

# Introducing World Religions

## Flashcards for Comprehensive Word Lists (Grouped by Chapter)

### Chapter 1 Approaching religious traditions (and Preface)

#### TERMS (40)

agency  
*anno Domini*  
*anno Hegirae*  
 axis mundi  
 Common Era  
 creative imagination  
 cultural imperialism  
 definition of religion  
 East-West diptych  
 Eliade, Mircea  
 European colonialism  
 European Enlightenment  
 existential value  
 expressive tradition  
 hierophanic history  
 hierophany  
*homo religiosus*  
 imaginal realm  
 insider-outsider challenge  
 kratophany

Leeuw, Gerardus van der  
 liminal beings  
 McCutcheon, Russell T.  
*mysterium fascinans*  
*mysterium tremendum*  
 orientalism  
 Otto, Rudolph  
 phenomenology  
 play  
 postcolonial turn  
 reductionist  
 religionist  
 Religious Impression  
 Religious Subject  
 religious symbol  
 subtle erasure  
*sui generis*  
 thick description  
 ultimate principle  
 vision quest

#### DEFINITIONS (40)

agency	Term used by social scientists to emphasize the element of will (or political deprivation of will) in the lives of human actors who comprise and create society.
<i>anno Domini</i>	Words abbreviated by AD used after dates.
<i>anno Hegirae</i>	Words abbreviated by AH used after dates.
<i>axis mundi</i>	World pole.
Common Era	Words abbreviated by CE used after dates.
creative imagination	Humans use this to perceive beings or forms of the imaginal realm.
cultural imperialism	The domination that results from the spread of cultural values and customs from a politically or economically powerful nation or civilization.
definition of religion	“A dynamic cultural complex with positive or negative

	impacts that stake a claim to legitimacy based on a foundational connection to reports of hierophany.”
East-West diptych	A metaphor that emphasizes the orientalist view of the world as divided into two opposing flat plates.
Eliade, Mircea	(1907–1986) Historian of religions who used the term <i>homo religiosus</i> to describe the fundamentally religious nature of human beings; he also referred to human beings as <i>homo symbolicus</i> because he felt that they have an innate propensity to manufacture cultural meaning through symbols.
European colonialism	Refers to Europeans in modern times (sixteenth to twentieth centuries) taking political and economic control of foreign territories to gain control of maritime trade.
European Enlightenment	A European cultural movement spanning the late 1600s to the late 1700s.
existential value	The intellectual or emotional weight of an experience that bears on a person's very existence. (Term from existentialist philosophy.)
expressive traditions	Performance-based traditions that rely on oral transmission of sacred lore, and many non-verbal expressions to build religious meaning.
hierophanic history	Term for an account of religious experiences of hierophany, as opposed to an account based in conventional history.
hierophany	Manifestation of the sacred.
<i>homo religiosus</i>	Term meaning "man the religious."
imaginal realm	The a-historical realm of "reality" where immaterial beings abide.
insider-outsider challenge	The challenge for people to adopt both inside and outside positions in their study of religions. This means to empathize with a religious worldview while maintaining a critical (analytic, not hostile) perspective.
kratophany	Manifestation of power that has yet to be counted as sacred, such as a tsunami storm.
Leeuw, Gerardus van der	Phenomenologist of religions (1890–1950) who spoke of the human tendency of people to become Religious Subjects in response to their perception of objects that carry spiritual meaning for them (i.e., Religious Objects).
liminal beings	Beings that move betwixt-and-between two realms of existence or experience (i.e., players in the drama of world religions that inhabit the imaginal realm).
McCutcheon, Russell T.	Contemporary reductionist scholar of religions who calls upon students of religions to be "culture critics" who do not fall into the trap of trying to nurture, enhance, or criticize the communities they study.
<i>mysterium fascinans</i>	A mystery that draws people toward it because it evoked

	the emotion of religious fascination.
<i>mysterium tremendum</i>	A mystery that frightens people away, because it evoked the emotion of religious awe.
orientalism	A racist attitude that lumps all peoples of the "orient" (East) together without distinguishing their specific characteristics. (Edward Said's term.)
Otto, Rudolph	(1869–1937) Christian theologian who developed the notions of <i>mysterium tremendum</i> and <i>mysterium fascinans</i> with reference to a person's experience of the Holy.
phenomenology	A philosophical school that originated in the early 1900s with Edmund Husserl in Germany.
play	Term used by anthropologists with reference to the activity of <i>homo ludens</i> whose creative, spontaneous activity is central to the creation of culture.
postcolonial turn	Phase of modern cultural criticism that can involve a wide range of issues including challenging western ethnocentrism, exposing the nation state mentality established by colonialists for ease of subjugation, and deconstructing feminine identity in light of colonialism.
reductionist	Term for a scholar of religious studies who rejects the <i>sui generis</i> view of religions, and explains religious data without presuming the existence of anything irreducibly religious. (Robert A. Segal's term.)
religionist	Term for a scholar in religious studies who holds a <i>sui generis</i> view of religions, and claims that something irreducibly <i>religious</i> exists. (Robert A. Segal's term.)
Religious Impression	The experience of a Religious Subject that gives rise to a creative act.
Religious Subject	A person who attains religious faith or understanding through an encounter with something experienced as sacred. (Gerardus van der Leeuw's term.)
religious symbol	Object that represents, or reconstitutes a sacred entity, acting as a stand-in for a hierophany.
subtle erasure	Term referring to the cultural phenomenon of a culture or people becoming "invisible" due to factors such as cultural imperialism, political, religious, or economic domination, and racism.
<i>sui generis</i>	Belonging to its own kind.
thick description	Complex description that suggests the significance of an action or thing, as opposed to the "thin" portrayal of its obvious outward aspect. (Gilbert Ryle's term.)
ultimate principle	Term for what in the words of Christian saint Anselm is "that greater than which nothing can be conceived."
vision quest	A way of prayer used by Native Americans in which an individual spends time alone, fasting, in an isolated place.

