

11/5/21: APHUG

- **Grab the handouts on the back table**





3.7.2 Diffusion of Religion

<https://youtu.be/paVXPXoyDdo>



Objective and Essential Learning

3.7 Explain what factors lead to the diffusion of universalizing and ethnic religions.

- Religions have distinct places of origin from which they diffused to other locations through different processes. Practices and belief systems impacted how widespread the religion diffused.
- Universalizing religions, including Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, and Sikhism, are spread through expansion and relocation diffusion.
- Ethnic religions, including Hinduism and Judaism, are generally found near the hearth or spread through relocation diffusion.



Overview of World Religions

A geographer's viewpoint on religion...

1. Spatial Distribution of Religion
 - a. Hearths
 - b. Diffusion
 - c. Distribution

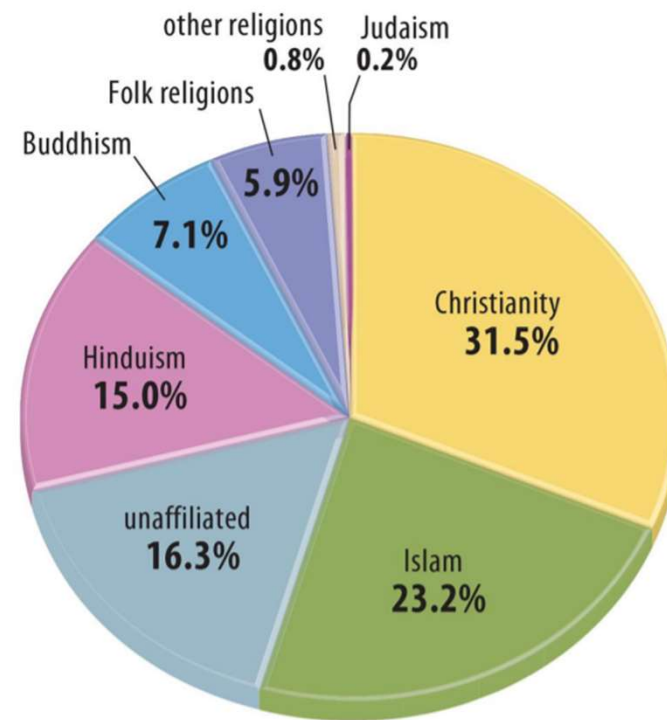
2. Impact on the Cultural Landscape
 - a. Architecture
 - b. Symbols
 - c. Pilgrimages & Holy Sites
 - d. Burial Practices



Overview of World Religions

The Big Four: 77% of the world's people

- Christianity - 2.2 billion
- Islam - 1.6 billion
- Hinduism - 1 billion
- Unaffiliated - 1.2 billion
- Buddhism - 500 million



Universalizing vs. Ethnic

UNIVERSALIZING

- Widely diffused from the hearth through both expansion and relocation diffusion.
- Not confined to a specific location.
- Missionary - attempt to convert people to join.
- Examples: Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Sikhism

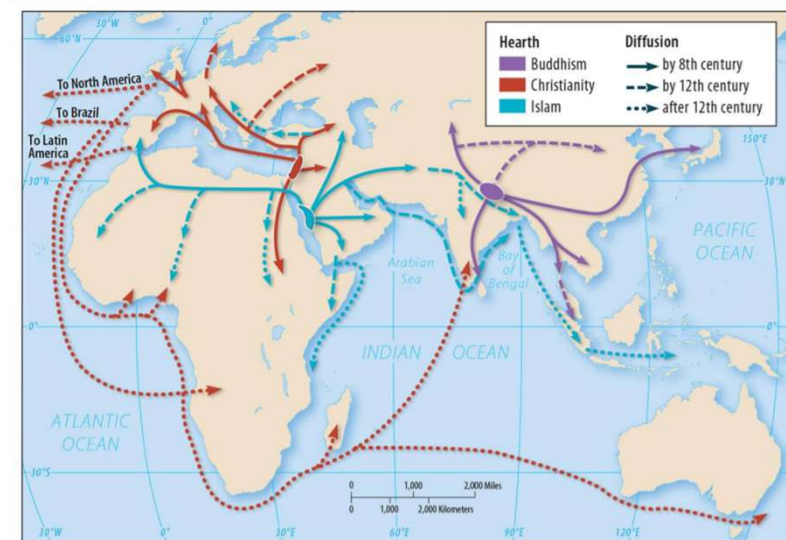
ETHNIC

- Smaller diffusion and overall distribution from hearth. Restricted to relocation diffusion.
- Tied to a specific location and/or ethnic group.
- Does NOT recruit new adherents.
- Examples: Hinduism, Judaism, Shintoism, traditional religions

Hearths & Diffusion of Religion - Universalizing

Christianity - Contagious

- **Hearth:** The West Bank, present day Israel.
- Small group of followers of Jesus Christ traveled through the Mediterranean & spread Christianity.
 - Disciples - Today, **missionaries** perform a similar process of traveling to spread the religion and convert new adherents.



