

Unit 7.2 How is Religion Seen in the Cultural Landscape?

AP Human Geography

3 What Role Does Religion Play in Political Conflicts?

Information contained in the worksheet, not just the blanks, is important, but the worksheet alone does not replace the need for a careful reading of the text, (pgs. 212-236)

- Religion is evident in the cultural landscape, whether it is a church, mosque, synagogue, temple or cemetery, crematorium, or geographic location (like Mt. Fuji)
- _____ = spaces and places rich in religious meaning through _____ or _____.
- _____ = trips to a sacred site may be for _____, _____, _____ or fulfillment of a religious _____. Sacred objects (or relicts) were brought to urban places to infuse the place with meaning. Sacred sites can be held sacred by different groups, which can be contentious. Some of the most contentious sites are in _____, a city held sacred for three major religions _____, _____, & _____.



Figure 7.20 © Alexander B. Murphy

Jerusalem

- The _____ hold Jerusalem as holy because it was the site of the Temple Mount and now the site of the _____ Wall (also called the _____ Wall). The _____ were cast out of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 CE in a period called the _____.
- For _____, Jerusalem is sacred because of the events of the Old Testament and because Jesus' crucifixion took place just outside the city walls and placed in a tomb at the present site of the _____.
- In the 7th c, _____ took control of the city of Jerusalem and constructed the _____ adjacent to the Western Wall to mark the site where Muhammad ascended into paradise. The site that the Jews call Temple Mount is called al-Haram al Sharif (the _____) by Muslims
- The _____ were fought over control the sacred land of Jerusalem, but after the first crusades' success by the Christians, the Muslims retook Jerusalem provoking a strong

reaction by each.

- The Christians committed to protect the _____
- The Muslims are committed to protect _____
- The Jews are committed to protect the _____
- These commitments by the three have led to _____

Ritual bathing in the Ganges River

Landscapes of Hinduism & Buddhism

- _____ believe the erection of a _____ bestows merit on the builder and will be rewarded. These _____ should minimally disrupt the natural landscape, and located in a _____ position, like under a tree and near _____ because _____ is a holy function. The _____ is one of Hinduism's most sacred places.
- The _____ tree at Bodh Gaya is a sacred site for _____ because Buddha received enlightenment while sitting under a large tree. The _____ tree has diffused as far as _____ & _____ marking the cultural landscape. In Java the _____, bell shaped structures that protect burial mounds are found. Temples enshrine the image of _____ in his _____ pose. _____ Buddhism's most familiar structure is constructed with every fragment a meaningful representation of Buddhist philosophy.
- The dead also influence the cultural landscape. Hindus, Buddhists, and Shintoists cremate their dead, so _____ are found nearby.



Figure 7.22 © Alexander B. Murphy

Landscape of Christianity

In Medieval times, the Christian church was the focus of life and towered over the landscape for all to see like the picture to the left of St. Michael's in Bordeaux, France.



Figure 7.25
© H. J. de Blij

- Reformation, growing secularism, and the decline of organized religion are also reflected in the cultural landscape. Many ornate churches in medieval cities now serve as _____, while some churches are _____ their doors or reducing the number of services. However, some famous cathedrals continue to hold services and allow tourists to visit.
- Christians, traditionally, _____ their dead, with cemeteries crowded with _____.

- In the US, a predominately _____ country, Wilbur Zelinsky identified religious regions.



Figure 7.28
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- The New England regions is strongly _____, the South _____, the Upper Midwest has a large number of _____ and the Southwest predominantly _____, the midland region is a wide mixture, while the _____ are located in the western mountain regions of Utah and southern Idaho, the _____ around New Orleans, and _____ (from all those snowbirds) in peninsular Florida.
- The map to the right does not show the religious diversity found in each of the designated regions that a county map of the country would provide.

Landscapes of Islam



Figure 7.33
© AP/Wide World Press

- Elaborate _____ with balconied _____ rise above the cityscape of Islamic cities, towns, and villages.
- Two examples of the architectural achievements of Islamic architects are _____ in Granada and the _____ in Spain.
- Islam prohibits the depiction of _____ so _____ designs and _____ are used to represent the perfection and vastness of the spirit of Allah. The mosque symbolizes the _____ of the faith and its role in the community.
- The pilgrimage that a Muslim takes to Mecca (at least once in their life (if financially and physically able) is called the _____. The _____ is obligatory (with the above exceptions) and is one of the pillars for the Islamic

faith. The _____ is a voluntary pilgrimage to Islamic sacred places.