## Chapter 2 Expressive traditions of Oceania, America, and Africa

### TERMS (40)

**aboriginal**  
*babalawô*  
**Black Elk**  
**Candomblé**  
**Cortés, Martín**  
**Cuauhtémoc**  
**divination**  
**DRESTAT functions**  
**Eternal Beings of the Dreaming**  
**Fá**  
**griot**  
**hogan**  
**homology**  
**Ifá**  
**indigenous peoples**  
**La Chingada**  
**Mali**  
**mantic**  
**mestizo**  
**Moctezuma**

**moko**  
**native**  
**orisha**  
**Orisha Child**  
**Paz, Octavio**  
**People**  
**Somé, Malidoma**  
**Soyinka, Wole**  
**Sun Dance**  
**symbol**  
**syncretism**  
**tapu**  
*taytu*  
**ten elements of performance**  
**three aspects of meaning**  
*towosi*  
**trickster**  
**vodú**  
**Wakan-Tanka**  
**Wounded Knee Creek**

### DEFINITIONS (40)

<b>aboriginal</b>	Term literally meaning "from the beginning;" used with reference to indigenous peoples.
<i>babalawô</i>	Father of the secret; a priest of Ifá divination.
<b>Black Elk</b>	A holy man of the Oglala Sioux People who helped many non-native Americans understand the Sun Dance and other aspects of his culture.
<b>Candomblé</b>	A Yoruba-based tradition in Brazil, related to other African diaspora traditions including Santería, Umbanda, Vodún and others.
<b>Cortés, Martín</b>	The first mestizo, according to traditional Mexican memory.
<b>Cuauhtémoc</b>	The hero, known as "young grandfather," whose resurrection is awaited by Mexicans expecting the redemption of history through him.
<b>divination</b>	Fortelling future events or interpreting current circumstances through ritual methods that make use of signs and frequently involve supernatural communications.
<b>DRESTAT functions</b>	Term used by our author for seven activities found in

	ritual and other cultural "performances," namely, donation, restoration, enactment, symbolization, transformation, accession, and transmission.
<b>Eternal Beings of the Dreaming</b>	Supernatural beings discussed in the sacred lore of the Australian Aboriginal peoples.
<b>Fá</b>	Fon term for the orisha associated with divination, who is known also as Ifá.
<b>griot</b>	A storyteller or oral historian among the Dogon people of Mali in West Africa.
<b>hogan</b>	A Native American ceremonial lodge.
<b>homology</b>	A likeness between two or more things that have the same structure.
<b>Ifá</b>	A system of divination that originated among the Yoruba peoples of West Africa.
<b>indigenous peoples</b>	Early inhabitants of a place who have a longstanding cultural association to their geographical region prior to its colonization or annexation as a modern nation-state.
<b>La Chingada</b>	Culturally-packed (nearly unspeakable) term meaning the violated woman, used by Mexicans with reference to La Malincha, the mother of Martín Cortés (sixteenth century CE) who is considered to be the first <i>mestizo</i> .
<b>Mali</b>	Name of country in West Africa that was the seat of a wealthy empire <i>ca.</i> 1240–1500 CE.
<b>mantic</b>	General term for practices related to divination.
<b>mestizo</b>	Term of Spanish origin for a person of mixed blood, used with reference to Mexicans of Spanish and Indian descent, for example.
<b>Moctezuma</b>	Aztec leader who was defeated by Hernán Cortés during the Spanish conquest of Mexico in the 1500s.
<b>moko</b>	Term used by the indigenous Maori people of New Zealand for tattoo.
<b>native</b>	Adjective used (without value judgment) to describe indigenous, aboriginal people.
<b>orisha</b>	Spiritual beings of the indigenous Yoruba tradition of West Africa, and related traditions such as Candomblé, Santería, Umbanda, Vodún and others.
<b>Orisha Child</b>	A Candomblé initiate who has been "mounted" by an orisha, and become certified to help people through the medium of the orisha that has "called" her or him.
<b>Paz, Octavio</b>	Mexican winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1990.
<b>People</b>	English translation of the term in various Native American languages, used with reference to themselves.
<b>Somé, Malidoma</b>	A contemporary Dagara whose life mission is to share aspects of his culture with westerners.
<b>Soyinka, Wole</b>	Nigerian poet who won the 1986 Nobel Prize for Literature.