Hearths & Diffusion of Religion - Universalizing

Christianity - Hierarchical

- **Emperor Theodosius** declared Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire.
- **The Crusades** in which Christians fought Muslims in order to gain control of Israel and gain followers.
- **Spanish Inquisition** in which non-Christians were forced to convert or faced harsh torture, punishments, and/or death.

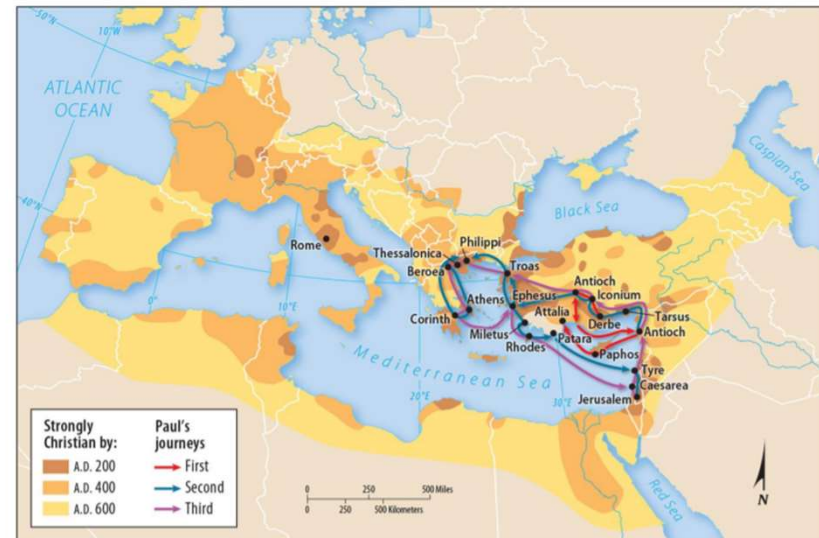
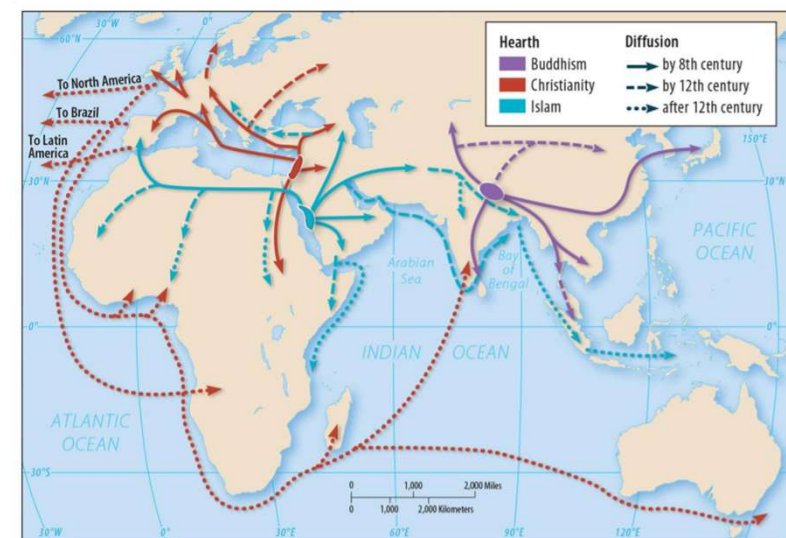


Figure 6-25: Christianity was spread around the Mediterranean by missionaries and the conversion of rulers.

Hearths & Diffusion of Religion - Universalizing

Christianity - Relocation, Contagious AND hierarchical.

- **Imperialism and colonization** facilitated the spread Christianity through a combination of missionary activity as well as colonizers from Europe that influenced rulers in Africa and Southeast Asia to convert their people.