What Role Does Religion Play in Political Conflicts?

- _____ = the boundaries between the world's major faiths, which may be a divisive cultural force, like the _____ - _____ interfaith boundary in Africa
- _____ = a boundary within a single major faith, like the _____, _____, & _____ division or between _____ & _____.

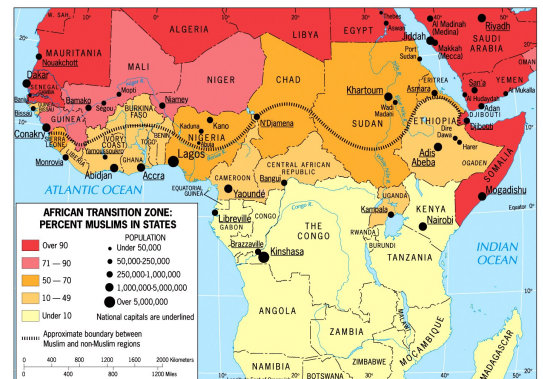


Figure 7.34
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Israel and Palestine

- The _____ (end of WWI) recognized _____ control of the region of Palestine, where the majority of residents were _____. The British goal was to establish a national homeland for the _____ people. Civil disturbances erupted and open warfare broke out between the Jews & Palestinians
- After WWII the United Nations voted to _____ Palestine, creating an independent _____ & _____ states. The states were _____ (not connected) and more violence erupted with Palestinians losing land to the Israelis. Many Palestinians were forced to flee to _____ camps in neighboring Arab states.
- The Palestinian lands of _____, _____, and the _____ were won by the Israelis in the 1976 Arab-Israeli War.
- Attempts have been made to negotiate a peaceful settlement, but both sides claim to have a historic (even divine) right to the land. Little progress has been made.

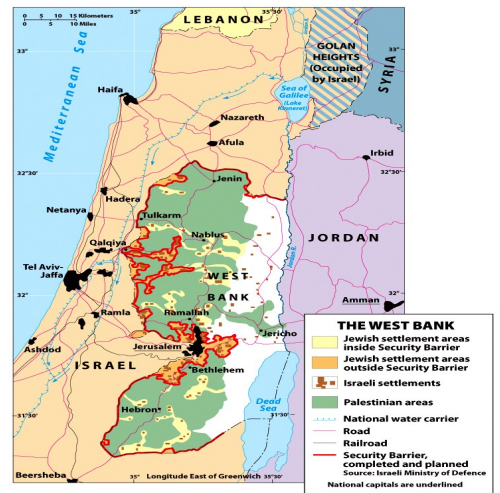


Figure 7.36
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The Horn of Africa

The Horn of Africa is the rhinoceros shaped horn on the East coast of Africa made up by the countries of Eritrea, Djibouti, Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Sudan, which span an interfaith boundary

- _____ is the cultural center of _____ (Coptic) _____, which have been isolated and protected by the mountains. _____ surrounds the Amharic to the north, northeast, and southeast.
- Islam spread to the Horn of Africa region by the _____ in the 1600s.
- The future of Eritrea was controlled by Italy, Great Britain, and the United Nations, none of which paid much attention to what was right for the Eritrean Muslims. They were placed under the control of Ethiopia (and the Amharic rulers) who also controlled the Muslim Somalis. Eritrea finally gained its independence in 1991, but border conflicts continue

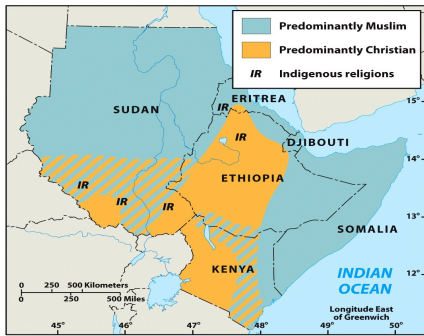


Figure 7.37
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The Former Yugoslavia

The Balkan Peninsula lies in Southern Europe along the Mediterranean Sea. Its location has historical and cultural implications. The division between the Western Roman Empire (Roman Catholic Church) and Eastern Roman Empire (Eastern Orthodox Church) runs through this region, as does the dividing line for languages using the Roman alphabet and the Cyrillic alphabet.

