

# Topic 1.3: Developments in South & Southeast Asia c. 1200 to c. 1450

**GLOBAL TAPESTRY**  
c. 1200-1450

**SILK ROADS**

**South East ASIA**

**South ASIA**

**Delhi Sultanate**  
1206-1526

**GUJARAT**

★ **DELHI**  
Rajput Kingdoms

**Vijayanagara Empire**  
1336-1646

**Sinhalese Monarchy**  
543 BCE-1815 CE

**ANGKOR**

**ANGKOR WAT**

**Srivijaya**  
650-1377

**Majapahit**  
1293-1527

**Dai Viet**  
1054-1804

**Sukhothai**  
1238-1583

● **MALACCA**

**SPICE ISLANDS**

**FREEMAN-PEDIA**

# Historical Developments

Hinduism, Islam, and Buddhism, and their core beliefs and practices, continued to shape societies in South and Southeast Asia.

## Beliefs and practices:

- Bhakti movement
- Sufism
- Buddhist monasticism



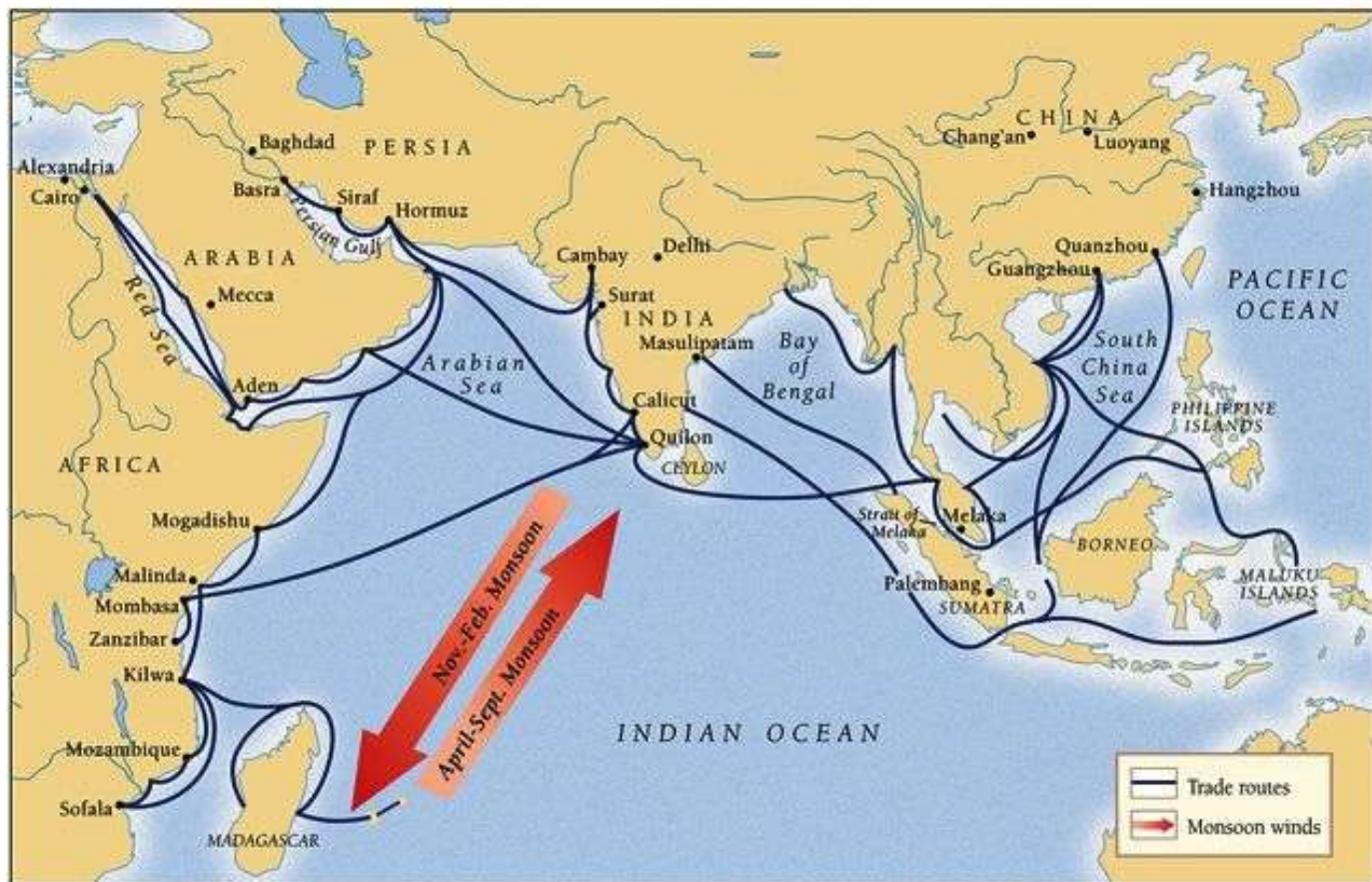
# Historical Developments

State formation and development demonstrated continuity, innovation, and diversity, including the new Hindu and Buddhist states that emerged in South and Southeast Asia.

## Hindu/Buddhist States:

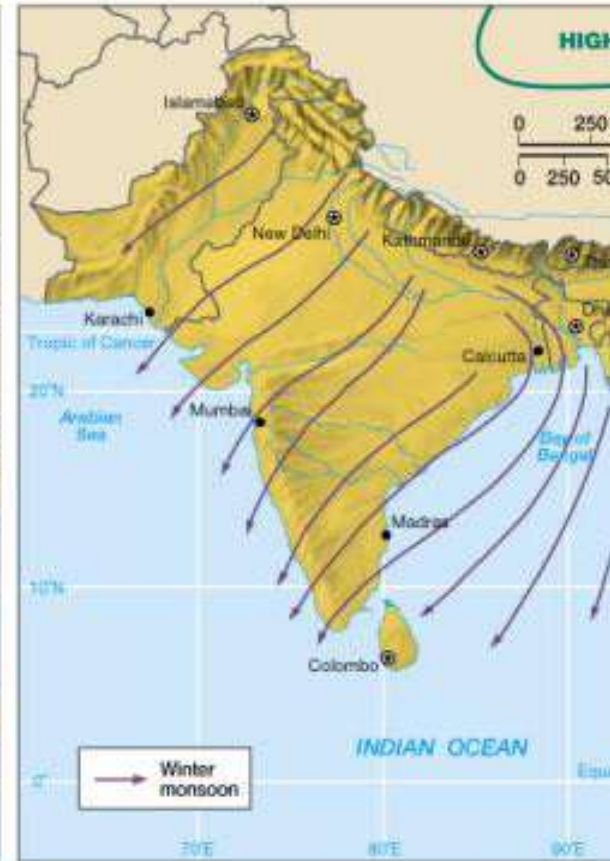
- Vijayanagara Empire
- Srivijaya Empire
- Rajput kingdoms
- Khmer Empire
- Majapahit
- Sukhothai kingdom
- Sinhala dynasties





# Monsoon Winds

- Indian Ocean trade was made possible by **monsoon winds**
- Winds blew eastward in summer and westward in winter
- Understanding the monsoon winds along with better shipbuilding = increased trade





- The sea version of the Silk Roads
- Until the discovery the new world, it was the largest sea-based system of communication and exchange
- Stretched from southern China to eastern Africa
- Cheaper to transport goods – cargo ships could carry more than camel caravans
- Traded goods for a mass market rather than just luxury goods (like Silk Roads) – b/c of increased cargo capacity of boats

# Srivijaya Empire (SREE-vih-juh-yuh)

- Emerged due to the competition between ports along the Malay Peninsula and the coast of Sumatra
- Dominated the critical choke point of Indian Ocean trade from 670 to 1025
- Factors that led to their growth:
  - Plentiful gold supply
  - Access to source of highly sought after spices (cloves, nutmeg, mace)
  - Taxes levied on passing ships
- Created a bureaucratic government with military and naval forces that could secure the seas



# Khmer Kingdom

Angkor Wat in Siem Reap, Cambodia is the largest religious monument in the world. Angkor Wat, translated from Khmer (the official language of Cambodia) literally means “City Temple.”