World Religion Map

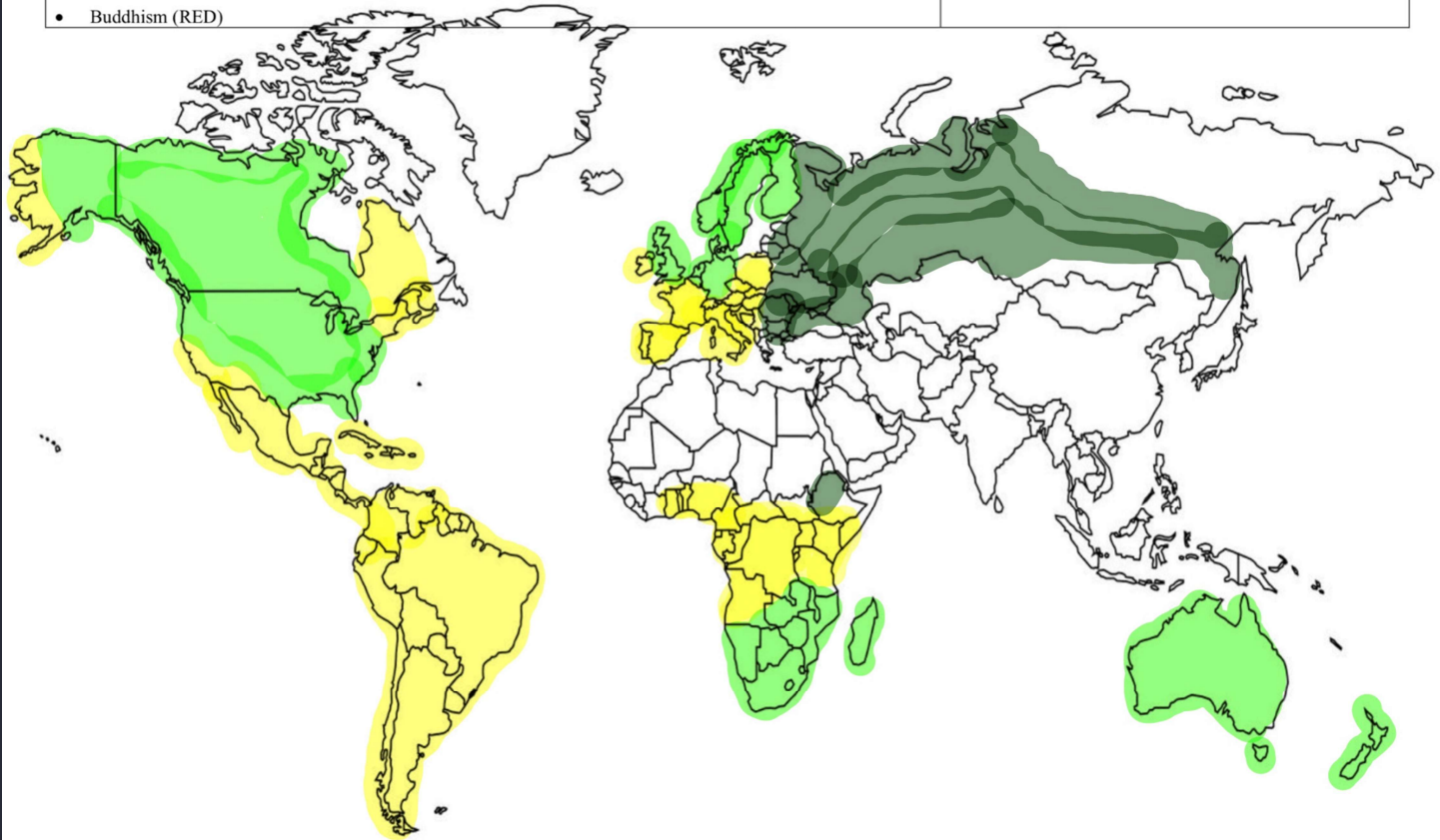
Color in Christianity

- Roman Catholic (YELLOW)
- Protestant (LIGHT GREEN)
- Eastern Orthodox (GREEN)

• Pg. 176 in textbook

Name: _____ Period# _____

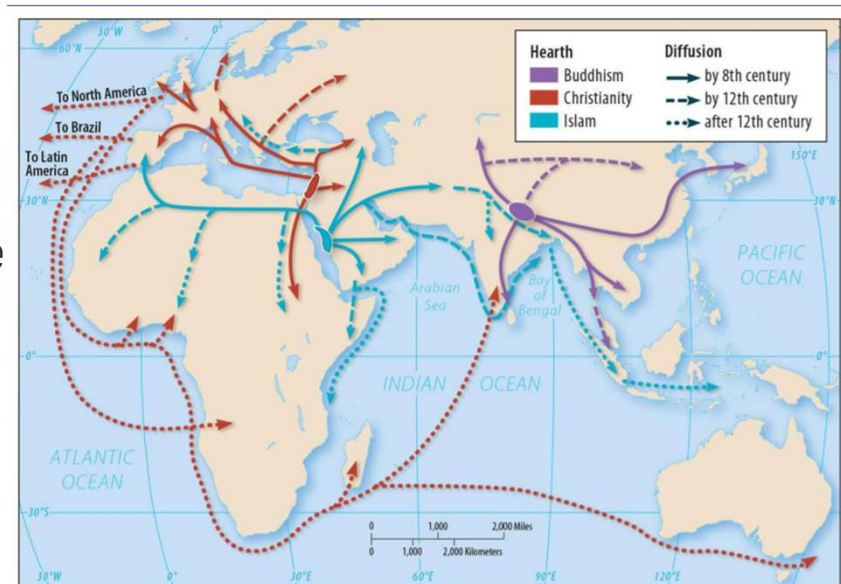
Universalizing Religions – pages 176 – 177 in De Blij (green textbook)	Ethnic Religions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Christianity<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Roman Catholic (YELLOW)○ Protestant (LIGHT GREEN)○ Eastern Orthodox (GREEN)• Islam<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Sunni (LIGHT BLUE)○ Shai (BLUE)• Buddhism (RED)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hinduism (BROWN)• Judaism (write letter 'J' for locations)• Mormonism (write letter 'M' for locations)