<b>Sun Dance</b>	Native American ceremonial including a dance in which participants face the hot sun for several days, and offer their flesh to the divine for the sake of their community.
<b>symbol</b>	An object or act that effectively represents something else because it has a common structure. It makes present an invisible or abstract entity in need of a concrete representation.
<b>syncretism</b>	Refers to the process of combining cultural elements from different traditions.
<b>tapu</b>	Maori term for powerful (hence dangerous) things or situations that must only be encountered through ritual.
<b>taytu</b>	A yam that is the central crop produced through ceremonial gardening by the Bowoan people of the Trobriand Islands.
<b>ten elements of performance</b>	Term used by our author to speak of the lived time, lived place, and lived objects in addition to the DRESTAT functions.
<b>three aspects of meaning</b>	Term used by our author to speak of lived time, lived place, and lived objects.
<b>towosi</b>	A ceremonial gardener among the Bowoans of Papua New Guinea.
<b>trickster</b>	A type of mythic character (often a messenger) who goes back and forth between the human world and the unseen world of the spirits or godlings.
<b>vodú</b>	West African term for spirit.
<b>Wakan-Tanka</b>	Sioux term for the Great Mystery that pervades and energizes the cosmos.
<b>Wounded Knee Creek</b>	Place of massacre of Sioux People in South Dakota, USA on December 29, 1890.

## Chapter 3 Zoroastrian tradition

### TERMS (40)

**Achaemenid**  
**Ahura Mazdā**  
**Alexander**  
**Amesha Spentas**  
**Angra Mainyu**  
**Āryan**  
**Asha**  
*ashavan*  
*Avesta*  
**Cyrus**  
**dakhma**  
*dregvant*  
*frashkard*  
**Fravahar**  
*fravashi*  
**Gāthās**  
*gētīg*  
**Good Religion**  
**Hellenic**  
*Ilme-e Khshnum*

**Irani**  
**Kirdīr**  
**magi**  
**Mani**  
**Mazdean**  
*mēnōg*  
**Mithra**  
*mōbad*  
**Old Avestan**  
**Pahlavi**  
**Parsi**  
**Parthian**  
**Persian**  
**Saoshyant**  
**Sassanid**  
**Shroff, Behramshah**  
**Spenta Mainyu**  
*yazatas*  
**Yazdegird III**  
**Zarathushtra**

### DEFINITIONS (40)

<b>Achaemenid</b>	The first of three Persian dynasties (550–330 BCE) to promote Zoroastrian tradition; Zarathushtra's biographical tradition began to develop after they conquered Babylonia.
<b>Ahura Mazdā</b>	Wise Lord; the ultimate principle in the Zoroastrian (Mazdean) religion that is associated with sacred fire.
<b>Alexander</b>	Macedonian (Greek) king who burned down Persepolis, the Persian Achaemenid seat of power, in 330 BCE; though many called him "the Great," Persians call him "the Accursed."
<b>Amesha Spentas</b>	Holy Immortals; beneficent entities in Zoroastrian religion that protect the physical world, and inspire good thoughts, good words, and good deeds.
<b>Angra Mainyu</b>	The Hostile Spirit in Zoroastrian religion who battles the "twin" spirit Spenta Mainyu in this physical world.
<b>Āryan</b>	Term for the group of people known as Indo-Europeans or Indo-Iranians from whom the <i>Avesta</i> and the <i>R̥gveda</i> came.
<b>Asha</b>	Word for Truth Order in Zoroastrian tradition; used as a title for Zarathushtra, and name of the Amesha Spenta that

	embodies Best Order.
<i>ashavan</i>	Things that are truthful, orderly, and work for the side of good.
<i>Avesta</i>	The key Zoroastrian scripture, which contains the hymns of Zarathushtra among other materials.
<b>Cyrus</b>	(r. 550–530) King who founded the Achaemenid dynasty in Persia and was familiar with worship of Ahura Mazdā, but not necessarily with Zarathushtra.
<b>dakhma</b>	A Zoroastrian "tower of silence" where corpses are taken to be devoured by vultures.
<i>dregvant</i>	Things that are wicked or deceitful according to Zoroastrian belief.
<i>frashkard</i>	In the Zoroastrian religion, the restoration or freshening of the cosmos after 12,000 years of finite time.
<b>Fravahar</b>	A key Zoroastrian symbol of a figure whose upper is a bearded man, and whose lower is a bird with outstretched wings.
<i>fravashi</i>	A spiritual being in the Zoroastrian religion who serves as a feminine guardian spirit.
<i>Gāthās</i>	Five songs (comprised of 17 sections) attributed to Zarathushtra that form the oldest portion of the Zoroastrian scriptures.
<i>gētīg</i>	The "world of bones" (sometimes called material realm) in Zoroastrian tradition.
<b>Good Religion</b>	Term for the Zoroastrian religion found in the <i>Avesta</i> .
<b>Hellenic</b>	Adjective that refers to the culture of the Hellenes (Greeks).
<i>Ilme-e Khshnum</i>	Term meaning "knowledge of joy," used as the name of a modern esoteric Zoroastrian movement that bears kinship with Hindu spirituality.
<b>Irani</b>	A term for someone related to Zoroastrians who remained in Persia after the Arab conquest around 636 CE; also called Zardushti.
<b>Kirdīr</b>	(200s CE) High Priest in charge of the official Zoroastrian religion, and committed to its domination over other religions in Persia under Sassanid rule.
<b>magi</b>	Traditional term for Zoroastrian priests (now generally called by another term).
<b>Mani</b>	(b. 216 BCE) Prophet influenced by Zoroastrian tradition who spread a religion that was to be universal for all humankind based on a new scripture.
<b>Mazdean</b>	A person who worships Ahura Mazdā; also called Zoroastrian or Zardushti, and more specifically Irani or Parsi.
<i>mēnōg</i>	The "world of thought" (sometimes called spiritual realm) in Zoroastrian tradition.