CHAMPA!!!

Southeast Asia 900



Khmer



- Dedicated to the Hindu God Vishnu

CONTEXT  
ALERT !











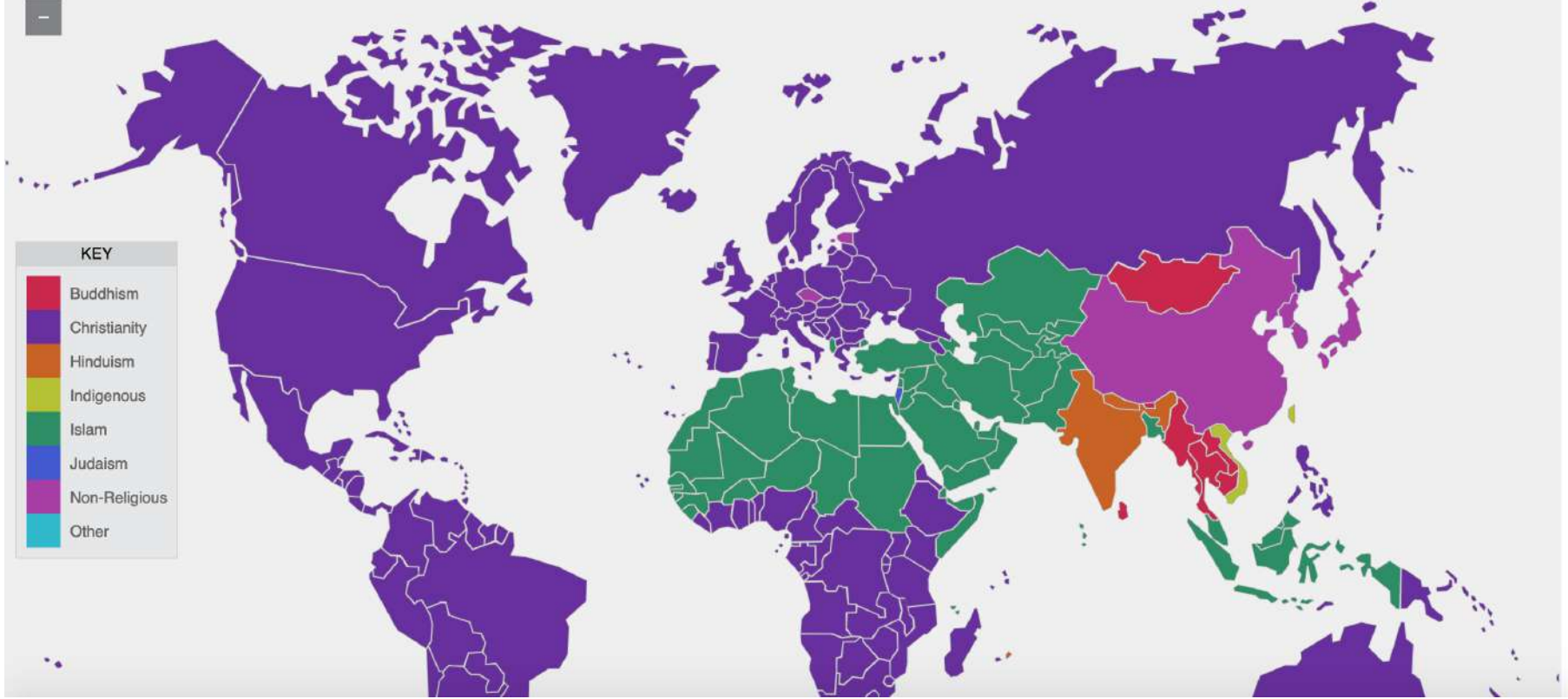
# Prevailing Beliefs—Source PBS 2017

This map displays the largest religious group in each country.

MENU



KEY	
	Buddhism
	Christianity
	Hinduism
	Indigenous
	Islam
	Judaism
	Non-Religious
	Other



# Hinduism-today's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest religion

**Where:** South Asia

**When:** Oldest **Dharma** (religion)

**What:** **Polytheistic**

**No:** Prophets, binding holy book, rituals, ecclesiastical body



## Hinduism in the world

- Practiced mostly in South Asia:
  - India, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh



# Common concepts for Hinduism

## 1. **Dharma**-(ethics and duties)

Dharma is the #1 goal for a Hindu. Live a good and righteous life.