Hearths & Diffusion of Religion - Universalizing

Islam - Contagious

- **Hearth:** Mecca and Medina in Saudi Arabia
- **Muhammad** directly taught people in the Arabian Peninsula & spread Islam.
 - Muhammad is the grandson of Abraham, the founder of Judaism.
- **Muslim traders** through India and into Indonesia.
 - Indonesia has the largest number of Muslims in the world.



Hearths & Diffusion of Religion - Universalizing

Islam - Hierarchical

- **Muslim empires** spread throughout South Asia into India and through North Africa through **military conquest**.
 - Overtime, large cities converted to Islam, then smaller cities until millions of people claimed the Islamic faith.
 - **Islamic intellectuals** in major cities influenced the populations to convert as well.



Figure 6-26: Islam diffused through a combination of military campaigns and missionary activity.

World Religion Map

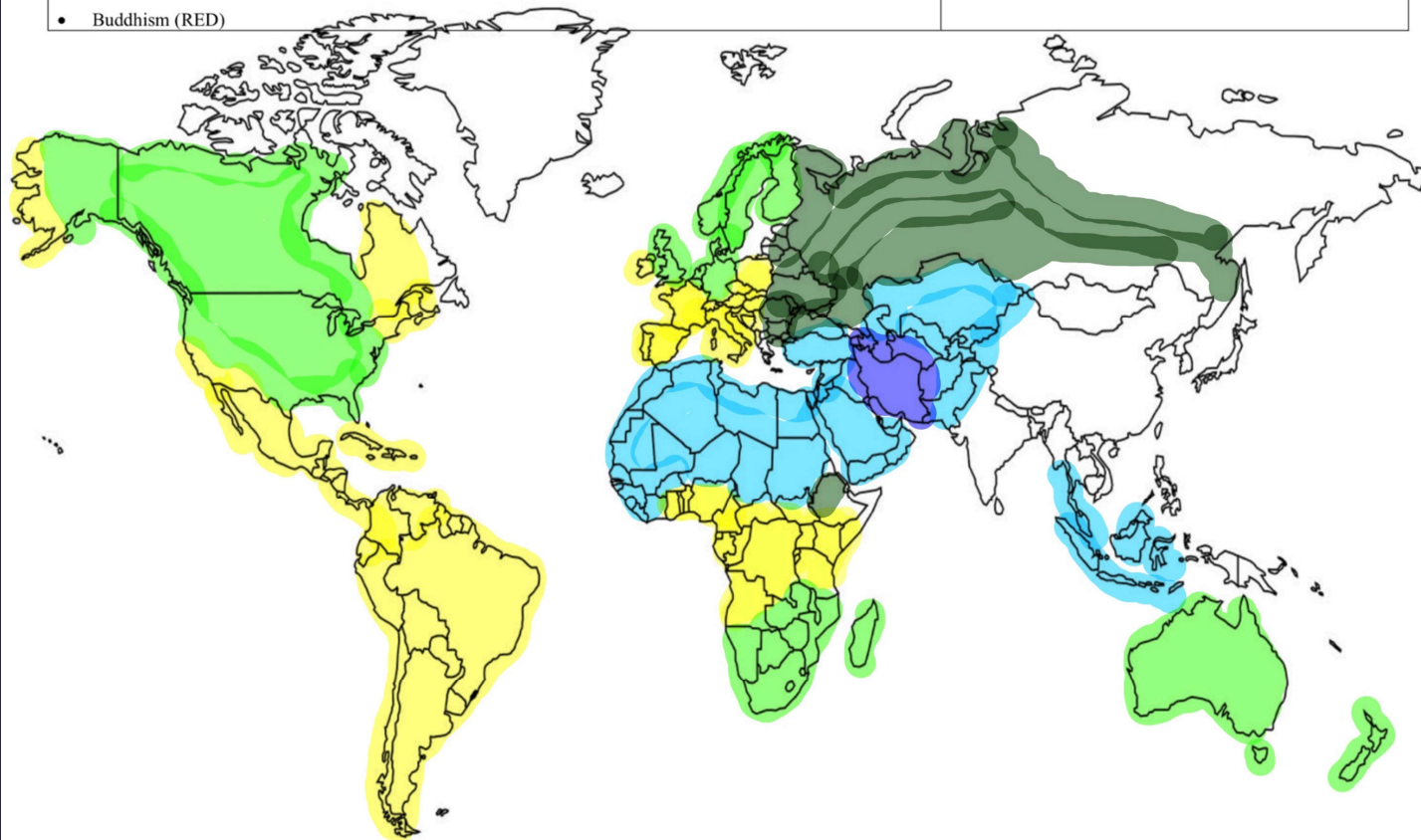
Color in Islam

- Sunni
- Shia

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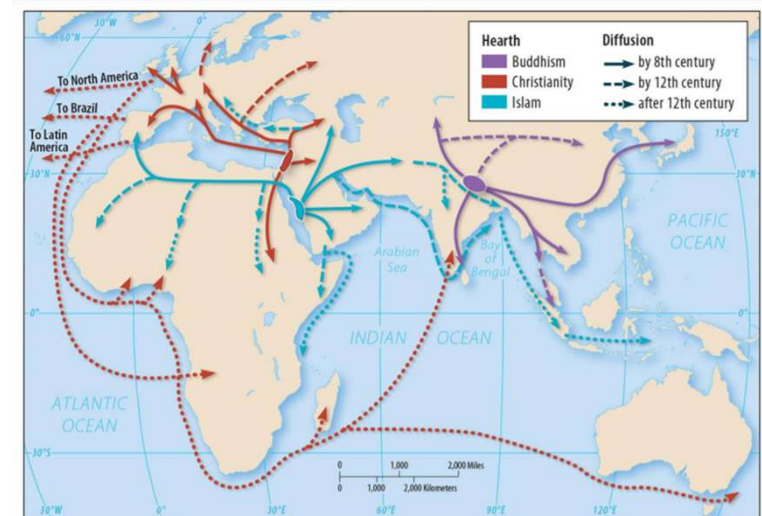
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Hearths & Diffusion of Religion - Universalizing

Buddhism - Contagious

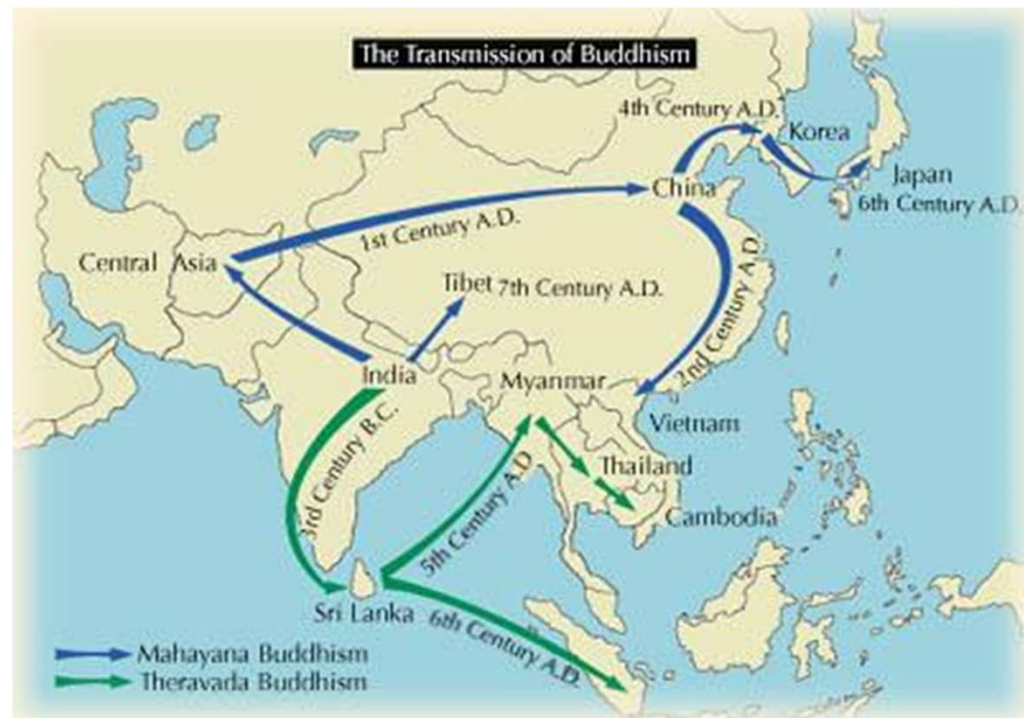
- **Hearth:** Northern India/Nepal
- **Buddha** traveled throughout the region and spread Buddhism. Buddha is referred to as “the Enlightened One” and directly taught followers.
- Buddhist **missionaries** traveled through East and Southeast Asia to spread the philosophy of Buddha both before and after Emperor Ashoka’s reign.
- Buddhist **traders**



Hearths & Diffusion of Religion - Universalizing

Buddhism - Hierarchical

- **Emperor Ashoka** who ruled much of South Asia converted to Buddhism and spread throughout his empire.