<b>Mithra</b>	One of the chief <i>yazatas</i> in Zoroastrian religion, associated with the sun and contracts.
<i>mōbad</i>	Modern term for Zoroastrian priest.
<b>Old Avestan</b>	Extinct ritual language in which the original hymns of Zarathushtra were composed.
<b>Pahlavi</b>	Middle Persian language in which most Zoroastrian theological texts are written; name of the secular dynasty that ruled Iran from 1925–1979 and was overturned during the Iranian Cultural Revolution.
<b>Parthian</b>	(247 BCE–224 CE) Era of Iranian history during which the "three maji" spoken of in the Christian scriptures would have gone to find the baby Jesus in Jerusalem; they favored Mithra over Ahura Mazdā, and ruled from a center in Iran east of the Caspian sea.
<b>Parsi</b>	A term for someone related to Zoroastrians who migrated to India in search of religious freedom starting in 936 CE; "Persians" in India.
<b>Persian</b>	Name of a tribe of western Iranians; based on a name for Iran connected with the southwestern province of Fārs from where the Achaemenids and Sassanids ruled.
<b>Saoshyant</b>	Zoroastrian savior who will come to usher in the end of time.
<b>Sassanid</b>	The last of three Persian dynasties (226–651 CE) to promote Zoroastrian tradition. They aimed to restore the legacy of Cyrus II (the Great).
<b>Shroff, Behramshah</b>	(b. 1858) A Parsi who propounded an esoteric form of Zoroastrian religion that emphasized the role of laypeople.
<b>Spenta Mainyu</b>	The Holy Spirit in Zoroastrian religion who battles the "twin" spirit Angra Mainyu in this physical world.
<i>yazatas</i>	Helpers of the Amesha Spentas who fight against the evil <i>daivas</i> of Angra Mainyu according to Zoroastrian belief.
<b>Yazdegird III</b>	The last Zoroastrian ruler, whose coronation date (632 CE) forms the starting date of the Zoroastrian calendar as 1 A.Y. ( <i>anno Yazdegird</i> ).
<b>Zarathushtra</b>	Name of the prophet who was a reformer (or founder) of the Mazdean tradition in the first or second millennium BCE.

## Chapter 4 Judaic tradition

### TERMS (60)

**Abraham**  
**Adonai**  
*aggadah*  
**Aramaic**  
**ark**  
**Ashkenazim**  
**Ba'al Shem Tov**  
*ba'alim*  
**cabbala**  
*conversos*  
**David**  
**diaspora**  
*'El*  
**Elijah**  
**emancipation**  
**Exodus**  
**Ezra**  
*Gemara'*  
**halachah**  
**Ha-Shem**  
**Hebrew**  
**Hellenistic**  
**hermeneutics**  
**Hillel and Shammai**  
**Isaiah**  
**Israel**  
**Israelites**  
**Jacob and Esau**  
**Jeremiah**  
**Jew**

**judges**  
**Luria, Isaac**  
**Maimonides, Moses**  
*malakhey elohim*  
**manna**  
**Mendelssohn, Moses**  
**Messiah**  
*Midrash*  
**minyan**  
*Mishnah*  
**mitzvoth**  
**Nehemiah**  
**rabbi**  
**revalorization**  
**Sabbath**  
**Samaritans**  
**Sarah and Hajar**  
**scholasticism**  
**Seder**  
**Sephardim**  
**sephiroth**  
**Sho'ah**  
**Solomon**  
**Spinoza, Baruch**  
*Talmud*  
*Tanakh*  
*tehinnot*  
**tsaddik**  
**Tzevi, Shabbetai**  
**YHVH**

### DEFINITIONS (60)

<b>Abraham</b>	Patriarch of Jews, Christians, and Muslims. Tradition states that the Lord established a covenant with his people through him.
<b>Adonai</b>	Term for "Lord" spoken out loud in places where YHVH appears in the <i>Hebrew Bible</i> .
<i>aggadah</i>	Narrative; a Jewish legend, parable, joke, sermon, historical tale, or other narrative. Helps interpret biblical material, often by suggesting why something is or how it happened to become so.

