Major Religions Study Guide

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_KEY\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I can describe the essential characteristics and features of the world’s major religions.

I can show how cultural practices today were influenced by the world’s major religions.

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| --- | --- |
| **Match the correct word with the definition** | |
| 1. social group one is born into; based on performance in a past life 2. deep focus; relaxation 3. oldest Hindu books 4. belief that one’s actions influence their fortune 5. “Eternal self”. Refers to the real self beyond ego or false self. 6. founder of Buddhism 7. “The Enlightened One” 8. belief that a soul never dies; at death the spirit leaves the body and is reborn in another living thing 9. state of blessed happiness and peace | \_\_I\_\_\_ Nirvana  \_\_H\_\_\_ Reincarnation  \_\_\_B\_\_ Meditation  \_\_G\_\_\_ Buddha  \_\_F\_\_\_ Siddhartha Gautama  \_\_\_C\_\_ Vedas  \_\_E\_\_\_ Atman  \_\_D\_\_\_ Karma  \_\_A\_\_\_ Castes |

**Fill in the chart:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Judaism**  (4000 B.C.) | **Christianity**  (1 A.D.) | **Islam**  (610 A.D.) | **Hinduism**  (2000 B.C.) | **Buddhism**  (550 B.C.) |
| **3 Major beliefs**  (what ideas they have) | -monotheistic (same god as Christianity and Islam)  - believe in that God will protect you if you follow the 10 commandments  - belief that God created the universe | -monotheistic (same god as Judaism and Islam)  - believe that Jesus Christ is the son of God who died to save people from sin  -follow the old and new testament of the bible | -monotheistic (same god as Judaism and Christianity)  -god is in complete control of your life you need to submit  - Muhammad is the one true prophet | -polytheistic  -reincarnation  -karma (determines your next life)  -caste system | -4 nobles truths  -reincarnation  - everything in life is a cause and effect of each other |
| **2 Major practices** (something they do) | -follow the Sabbath  On SATURDAYS  -keep kosher  -go to Synagogue to pray | -celebrate Christmas and Easter  - pray at church on SUNDAYS | -follow 5 pillars of Islam  -pray 5 times per day facing Mecca  -fast during the month of Ramadan | -meditate/ yoga  - respect all living things  - do not eat beef  - wash in the Ganges River | - meditate  - respect all living things  - follow the 8 fold path |

**Four ways religion spreads:**

1.TRADE: exchanging goods/ideas

Ex. The Silk Road was a trade route that began in the Middle East and reached through to China passing India along the way. As merchants traded items (for Silk in particular which was only available in China at the time) they began to spread religion as well. Religions that spread along the Silk Road were mainly Islam, Christianity and Buddhism

2 MISSIONARIES people who travel to other lands specifically to spread their religion

Ex. Buddhist monks traveling to China to spread their religion; Christian missionaries spreading religion (like St. Patrick bringing Christianity to Ireland)

3 MIGRATION: people moving from place to place and bringin their ideas with them

Ex.- The pilgrims were being persecuted in England so they moved to the ‘New World’ (America) nd brough their sect of Christianity with them

- Jews moving out of Israel to Europe because of persecution, bringing Judaism to Europe. Then moving back to Israel from Europe after WWII bringing Judaism to a land that was at the time predominantly Muslim.

4CONQUEST/COLONIZATION: taking over another land

Ex. Muslim Empires expanding throughout the Middle East during the 600-700s AD. Mughal Empire (Muslim) bringing Islam to India. . British colonizing India in the 1800s and brining Christianity

**Write three ways Buddhism and Hinduism influence modern life in each bubbles. Then give specific examples in each box.**

-Beatles studied under a Hindu teacher and traveled to India in 1966. This would influence their later music and lyrics. Tomorrow Never Dies is a Beatles song that uses translations of verses from the Tibetan Book of the Dead in its lyrics (Buddhist)

- The Beastie Boys’ Adam Yauch converted to Buddhism and this will influence their music/ lyrics. An example would be the song” Boddishiva Vow” in which they describe their Buddhist beliefs and use Buddhist monk chanting in the background. (Buddhist)

-Madonna’s Song “Shanti/ Ashtangi” is Vedic verses being chanted (Hindu)

- Karma used in songs by Justin Timberlake and Alicia Keys

Mahatma Gandhi uses nonviolence tactics such as mass meetings, civil disobedience, boycotts etc. to free India from British rule in 1947. This peaceful, nonviolence movement that has roots in Buddhist and Hindu beliefs was then spread to civil rights leaders in America during the 1960s. Many civil rights leaders like Martin Luther King Jr. used these ideas during the civil rights movements, at times even meeting with people who had worked with Gandhi.

Once just practiced by HINDU priests it is now a major exercise movement.

As of 2012, over 20 million Americans practiced yoga. People spend over 10 billion dollars a year on yoga products, classes, equipment etc.

There are over 27 yoga studios near Mayfield.