



Slideshow overview: How religions spread around the world

Slide 1: How Religions Spread Around the World

Subtitle: Exploring the journeys of Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

Slide 2: Where Religions Started

Hinduism – Started in India

Buddhism – Started in India/Nepal

Judaism – Started in the Middle East (Israel)

Christianity – Started in Israel

Islam – Started in Saudi Arabia (Mecca and Medina)

Discussion Questions:

- Which religion started first? (Hinduism, around 1500 BCE)
- Which religion is the newest? (Islam, 600s CE)

Slide 3: How Religions Spread - Geography

- Rivers made travel easier (e.g., Ganges, Nile, Tigris-Euphrates)
- Mountains could slow movement (Himalayas, Alps)
- Roads and trade routes (e.g., Silk Road, Roman Roads) helped ideas move faster

Discussion Question:

How do you think rivers, mountains, or roads helped religions spread?

Slide 4: How Religions Spread - Trade and Travel

- Merchants and traders carried beliefs along trade routes (Silk Road, Indian Ocean Trade)
- Missionaries travelled to new lands (Christian apostles, Buddhist monks)
- Rulers sometimes adopted religions and spread them (Constantine and Christianity, Ashoka and Buddhism)

Discussion Questions:

- How do you think trade helped spread religion?
- What happens when travellers meet people from different places?

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Slide 5: What Happens When Religions Meet?

- Some places have more than one religion (e.g., India, Middle East, China)
- Sometimes religions mix ideas (e.g., Buddhism in China, Christianity in Africa)
- Sometimes there are conflicts, but also times of peace and learning

Discussion Question:

What do you think happens when different religions exist in the same area?

Slide 6: Big Events in History

Wars and Conquests:

- Roman Empire helped Christianity spread
- Islamic Caliphates spread Islam to Africa, Spain, and Asia

Colonization: Christianity spread with European explorers

Decline of Religions: Some lost followers due to wars, rulers, or other faiths growing

Discussion Question:

Can you think of a time when a religion stopped growing? Why might that happen?

Slide 7: Reflection and Wrap-Up

- How do religions still spread today? (Media, migration, online)
- Why is it important to learn about different religions?

Final Question:

What was the most interesting thing you learned today?