

Connections and differences

Christianity Beginnings



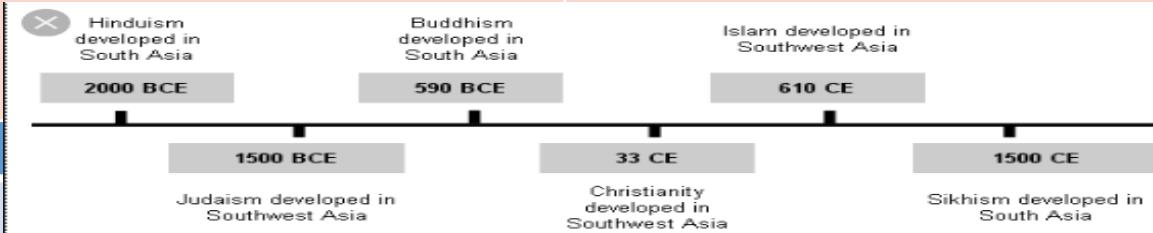
Connections

1. Eastern and Western religions started in the same part of the world so have similarities (prayer, reincarnation).
2. Abraham, Jesus and Prophet Muhammad taught there is only 1 God (Polytheism).
3. The Eastern religions all practice meditation.

Differences

1. Christians believe Jesus was the son of God, whereas Jews and Muslims believe he was an ordinary man.

Jesus was born in Nazareth and it is believed that he was born as the Son of God. He taught people through stories called Parables. He taught that everyone is equal in the eyes of God and that people can be forgiven. Jesus was crucified (killed) for his beliefs but his teachings carried on long after his death. Some people said that he was a reformer – trying to change ideas. His life and words are written down in the New Testament.



THE WORLD 6 RELIGIONS

Key concepts

Monotheism	The belief in One God	
Polytheism	The belief in more than One God	
Meditation	the process of quieting the mind in order to spend time in thought for relaxation or religious/spiritual.	
New Testament	The second half of the Bible which consists of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.	
Enlightenment	Finding out the answers to life's big questions. (Understanding the truth)	
Reincarnation	The belief that the soul is reborn after death	

Sikhism Beginnings

When Guru Nanak was born in India there were many social problems (in society). Hindus and Muslims lived separately, women were treated unequally and the class system meant people were ignored. He taught to work hard and that everyone is equal, people started to follow him and Sikhism was born.



Judaism Beginnings

Abraham had a son, Ishmael, to his maid Hagar. He desperately wanted one with his wife, Sarah.

The Lord visited Sarah and gave her a son, Isaac. It was a miracle.

After a long journey, they reached Moriah and the Lord promised the land to Abraham's children.

The Lord came to Abraham and promised that He would bless him with a great nation in return for leaving his country.

Abraham and his family left their home for a new land called Canaan. On the way Abraham taught people there was only One God.

The Lord told him that He would bless him with children as many as the stars and Judaism began.



Hinduism beginnings

Hindu Creation Story

- 1) Before time began there was no heaven, no earth.
- 2) A giant cobra floated on the nothingness and asleep in its coils was the deity Vishnu.
- 3) A sound ('om') began to fill the nothingness and woke Vishnu.
- 4) As Vishnu woke, a magnificent lotus flower grew from his navel.
- 5) In the middle of the lotus flower sat Brahma.
- 6) Vishnu commanded Brahma to create the world..
- 7) Brahma split the lotus flower into three. He made one part into the heavens. He made another part into the earth. With the third part he created the sky.
- 8) The earth was bare. Brahma created grass, flowers, trees and plants. Next he created the animals and insects, birds and fish. To all these creatures he gave the sense of touch and smell. He gave them the power to see, hear and move.
- 9) The world was soon bristling with life and the sounds

Islam Beginnings

- The Prophet Muhammad was angry with what he had seen around him, drinking, greediness and inequality.
- He went to the mountain to pray, where an angel came upon him and told him he was Allah's messenger (prophet).
- He taught people in secret that there was only One God, Allah and he was his prophet. He taught that people were equal and he also started to recite (speak) the words of the Qur'an.
- People believed in him and started to follow his teachings and this is how Islam started.

Buddhism Beginnings

The Buddha was born a prince but he wasn't happy with his life. He left the palace where he saw the four noble truths. He left the palace to search the meaning of life, he starved himself and still found nothing. He found the answers to life's big questions under a tree whilst meditating. This is called Enlightenment. He also taught the 8 fold path and this started Buddhism.