- This region is made up of a number of different ethnic groups, including: _____ in the west (and Catholic), the _____ & _____ in the east and south (Eastern Orthodox)
- The intrafaith boundary between the Christian religions was complicated by the introduction of Islam by the _____ in the 1300s.
- Yugoslavia was formed after WWI. During WWII the _____ supported the _____ and fought the anti-_____ Serbs. After WWII Yugoslavia came under communist control which prevented nationalistic movements by suppression
- The fall of communism in the late 1980s, first _____ then _____ & _____ declared independence. War broke out between the Croats and Serbs in the multi-ethnic republics of _____ & _____. The Bosnian Muslims became the focus of _____.
- After much fighting the international community (UN) got involved. From the former Yugoslavia broke up into _____, _____ (now 2 separate countries), _____, and _____ & _____, In 2003 Yugoslavia disappeared and was replaced by _____ (which in 2006 became two separate countries). _____ was the last republic to declare its independence in 2008.



Figure 7.39
© H. J. de Blij, *Power of Place*

Northern Ireland

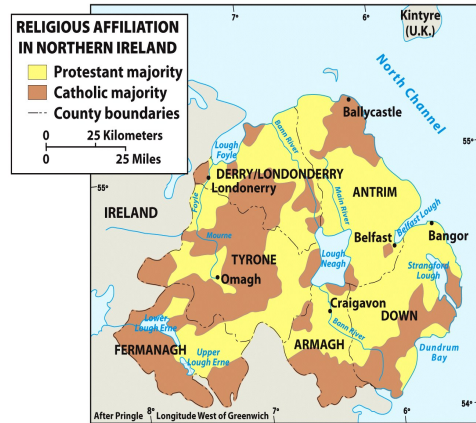


Figure 7.40
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Northern Ireland is a good example of an **Intrafaith** boundary. Catholic Ireland was infiltrated by Protestant British over several centuries. The Protestants took political and economic power and were drawn to industrial jobs in the NE during the British period of colonialism.

- The Irish Catholics had their land taken away and were deprived of their legal right to _____ or participate in _____
- In 1922 the _____ partitioned Ireland to protect the _____ in the northeast. The six counties to the north voted to form _____ and became part of the _____
- The _____ began terrorist acts in 1968.
- Catholics and Protestants in N. Ireland _____ their lives and homes from one another.
- Although the religious issues have been the center of the conflict, it is more about _____, _____, _____, _____, _____ and _____
- Efforts toward peace beginning in 1998 with the _____ peace agreement have raised hopes for peace. Slowly progress has been made although “_____” (barriers) still exist.

Fundamentalism and Extremism

- _____ = seeking a return to basics of faith when perceived breakdowns in societies morals & values, lack of religious authority, failure to achieve _____, loss of a sense of _____, or a sense of _____ of a religion’s core region.
- _____ = fundamentalism carried to the point of violence
- Christian fundamentalism preach a doctrine of strict adherence to the literal precepts of the Bible, becoming active in political and social policies – arguing for prayer in schools, teaching creationism in science, banning abortions, etc.
- Christian extremism – attacks on or murder of doctors who perform abortions.
- Jewish fundamentalism – Orthodox sect – conservative view on Israel, education, and interactions with non-Orthodox Jews
- Jewish extremists – the _____ and _____ suspected of _____ in Israel.
- Islamic fundamentalism – following the teachings of the Quran – the laws of Islam, which are very strict when, interpreted literally. The expansion of _____, a criminal and social code, in which many punishments are harsh - _____ of hands or limbs for _____. Stoning to death for _____. The _____ in Afghanistan seized control during the 1990s.
- Islamic extremists – promote Islamic holy war, or _____. Osama Bin Laden’s extremist movement can be traced to a form of Islam known as _____ whose hearth is in _____. They resent the invasion of the “_____” into Islamic holy land over the past 80 years, particularly the presence of US _____ & _____ in the Arabian Peninsula, the establishment of the state of _____, and the support that European and American governments have given _____. The Wahhabi extremists are also concerned with the diffusion of modern _____ & _____ and the impact it has on traditional Islamic lifestyles and spiritual practices.

Religious beliefs can drive people to extremist behaviors, but more typically, it shapes how people behave, perceive the behaviors of others, and how people interact with each other over time, place, and scale.