

**CHARACTERISTICS AND LOCATIONS OF THE FIVE WORLD RELIGIONS THAT HAVE HAD  
A PROFOUND IMPACT ON CULTURE AND CIVILIZATION (2c and 15 a, [b])**

Religions	Location of world religions in 1500 A.D. (2c)	Characteristics (15a)	Geographical distribution of world's major religions today (15b)
JUDAISM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concentrated in _____ and the Middle East</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>_____</li> <li>Ten Commandments of moral and religious conduct</li> <li>_____—Written record and beliefs of Hebrews</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concentrated in _____ and _____ America</li> </ul>
CHRISTIANITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concentrated in Europe and the _____</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>_____</li> <li>_____ as Son of God</li> <li>Life after death</li> <li>_____—Life and teachings of Jesus</li> <li>Establishment of Christian doctrine by early church councils</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concentrated in Europe and _____</li> </ul>
ISLAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concentrated in parts of Asia, Africa, and _____</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>_____</li> <li>Muhammad the prophet</li> <li>_____ (holy book)</li> <li>Five Pillars of Islam</li> <li>Mecca and _____</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concentrated in the _____, Africa, and Asia</li> </ul>
HINDUISM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concentrated in _____ and part of Southeast Asia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Many forms of one _____</li> <li>Reincarnation: rebirth based upon _____</li> <li>Karma—Knowledge that all _____ result in future consequences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concentrated in _____</li> </ul>
BUDDHISM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concentrated in East and Southeast _____</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Founder—_____ (Buddha)</li> <li>Four Noble Truths</li> <li>_____ to Enlightenment</li> <li>Spread of Buddhism from India to China and other parts of Asia, resulting from _____ missionaries and their writings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concentrated in East and _____</li> </ul>

Review the above chart, noting areas of religious concentration and their shifts through the years. Review the characteristics of each of these five major religions. You may need to know all the information on the above chart for your SOL test. Check your knowledge on page 62.

**AFTER STUDYING THE CHART ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE, ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:**

- 1) Which religion is polytheistic and believes in Karma?
- 2) What religion did Asoka's missionaries spread from India to China and other parts of Asia?
- 3) Which religion's written record is the Torah with the Ten Commandments guiding moral conduct?
- 4) Which religion believes in life after death and follows the teachings of Jesus?
- 5) Which religion believes in Four Noble Truths and an Eightfold Path to Enlightenment?
- 6) Which religion has five Pillars and honors its founder by revering Mecca and Medina, his former cities of residence?
- 7) Can you identify one religion with the belief of reincarnation?
- 8) Who is considered the founder of Buddhism?
- 9) What two cities are sacred to Muslims?
- 10) What is the written record and beliefs of Jews called?
- 11) Which religion from the chart is concentrated in India today?
- 12) Which religion from the chart is concentrated in East and Southeast Asia today?
- 13) What is the name of Islam's holy book?
- 14) What is the name of the holy book for Christians?
- 15) Which three religions from the chart are considered monotheistic?
- 16) Which religion from the chart is concentrated in Israel and North America today?
- 17) Who do Christians believe is the son of God?