<b>Aramaic</b>	Ancient Semitic family of languages. Widely used by Jews and non-Jews in Palestine (mixed with Greek words) and Babylon (mixed with Persian words). Language of the <i>Talmud</i> .
<b>ark</b>	A chest made of acacia wood overlaid with gold that was housed in a special shrine in Solomon's temple in Jerusalem (ca. 1000 BCE), but was lost when that temple was destroyed by the Babylonians in 587 BCE.
<b>Ashkenazim</b>	Diaspora Jews who lived in Germany and France, and their descendants. Many migrated to Eastern Europe, or America. They speak Yiddish, a Germanic language, mixed with Semitic words.
<b>Ba'al Shem Tov</b>	Popular name for Israel ben Eliezer (ca. 1699–1769) who began the Hasidic Jewish spiritual movement in eastern Europe; means "Master of the Name."
<i>ba'alim</i>	Canaanite gods, worship of whom was forbidden by Mosaic Law.
<b>cabbala</b>	Jewish mystical tradition.
<i>conversos</i>	Jews forcefully converted to Roman Catholic Christianity in Spain and Portugal mainly during the 1400s.
<b>David</b>	The first Israelite king (d. 900s BCE), who made Jerusalem into the capital.
<b>diaspora</b>	Dispersion; used with reference to Jews forced into exile after the destruction of the Jerusalem temple in 70 CE, and more broadly to Jews living outside the land of Israel, and other peoples dispersed outside of their native lands.
<i>'El</i>	A word used in the <i>Torah</i> with reference to the Israelite God; general Semitic term for a god.
<b>Elijah</b>	Hebrew prophet (ca. 800s BCE) famous for being taken up to heaven in a chariot of fire, and will return to mark the coming of the Messiah on Judgment Day.
<b>emancipation</b>	The acquisition of equal legal status for Jews in eighteenth century Europe, starting with US and French citizenship after the American and French Revolutions.
<b>Exodus</b>	Exit; name of the <i>Torah</i> scroll that tells of the Israelite escape from bondage in Egypt (ca. thirteenth century BCE or later).
<b>Ezra</b>	Hebrew priest and scribe who led the second wave of Judeans from Babylon for settlement in Jerusalem (ca. 458 BCE).
<i>Gemara'</i>	Two collections of commentary on the <i>Mishnah</i> . When combined with the <i>Mishnah</i> , they form the <i>Palestinian Talmud</i> , and the <i>Babylonian Talmud</i> .
<b>halachah</b>	Legal material from the <i>Talmud</i> , <i>Midrash</i> , and later rabbinical writings; the sum total of religious law that defines the Jewish way of life.

<b>Ha-Shem</b>	Name for the Lord used in the <i>Tanakh</i> .
<b>Hebrew</b>	Members of early Jewish tradition; Semitic language in which Jewish scriptures are written.
<b>Hellenistic</b>	Name of the era describing three centuries from the time of Alexander the Great to the end of the Roman Republic (336–331 BCE) covering lands influenced by Alexander's conquest. Describes a mixture of Hellenic (Greek) and West Asian (e.g., Persian) traditions.
<b>hermeneutics</b>	The discipline of interpretation, often of scripture.
<b>Hillel and Shammai</b>	Two members of the Sanhedrin Supreme Court who headed two opposing "schools" around the time Jesus was growing up.
<b>Isaiah</b>	(700s BCE) Hebrew prophet who preached against social inequalities in the southern kingdom of Judah following the fall of Israel in the north, and predicted a peaceful time on earth when the lion and lamb would dwell together.
<b>Israel</b>	Name collectively used for Jews as a people; name of modern nation-state established in May 1948; name of the northern kingdom taken from the Hebrews by Assyrians in 722 BCE.
<b>Israelites</b>	People of Jewish tradition named after an alternative name for the patriarch Jacob.
<b>Jacob and Esau</b>	The twin sons of Isaac; grandsons of the biblical patriarch Abraham.
<b>Jeremiah</b>	(b. 600s BCE) One of the last Hebrew prophets; warned about the imminent destruction of the Jerusalem Temple.
<b>Jew</b>	Term for Judean people based on the name of the southern kingdom of Judah, whose capital Jerusalem was destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 BCE.
<b>judges</b>	Group of Israelite leaders (ca. 1250–1020 BCE) who carried out the laws of Moses after the Hebrews entered Canaan; their legal function was eventually assumed by the Sanhedrin Supreme Court.
<b>Luria, Isaac</b>	(1534–1572) Jewish mystic who taught that people should work toward <i>tikkun</i> , the mystical repair of the world achieved by gathering sparks of light that were scattered at the time of creation.
<b>Maimonides, Moses</b>	(1134–1204) Medieval scholar who identified thirteen principles that he presumed were common to Jewish thought, and wrote 14 volumes to classify Jewish law.
<b><i>malakhey elohim</i></b>	Messengers of God; Hebrew term for angels.
<b>manna</b>	A sweet, flaky food that the Israelites believed was provided by the Lord to sustain them in the desert after leaving Egypt.
<b>Mendelssohn, Moses</b>	(1729–1796) European Enlightenment leader who was among the first to embrace the "emancipation" of Jews;