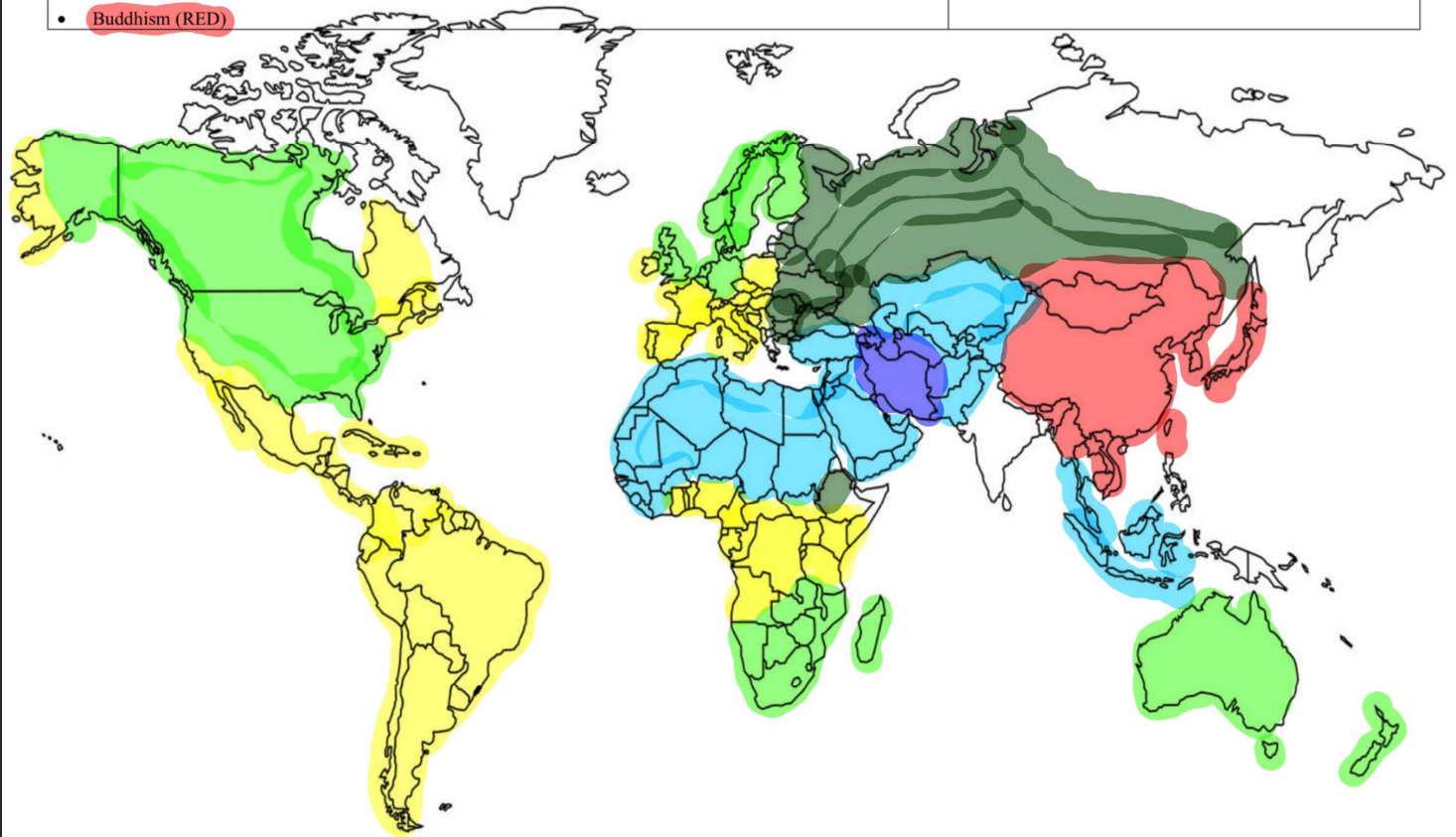
World Religion Map

Color in Buddhism

- Pg. 176 in textbook

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Hearths & Diffusion of Religion - Ethnic

Hinduism - Relocation

- **Hearth:** India
- Belief that the Ganges River is sacred.
- Diffusion is contained mostly to South Asia. There are Hindus in other areas of the world, but their presence in those locations date back to an initial relocation of followers from South Asia.
- Migration of Hindus from India can be seen in former British colonies, Great Britain and the US.