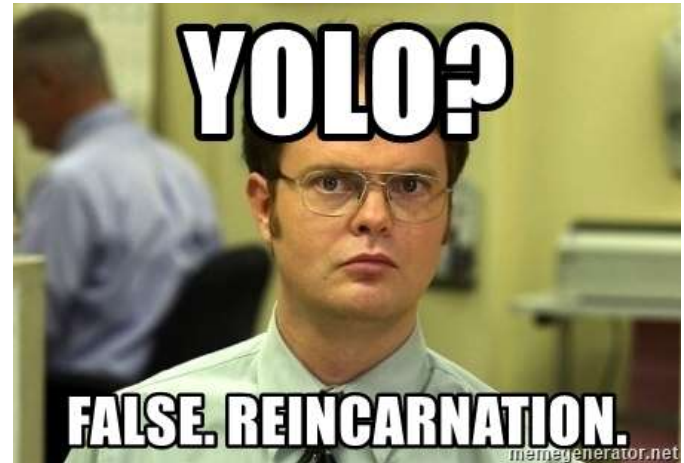
## 2. **Samsara**- (Continuing cycle of birth, life, death and rebirth)

We call this—**reincarnation**

Nothing is higher than Dharma. The weak overcomes the stronger by Dharma, as over a king. Truly that Dharma is the Truth (*Satya*); Therefore, when a man speaks the Truth, they say, "He speaks the Dharma"; and if he speaks Dharma, they say, "He speaks the Truth!" For both are one.

— [\*Brihadaranyaka Upanishad\*](#),

1.4.xiv [\[148\]\[149\]](#)



# Hinduism concepts

3. **Karma-** (Action, intent and consequences)

4. **Moksha-** (AKA Nirvana)

The ultimate goal –depends what branch of Hinduism you practice.

5. **Yogas-** Different paths for life.