	translated the <i>Tanakh</i> into German using Hebrew characters.
<b>Messiah</b>	An anointed one from the line of David, the ancient Israelite king. Christians accept Jesus as being this "anointed one."
<b>Midrash</b>	A story <i>about</i> a story in the <i>Hebrew Bible</i> . A literary form filling a gap between two words different from a commentary, which elaborates on one word or point.
<b>minyan</b>	Ten adult Jews needed for worship. Women are included in Reform, Reconstructionist, and Conservative, but not Orthodox Jewish sects.
<b>Mishnah</b>	A compilation of Jewish instruction written in Hebrew from oral tradition that forms the early layer of the two <i>Talmuds</i> .
<b>mitzvoth</b>	Commandments. 613 religious duties to be observed by Jews.
<b>Nehemiah</b>	Hebrew reformer (ca. 465–424 BCE) who eliminated the Jews of Samaria from the Jewish community due to their generations of intermarriage with people brought by the Assyrians to the fallen northern kingdom of Israel.
<b>rabbi</b>	Teacher; term for a Jewish scholar, whose function originated from the ancient Pharisees after the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 CE.
<b>revalorization</b>	The attribution of new meaning or value to a religious symbol.
<b>Sabbath</b>	The last day of creation according to the <i>Torah</i> , celebrated weekly by Jews from before sundown Friday to after sundown Saturday; called Shabbat in Hebrew.
<b>Samaritans</b>	Descendants of the ancient Hebrew people of the northern kingdom of Israel who maintain their own <i>Torah</i> (predating Ezra's reform) and religious seat at Mount Gerezim (near Nablus).
<b>Sarah and H̄ajar</b>	Mothers of the biblical patriarch Abraham's two sons, Isaac and Ishmael.
<b>scholasticism</b>	A movement among medieval theologians of the Abrahamic traditions who aimed to resolve apparent contradictions between faith and reason.
<b>Seder</b>	Ritual meal in Judaic tradition taken on the first night or two of Pesach (Passover), following steps prescribed in the <i>Haggadah</i> .
<b>Sephardim</b>	Diaspora Jews who lived in Spain, Portugal, or Islamic Mediterranean lands, and their descendants. Many migrated to North Africa, or the Middle East. They speak Ladino, a language akin to medieval Spanish.
<b>sephiroth</b>	Ten emanations of divine light contemplated by Jewish mystics in the cabbala tradition. They comprise the Tree

	of Life.
<b>Sho'ah</b>	The Holocaust during which an estimated six million Ashkenazi Jews were systematically harassed or put to death under policies of genocide instituted by the German Nazi Third Reich between 1933 and 1945.
<b>Solomon</b>	Israelite king who built the Jerusalem Temple (ca. 1000 BCE) and was famous for his political alliances throughout West Asia.
<b>Spinoza, Baruch</b>	Enlightenment thinker (1632–1677), excommunicated from his Jewish community in Amsterdam, whose writing set the stage for historical-critical biblical criticism in our own day.
<b>Talmud</b>	Commentary on the <i>Tanakh</i> (one from Palestine, one from Babylon) comprised of collections called the <i>Mishnah</i> and the <i>Gemara</i> '.
<b>Tanakh</b>	Name for the <i>Hebrew Bible</i> (Christian Old Testament) made from the first letters of <i>Torah</i> , <i>Nevi'im</i> and <i>Ketuvim</i> .
<b>teḥinnot</b>	Prayers written in Yiddish interspersed with Hebrew scriptural quotes, used by Jewish women to sanctify aspects of their domestic life.
<b>tsaddik</b>	Pious one; a learned, saintly person among Hasidic Jews, usually addressed as "rebbe."
<b>Tzevi, Shabbetai</b>	(1626–1676) Jewish mystic from Smyrna, Turkey who claimed to be the messiah. He converted to Islam and the Donmeh sect continues his lineage in Turkey today.
<b>YHVH</b>	Tetragrammaton of the Lord's name. Jews do not speak this aloud, but substitute the term Adonai (Lord) in its place.

## Chapter 5 Christian tradition

### TERMS (60)

**Antony of the Desert**  
**apocalypse**  
**apostle**  
**Augustine**  
**Benedict of Nursia**  
**Bernard of Clairvaux**  
**Calvin, John**  
**Catholic Counter-Reformation**  
**Charlemagne**  
**Christ**  
**Cluny**  
**Constantine**  
**Council of Nicea (I)**  
**crucifixion**  
**crusades**  
**Day, Dorothy**  
**disciple**  
**epistle**  
**eschatology**  
**Eucharist**  
**Evangelical Christians**  
**evangelist**  
**Francis of Assisi**  
**Giotto de Bondone**  
**gospel**  
**Gutenberg, Johannes**  
**Henry VIII**  
**Hildegard of Bingen**  
**Holy Trinity**  
**icon**

**iconoclastic controversy**  
**Ignatius Loyola**  
**incarnation**  
**indulgences**  
**Justinian**  
**Kierkegaard, Søren**  
**Leo III**  
**liberation theology**  
**Luther, Martin**  
**Manichaeism**  
**millenarianism**  
*Nag Hammadi*  
**New Testament**  
**Old Testament**  
**Paul of Tarsus**  
*Pentateuch*  
**Pentecost**  
**Perpetua**  
**Protestant Reformation**  
*Q*  
**resurrection**  
**sacrament**  
**Simon Peter**  
**Stanton, Elizabeth Cady**  
**synoptic gospels**  
**Thomas Aquinas**  
**transfiguration**  
**transubstantiation**  
**Tutu, Desmond**  
**Wesley, John**