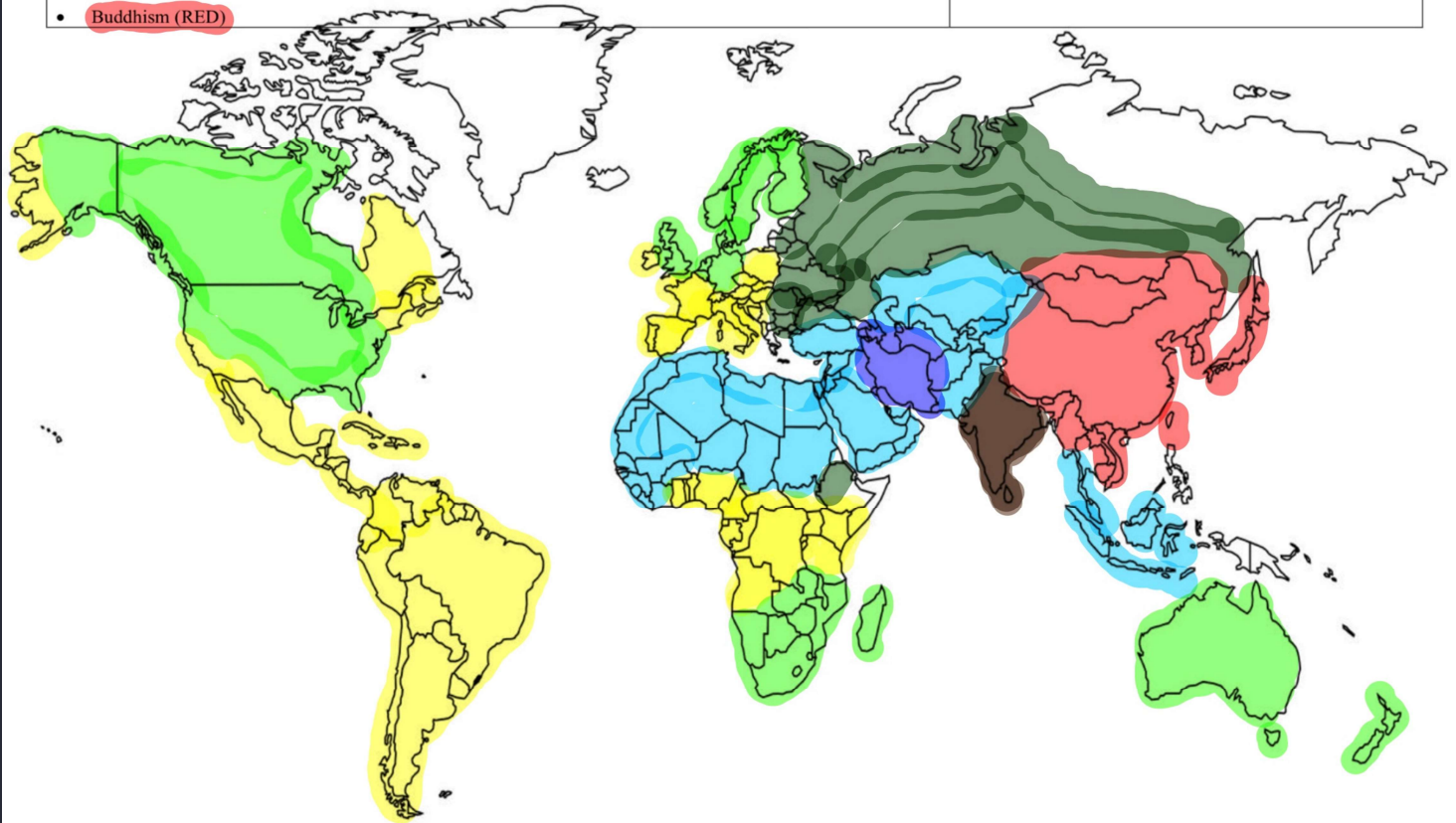
World Religion Map

Color in Hinduism

- Pg. 176 in textbook

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Hearths & Diffusion of Religion - Ethnic

Judaism - Relocation

- **Hearth:** Israel/Lebanon
- Abraham was a prophet and founded the religion.
- Large numbers of Jews were forced out of Israel during the **Roman Empire's** reign and forced into South and East Europe.
- Jews were forced to convert to Christianity, leave Christian kingdoms or be killed during **the Crusades.**

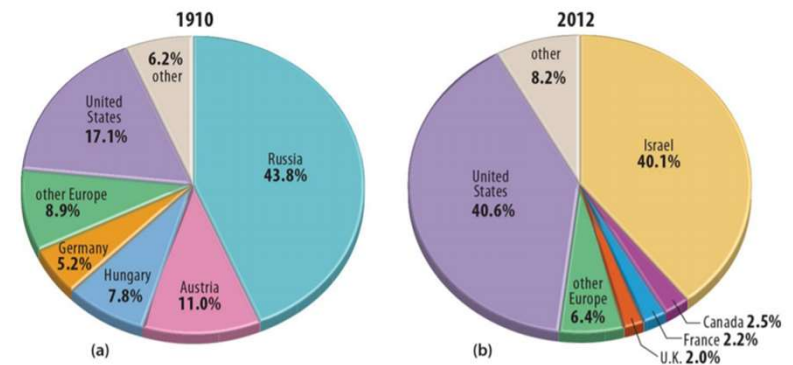


Figure 6-36: The Jewish population has undergone a major change in distribution from being mostly in Europe to mostly in the United States and Israel.

