The Global Distribution of Religion

• READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS!!!!!
  – The following slides will help you to prepare a practice map for your group map assessment (12/22).
  – Choose a color category for each of the religions found on the key and use a related shade for each branch of that religion. You can choose whatever shade or pattern you want but you should stay consistent throughout.
    • For example, for “Christianity”, I used Red (Roman Catholic), Pink (Protestant), Magenta (Eastern Orthodox) and Maroon (Mormons).
  – If you are using stripes you should make them parallel and all at the same angle.
  – As you complete your guided reading and we cover each religion in class come back and color code your map.
Christianity
Christianity in Europe

- South/Latin = Catholic
- North/Germanic = Protestant
  - (except) Ireland = Catholic
- East/Slavic = Orthodox
  - Exceptions = Poland, Czech, Hungary, etc. = Catholic, why?
    - Nationalism, hate Protestant Germans and Orthodox Russians
  - Albania, Kosovo, Bosnia
    - Muslim (Ottoman Turk infl.)
- Multi-religious states (know!!!)
  - Netherlands
  - Germany
  - Switzerland
  - Latvia
Diffusion of Christianity

- **Global**
  - **Secondary hearths**
    - *not the place of origin but place from which there was significant change*
    - influence global distribution
      - Roman Catholicism = *Rome/Vatican City*
        » Spanish, French colonies = Catholic
      - Orthodox = *Constantinople/Istanbul*
        » Eastern Europe/Russia had Orthodox missionaries
      - Protestantism = *Northern Europe (Germany, UK)*
        » British/Dutch colonies = Protestant
North or Anglo-America reflects British roots by being mostly Protestant.

- Exceptions include:
  - Catholic
    - French Quebec
    - New England/the Rust Belt
      - S. German, Irish, Polish, Italian and others during wave of Euro. immigration from mid-1800s to early 1900s for factory jobs.
  - Southwestern border area
    - reflects gravity model and influence of Hispanic Americans.
    - Mormon (Protestant?)
      - Intermountain West/Great Basin
  - We will break down the U.S. Protestant denominational distribution in class
    - Not needed at the global scale
Roman Catholicism dominates Latin America

- reflects influence of Spain and Portugal
- Protestant exceptions:
  - The former British colony of Guyana
  - The former Dutch colony of Suriname
Sub-Saharan Africa

While Islam dominates North Africa, the area south of the Sahara Desert is largely Christian and Animist.

– The interfaith boundary between Islam and Christianity/Animism running from the Atlantic Ocean across West and Central Africa to Ethiopia is known as a “shatterbelt”
  • an area of instability between regions with opposing political and cultural values

– The former colonies of Sub-Saharan Africa have been color-coded to reflect the Christian branch practiced in the colonizing country.
  • Nigeria = UK = Protestant
  • Dem. Rep. of Congo = Belgium = Catholic
  • Some exceptions to this rule may exist due to post-colonial missionary work

– Ethiopia should be color-coded Eastern Orthodox as its Christian traditions date back to before the fall of Rome.
Other Predominantly Christian Areas

• Eastern Orthodox reflects Russian influence in
  – Siberia
  – Caucasus
    • Georgia and Armenia

• Spanish colonialism extends Catholicism
  – Northern Philippines

• British colonialism extends Protestantism
  – Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea
Islam
The Spread of Islam

- Initially (to about AD 750) largely spread by Arab armies
  - Resulting in Arabization/Islamization of N. Africa and most of Middle East
- Later spread through trade and cultural contacts
  - Spain, Balkans, India, Indonesia, Central Asia, West Africa, East Africa coast, NW China
  - Later withdraws mostly from Spain, Balkans
    - Albania, Bosnia and Kosovo are legacy of Muslim influence in Balkans
• Split derives over who is eligible to lead the Muslim world.

• Sunni – 83%
  – any righteous Muslim
  – dominant branch

• Shia – 16%
  – only descendent of Ali, Muhammad’s son-in-law
  – Majority in:
    • Iran (center of Shia Islam)
    • Southern Iraq (60% of pop.)
    • Azerbaijan
    • Bahrain
  – Significant minorities in:
    • Syria (allied with Assad)
    • Lebanon (Hezbollah)
    • Yemen (Houthi rebels)
Islam in South and Central Asia

• Sunni Islam dominates Central Asia, NW China
  – but weakened by Russification and official atheism of communist USSR.

• Sunni Islam dominates in Pakistan and Bangladesh.
  – result of the Partition of British India
  – Muslim-majority Kashmir disputed between Pakistan and India
Islam in Southeast Asia

• Trade brings Islam to the islands of Southeast Asia.
  – Malaysia
  – Indonesia
    • **Country with largest Muslim population in the world**
    • Exceptions:
      – Bali = Hindu
      – East Timor = Catholic
  – Significant minority in
    • Southern Philippines
      – Mindanao island
Buddhism
Diffusion of Buddhism

- **Hearth is N. India/Nepal**
  - spread by missionaries (Asoka)
  - enters China/E. Asia on Silk Road
  - **declines in India**
    - reforms absorbed by “loose with the rules” Hinduism
    - Buddha becomes avatar of Vishnu
- **Mahayana (beige)**
  - China, Korea, Japan, Vietnam
  - “Greater Vessel”
    - see Buddha as a God
    - less focused on monastic life
  - Syncretic with Confucianism, Daoism and Shinto
    - overlay vertical stripe in China
    - overlay horizontal stripe in Japan

- **Theravada (olive/khaki)**
  - Sri Lanka, SE Asia (Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos)
  - “Lesser Vessel”
    - see Buddha as teacher
    - focused on monastic sacrifice

- **Tantrayana (gray)**
  - Mongolia, Tibet and Bhutan
  - sometimes considered part of Mahayana
    - mystical, mixes with local demons and spirits
Hinduism
Hinduism is the largest ethnic religion. It is clustered in India and Nepal.

- India has significant Muslim, Sikh, Jain and other minorities.
- Hinduism is also practiced in Bali, Indonesia (see Islam in Southeast Asia slide).
- Kashmir in the north has a Muslim majority and political control is disputed with Pakistan.
Judaism
Judaism

- 14 million total
  - 1/3 Israel (color blue)
  - 1/3 US
  - 1/3 elsewhere

- Mostly urban
  - place Stars of David on the following metro areas:
    - Megalopolis (Boston, NYC, Philadelphia, Washington DC)
    - Toronto
    - Chicago
    - San Francisco
    - Los Angeles
    - Miami
    - Buenos Aires
    - Moscow
    - Paris
    - London
• Lay down a diagonal striped pattern in areas where animism is still practiced or is syncretic with other faiths.
Complete Map. You’ll be asked to recreate this in groups on Dec. 22