### DEFINITIONS (60)

<b>Antony of the Desert</b>	(d. 356 CE) A hermit from Egypt whose strict penance in the desert was emulated by later Christians.
<b>apocalypse</b>	A revelation that professes to "unveil" or reveal the future; John's "revelation" in the New Testament predicts a cataclysmic struggle between good and evil at Armageddon bringing the end of the world.
<b>apostle</b>	A handful of disciples appointed by Jesus of Nazareth to heal and spread his message, plus other prominent early Christians such as those who witnessed Jesus'

	resurrection, Paul, and early missionaries; from a Greek word meaning "messenger."
<b>Augustine</b>	(354–430 CE) Early Christian theologian born into an Algerian North African community of Roman citizens; theorized about the nature of good and evil and concluded, in contrast to the followers of Mani, that evil was fundamentally the privation of good and not an ontological force in itself.
<b>Benedict of Nursia</b>	(d. ca. 550 CE) An early leader of the Christian monastic movement whose <i>Rule</i> is still used today by Roman Catholic monks and nuns.
<b>Bernard of Clairvaux</b>	(1090–1153) Roman Catholic founder of the Christian Cistercian order at Cîteaux, France who had a reputation for his strict practice of penance; he rallied people to join the second Crusade, although he was a proponent of non-violence.
<b>Calvin, John</b>	(1509–1564) Frenchman who set up a Protestant community in Geneva, Switzerland; he believed in predestination coupled with the notion that God's "elect" could come from any social class.
<b>Catholic Counter-Reformation</b>	Term given to the Roman Catholic movement that began with the Council of Trent (1545–1563), aimed at counteracting heresy and schism among western Christians.
<b>Charlemagne</b>	The man who was crowned as Holy Roman Emperor on Christmas Day in the year 800 CE by Leo III, the new pope.
<b>Christ</b>	Christian term meaning Messiah; from the early days of Christianity used to qualify the name of Jesus; from a Greek word meaning "anointed one."
<b>Cluny</b>	Name of a medieval monastery (which was the largest, covering 25 acres) that became a center of Christian culture and pilgrimage; monks there followed the <i>Rule of Benedict</i> , and developed a new style of choral music.
<b>Constantine</b>	(d. 337 CE) The first Christian emperor; he had a hierophanic vision of the Christian Cross, decided to fight in the name of Christ, and legalized the practice of Christian tradition via the Edict of Milan in 313 CE.
<b>Council of Nicea (I)</b>	A Christian council held in a town in what is now Turkey in 325 CE that affirmed the Incarnation, composed a famous creed, and condemned Arius as a heretic for denying the divinity of Jesus.
<b>crucifixion</b>	Death by hanging on a cross, used as a form of capital punishment in the Roman Empire. Christians gave great meaning to the death of Jesus on the cross, as atoning for the sins of humankind.

<b>crusades</b>	A movement with both religious and economic roots whose object was to reestablish Christian control of the Holy Land (centered on Jerusalem), which was under Muslim jurisdiction; the first attempt to wrest control of Jerusalem started with a group leaving from France in 1096; thereafter the movement continued for about 250 years.
<b>Day, Dorothy</b>	(1897–1980) American Christian who started a publication called <i>The Catholic Worker</i> and sought to promote the social teachings of Christ to benefit the poor and members of the working class.
<b>disciple</b>	In the Christian scriptures, this term refers to Jesus' closest male followers; generally the term is used for followers of Jesus of Nazareth, past or present, and followers of other spiritual teachers.
<b>epistle</b>	Letter; twenty-one letters written in Greek attributed to Jesus' apostles to Christian communities threatened by loss of faith, and organizational difficulties; the earliest New Testament writings.
<b>eschatology</b>	Term used in Christian theology to mean the "last things" or the final condition of humanity and the cosmos; from a Greek word meaning "last."
<b>Eucharist</b>	The central ritual of Christian worship, based on the last meal shared by Jesus with his disciples prior to the crucifixion. Also known as Holy Communion, or the Lord's Supper; from a Greek word meaning "thanksgiving."
<b>Evangelical Christians</b>	Protestant Christians whose spirituality centers on experience of personal conversion and salvation through Jesus Christ, with an emphasis on millenarian expectations.
<b>evangelist</b>	Authors of the four New Testament gospels; more generally, Christians who dedicate themselves to preaching the word of God.
<b>Francis of Assisi</b>	(1181 or 1182–1226) Christian saint known for his ability to communicate with birds and animals, who founded a type of Roman Catholic spiritual community outside of the monastic setting.
<b>Giotto de Bondone</b>	(1267–1337) Italian painter who brought promoted the notion of a holy person among the common people by moving away from biblical themes; he painted the life story of Francis of Assisi, and the story of Jesus' infancy.
<b>gospel</b>	A New Testament narrative of the life of Jesus. Those written under the names Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John are officially part of the Christian scriptures; based on a Greek word meaning "good news."