Hearths & Diffusion of Religion - Ethnic

Judaism - Relocation

- In 19th century, Jews were **persecuted in Russia** and forced to relocate.
- **The Holocaust** resulted in the widespread genocide of Jews in Europe, as well as forced migrations.
- After the Holocaust, the Jewish nation-state **Israel** was founded in which resulted in about 90,000 Jews relocating back to the "homeland."



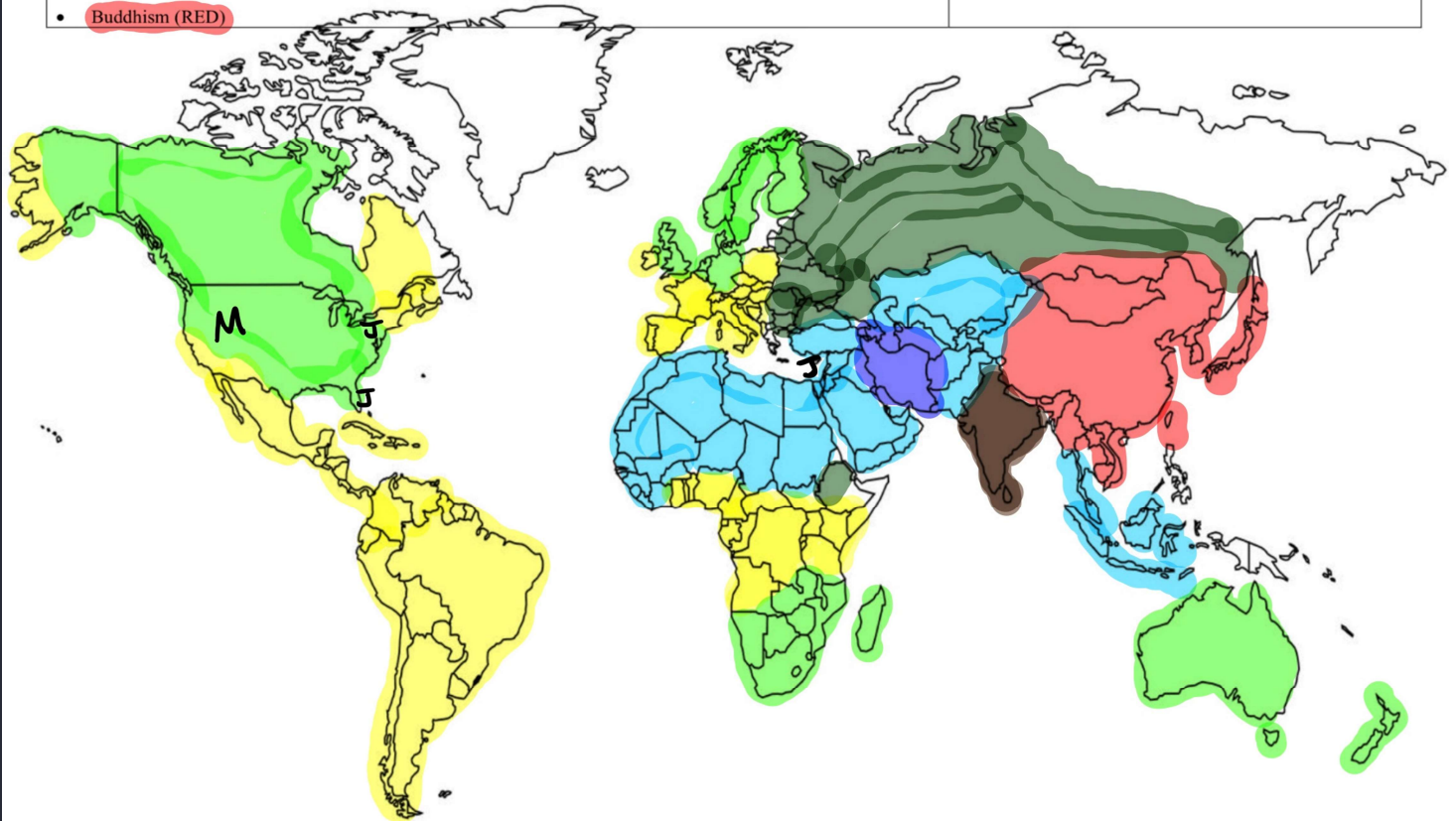
World Religion Map

Label Judaism and Mormonism

- Pg. 176 in textbook

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Current Distribution of Religion

A Darker Shading Represents a Greater Prevalence of the Majority Religion.