**Sanskrit**—writing from Ancient India  
**Vedas-Hindu Scriptures**

Gods and Goddesses in Hinduism



Shiva



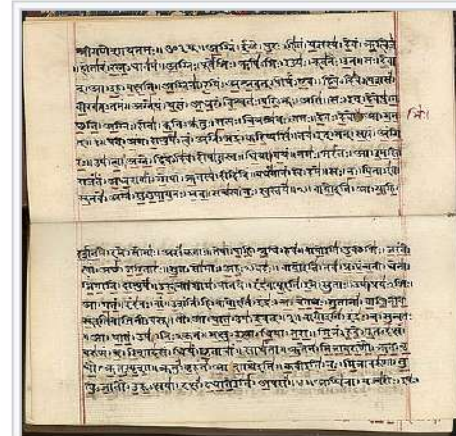
Durga



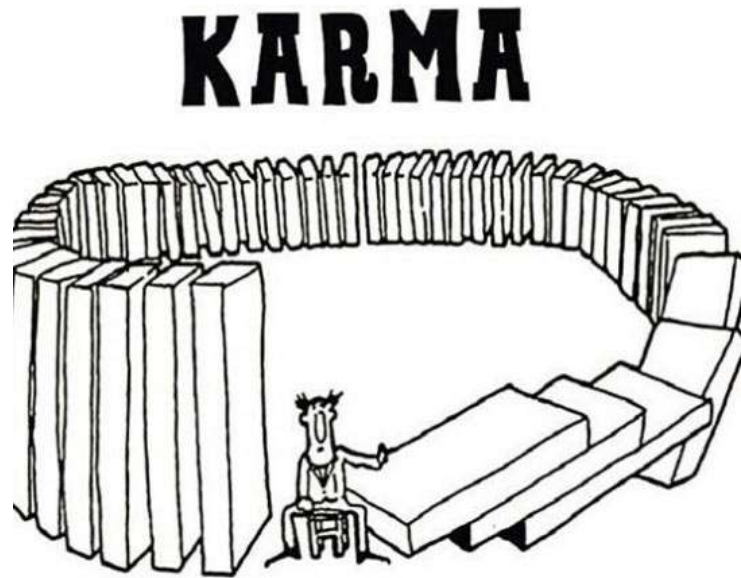
Lakshmi

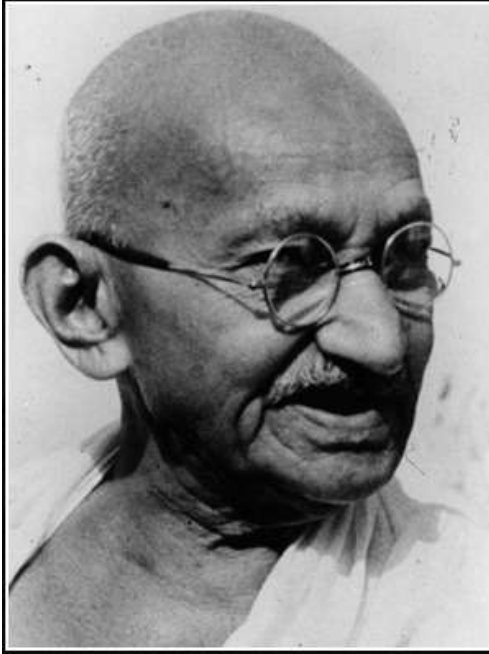


Vishnu



The **Rigveda** is the first and most important Veda<sup>[252]</sup> and is one of the oldest religious texts. This Rigveda manuscript is in Devanagari.





Religion is one tree with many  
branches. As branches, you may say,  
religions are many, but as a tree,  
religion is only one.

— *Mahatma Gandhi* —

AZ QUOTES

Mohandas (Mahatma) Gandhi: History's most famous  
Hindu

# Hinduism—world's oldest religion? Maybe

- Polytheistic
  - No founder
  - 3 principle Gods—Shiva, Brahma and Vishnu
- 
- ARYAN invaders impose CASTE SYSTEM







The five stone towers are intended to mimic the five mountain ranges of Mt. Meru—the mythical home of the gods, for both Hindus and Buddhists. The temple mountain as an architectural design was invented in Southeast Asia.

# 1. Borobudur-Largest Buddhist temple on the planet

9th Century-14th Century (INDONESIA)



## 2. Bagan (collection of 10,000 Buddhist temples) 850-1287 CE (MYANMAR, PAGAN KINGDOM)



3. **ANGKOR WAT**, (Hindu temple transformed into a Buddhist Temple), 1150-1550 CE (CAMBODIA, KHMER EMPIRE)



## 4. Temple of Literature-Vietnam

The temple was built in 1070 at the time of Emperor [Lý Thánh Tông](#). It is one of several temples in Vietnam which is dedicated to [Confucius](#), sages and scholar



5.

## The Tomb of Shah Rukn-e-Alam

([Urdu](#): مقبرہ شاہ رکن عالم) located in [Multan, Pakistan](#), is the [mausoleum](#) of the [Sufi](#) saint [Sheikh Rukn-ud-Din Abul Fateh](#)



**6. QUTB  
MINAR,  
(240 feet  
tall  
Minaret),  
1192 CE  
(DELHI  
SULTAN  
ATE)**





# 5 "Ya Basic" For South and Southeast Asia

1. **South and Southeast Asia are primarily a place to focus on the convergence of three religions: ISLAM, HINDUISM, & BUDDHISM.**
2. **Focusing on these areas in this period (1200-1450) is something super rare: THEY DEFEATED/DEFENDED AGAINST the MONGOLS!!!**
3. **India is dominated by Hinduism, but in this period (and the next: Mughal Empire) they will be ruled by Muslims: the Delhi Sultanate.**
4. **All of the big World Travelers hit up both SOUTH & SOUTHEAST Asia during this period: ZHENGHE, MARCO POLO, & IBN BATTUTA (he was a judge in the Delhi Sultanate for 7 years!)**
5. **Sadly, this is the end of independence in this area for a looooooong time. In 1498, Portuguese conquistador Vasco da Gama opens the door for the Europeans to begin their domination of this region**

