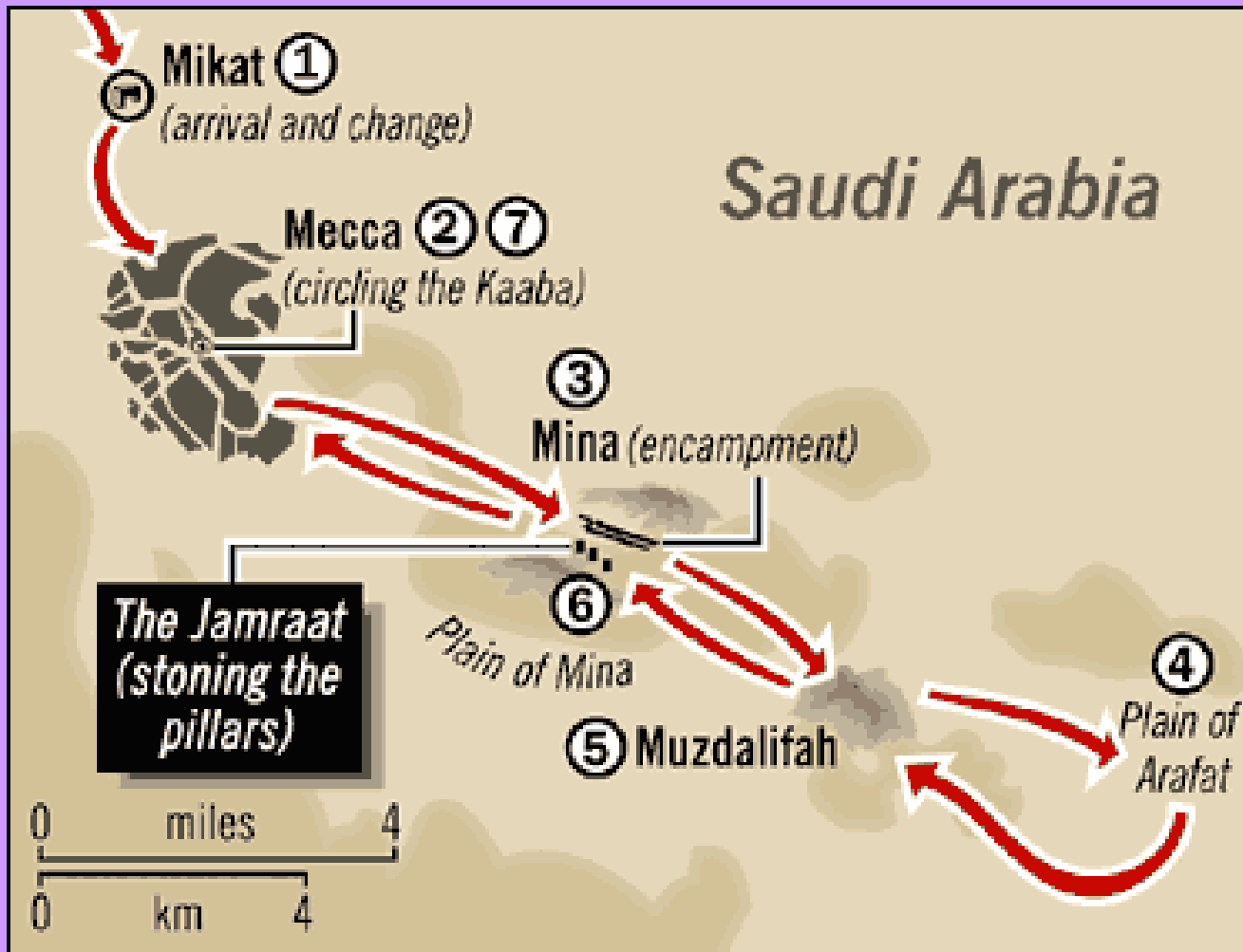
## Dietary laws

- No pork
- No alcohol



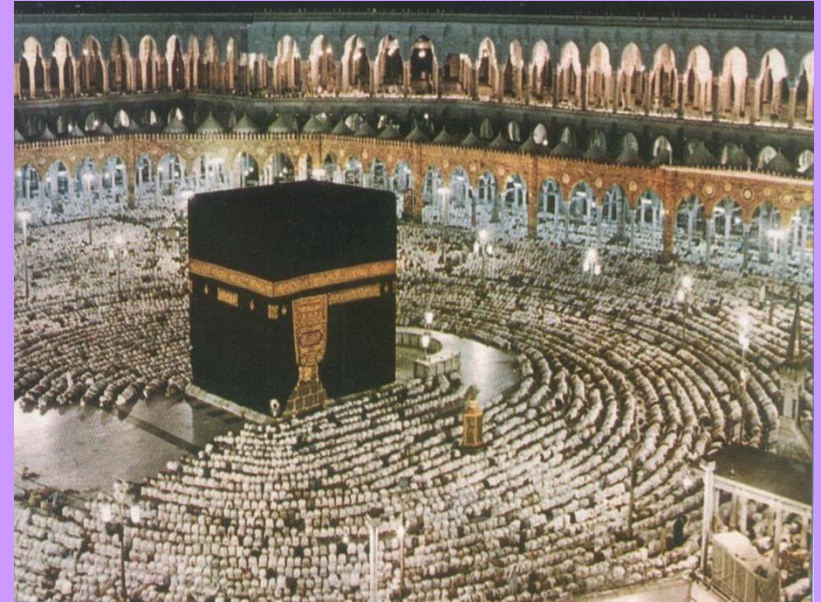
# The *hajj* (pilgrimage to Mecca) is an important aspect of Islam

\*Millions travel to Mecca each year!



# Ka'aba

(Mecca, Saudi Arabia)



# Don't get confused!

- All 3 Middle Eastern Religions are monotheistic
- Christians believe in god as a trinity (father, son, holy spirit) and that Jesus was god's *son*
- Muslims believe that Muhammed was god's *messenger* (not son)
- All 3 share the same foundation through the lineage of Abraham