**Asia’s Religions**

**Ethnic Group**

* This is a group of people who share a common\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and have a similar \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + These \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have been part of their community for generations.
* Ethnic groups can have many things in common:
  + Shared history, common \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, language, religion, traditions, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, food, etc.
* All of these things make up a common \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that is shared by the members of the ethnic group.

**Religious Group**

* This is a group of people who share a common \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in a religious claim.
  + They believe in the same \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and have common sacred text with a specific set of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about how to live.
* Religious groups have many things in common:
  + God(s), \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, prayers, history, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, religious laws, holy days, etc.
  + A religious group can have members with different \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, languages, and races and is usually spread over an entire region or many countries.
  + People from different ethnic groups may share the same religion; however, they may be from different \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Hinduism:**

**Location**

* Hinduism developed in India around \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ BCE.
  + It is one of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ religions in the world.
* Today, Hinduism is largely practiced in India where over \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_% of Indians claim to be Hindu.
* Hinduism is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ largest religion in the world, behind Christianity and Islam.

**Basic Beliefs:**

* Hinduism does not come from the teachings of one \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* It is based on the religion practiced by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + Aryan priests followed complicated prayers, rituals, and hymns known as The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + Today, there is not one single text that Hindus consider sacred, rather there are many like The Vedas that teach Hindus \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ behavior.
* Hinduism is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, meaning that Hindus worship many gods and goddesses.
* Hindus believe that all living beings have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(animals as well as people).
  + Some animals, like the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, are especially sacred, and many Hindus are vegetarians.

**Reincarnation**

* All Hindus believe in reincarnation, the idea that the soul does not die with the body, but enters the body of another \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (human or animal).
  + The type of life a person leads \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ what the next life will be like.
  + A soul is reincarnated over and over again until it is good enough to achieve *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* (freedom from the cycle).
* Hindus also believe that each person’s *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*, or good or bad behavior, determines his fate.

**Caste System**

* Hindus live by the caste system (a belief that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is hereditary and does not change throughout a person’s life).
  + The only way to change castes is to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ into a different one in the next life.
* There are also \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ within each caste.
* Traditional families would not let their children \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ someone from another caste.
* Many jobs in India are still awarded based on caste \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* The caste system divides people into 4 main classes:
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (priests and wise men) – highest class
  + Kashatriyas (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, rulers, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) – next class
  + Vaishyas (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, traders, small farmers) – third
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (peasants and field workers) – last class
* A fifth caste is considered even lower, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_or pariahs, who do work that no one else would do.

**Buddhism**

**Location**

* Buddhism originated in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ around 500 BCE.
* About \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_% of the world’s population today is Buddhist.
  + Buddhism is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ largest religion in the world, though its largest numbers of followers are found in Southern and Eastern Asia.

**Buddha**

* Siddhartha Gautama was a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ man who led a life of luxury; however, he was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by the poverty and suffering that he saw around him.
  + He became a monk and traveled around India for years, hoping to find out why people had to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* After \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_about the unhappiness of man, he finally thought he understood what had to be done.
  + He felt that people could find peace only if they could reject \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and desire.
  + He traveled all over India to share his enlightenment with others and he was called Buddha, or “\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”.

**Basic Beliefs**

* Buddha taught that there were Four Noble \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in life (basic instructions that teach \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ exists in the world and humans much reach enlightenment to rise above it).
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the ultimate goal of Buddhists.
  + It is a state of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ where one can have happiness and peace.
  + In order to achieve Nirvana, a person must follow The Middle Way (Eightfold Path – 8 rules for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_).
  + Buddhists also believe in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, a cycle of birth and rebirth, where one’s behavior in this life determines what one becomes in the next life.

**The Middle Way**

1. Try to recognize the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Try to avoid \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_actions and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_people
3. Do not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ things that hurt others
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ other people and their belongings
5. Choose a job that does \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to others
6. Do not think evil \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. Avoid \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. Work at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, thinking carefully about what \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in life

* Buddha did not recognize \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because he felt man alone could change evil into good if he followed the Eightfold Path of the Middle Way.

**Sacred Texts**

* The Buddhists’ holy book is called the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + It contains all of Buddha’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + Buddhists do not worship a god but rather Buddha by thanking him for his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and reading the Tripitaka to become more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Islam**

**Location**

* Islam is usually known as the religion of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but it is also widely practiced in Southern and Eastern Asia.
  + The largest Islamic nation in the world, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, is located here (204 million Muslims).
* Islam began in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_century in the Arabian Peninsula.
* Today, Islam is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ largest religion in the world and has spread worldwide.

**Basic Beliefs**

* Islam is based on the teachings of the prophet \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + Muslims consider him to be the greatest prophet of their God, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + Muslims are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (believe in only one god).
* They have a holy book called The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which they believe is the word of Allah handed down by the angel \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* There are two types of Muslims: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Shi’ite (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_).
  + They disagree on the basic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Islam and are often in conflict with one another.

**Five Pillars of Faith**

* Muslims practice what is known as the Five Pillars of Islam, which are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that each Muslim must follow.

1. Profession of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – there is only one god and Muhammad is his messenger
2. Pray five times a day facing the direction of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(birthplace of Muhammad)
3. Charity to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Fasting during the holy month of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or hajj, to Mecca at least once in a person’s lifetime

**Shintoism**

**Location**

* Shinto is the earliest religion in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* It is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to Japan and has not spread to other parts of the world.
* Shinto means the “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”.
* It was once the state religion of Japan and is still widely \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_among the Japanese**.**

**Beliefs**

* Shintoism has no \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for moral living and no concepts of a single ruling \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + There is no single \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that is followed.
  + It centers on the reverence of the *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*(divine spirits that live in nature).
  + Many Japanese believe that the mountains and rivers in Japan are home to these kami and are considered very \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Beliefs**

* Shintoists offer prayers and perform \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to honor and please the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + Most Japanese households have a small \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ where the family will offer prayers for the spirits they hope will bless and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_them.
  + Many worship their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who they believe became \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when they died.
  + Shintoism stresses the virtue of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and teaches physical \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Since Shinto offers no ideas of a moral code, a god, or life after \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, many people who practice Shinto also practice another \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as well.

**Confucianism**

**Location**

* Confucianism is not a religion but rather a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that is often said to be the foundation of modern Chinese \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Confucianism was declared the official guiding \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the Chinese government in 121 BCE.
  + It has continued to have great influence on Chinese \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for over 2000 years.
* Many people in China still support the teaching of Confucius and his emphasis on dealing with others \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Confucianism is also practiced by others in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Confucius**

* Confucius was born in 550 BCE, a time when the government was having trouble keeping \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ controlled much of the land.
* He believed he knew how to bring \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to ancient China – the key was for people to behave with good \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and virtue.
* Confucius created a moral \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for social life and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that every person should follow.
* Confucius was not a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ prophet or leader; he saw himself as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Basic Beliefs**

* Confucianism is thought of as a philosophy or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_system based on good \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and morality rather than a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Confucius believed there were five basic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ among men:
  + Ruler and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,
  + Father and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and wife,
  + Older brother and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ brother, &
  + Friend and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* He believed that if each relationship were based on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, there would be peace and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the country.
  + His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Rule of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was “What you do not like when done unto yourself, do not unto others.”

**Sacred Texts**

* The Four \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Five \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are the authoritative books on Confucianism written before 300 BCE.
* These are texts that illustrate the core value and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ systems in Confucianism.