<b>Gutenberg, Johannes</b>	Inventor of the printing press who published the first Bible in Germany on 30 September 1452.
<b>Henry VIII</b>	(r. 1509–1547) King of England who rejected the pope's authority and effectively started the Anglican Church (Church of England).
<b>Hildegard of Bingen</b>	(1098–1179) Abbess of a community of religious women living under the <i>Rule of Benedict</i> ; she wrote poetry, music, and accounts of her hierophanic experiences.
<b>Holy Trinity</b>	Christian mystery of three divine persons in one God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
<b>icon</b>	Image; a two-dimensional visual representation of a saintly figure that introduces the viewer to that figure in the imaginal realm; widely used in Orthodox Christianity.
<b>iconoclastic controversy</b>	Arguments over whether or not icons should be used. The debate first occupied the Christian world (especially Byzantium) for over a century starting in 730 CE.
<b>Ignatius Loyola</b>	(1491–1556) Founder of the Roman Catholic Jesuit order during the Catholic Counter-Reformation.
<b>incarnation</b>	A physical body through which an immaterial body of another being comes into this world; most Christians use this term with reference to Jesus because he is considered to be God born into the flesh; based on a Latin word meaning "made flesh."
<b>indulgences</b>	Certificates representing acts of penance sold through the Roman Catholic Church; Martin Luther criticized these for representing transactions with God, and diverting funds to Rome.
<b>Justinian</b>	(482 or 483–565 CE) Byzantine emperor whose unfulfilled ambition was to extend Christianity into Northern and Central Europe, and reassert Roman control over the western portion of the old Roman Empire.
<b>Kierkegaard, Søren</b>	(1813–1855) A Christian existentialist philosopher who examined the paradox of the biblical patriarch Abraham's faith.
<b>Leo III</b>	The Byzantine emperor who ordered the destruction of Christian images in an edict of 730 CE, in the midst of the iconoclastic controversy; he argued that the use of sacred art was a major obstacle to the conversion of Jews and Muslims to Christianity.
<b>liberation theology</b>	A branch of Christian theology that promotes the social values of peace, justice, and equality. It emerged in Latin America in the 1960s, and spread worldwide.
<b>Luther, Martin</b>	(1483–1546) Founder of a Christian Protestant sect; after being excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church, he developed a theology founded on the idea that the institution of the priesthood as a channel of God's grace

	was not valid.
<b>Manichaeism</b>	Religious tradition based on the teachings of the Mani (d. 216 CE), the prophet from Persia who offered a universal religion colored by Zoroastrian teachings about the cosmic battle between positive and negative forces.
<b>millenarianism</b>	Christian belief based on Revelation 20 of the New Testament that predicts a time when Christ will return to reign over a new world (for 1000 years).
<b><i>Nag Hammadi</i></b>	A set of texts discovered in 1945 near a river in Upper Egypt that date back to the early centuries of the Common Era; included are non-canonical gnostic gospels attributed to Jesus' brother Judas Thomas, Mary Magdalene, and other disciples of Jesus.
<b><i>New Testament</i></b>	The portion of Christian scripture that complements the <i>Hebrew Bible</i> . It contains 21 epistles, 4 gospels, a history of the early church, and a prophecy about the end of the world.
<b><i>Old Testament</i></b>	The portion of Christian scripture that was adopted from Judaic tradition; basically equivalent to the <i>Tanakh</i> .
<b>Paul of Tarsus</b>	Christian apostle of Jesus who was martyred ca. 64 CE; he wrote numerous letters, which stand as the earliest materials in the New Testament.
<b><i>Pentateuch</i></b>	Greek term for the first five books of the <i>Hebrew Bible</i> or <i>Torah</i> .
<b>Pentecost</b>	Christian holiday 50 days after Easter that commemorates the experience of glossolalia by a group of Christians in which they began speaking in tongues.
<b>Perpetua</b>	(d. 203 CE) An early Christian martyr who, soon after giving birth, was sent to the Roman amphitheater to be mauled by beasts as punishment for refusing to sacrifice to the Roman gods.
<b>Protestant Reformation</b>	Term given to the reform of Christianity among western (non-Byzantine) Christians, among whose proponents were John Wycliffe (1326–1384), Jan Hus (1372–1415), Martin Luther (1483–1546), Huldrych Zwingli (1484–1531), John Calvin (1509–1564), and John Wesley (1703–1791).
<b><i>Q</i></b>	Name given by German biblical scholars to a hypothetical source (German <i>quelle</i> ) document from which synoptic gospel authors drew material.
<b>resurrection</b>	Rising up after death; in Christianity the term for Jesus rising up on the third day after dying on the cross and being placed in a tomb; Easter celebrates this event.
<b>sacrament</b>	A Christian ritual that mediates divine grace (normally from the Holy Spirit), and typically recalls a hierophany.
<b>Simon Peter</b>	Christian apostle of Jesus who was martyred ca. 64 CE; he

	was the first "pope," and the lineage of Christian bishops for both the Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches derive from him.
<b>Stanton, Elizabeth Cady</b>	(1815–1902) Social activist who fought for the right for women to vote in the US, interpreted events in the Christian scriptures from a feminist perspective, and edited the <i>Woman's Bible</i> .
<b>synoptic gospels</b>	Term for the Christian New Testament accounts of the life of Jesus attributed to men named Matthew, Mark, and Luke because they contain much common material.
<b>Thomas Aquinas</b>	(1225–1274) Scholastic philosopher who wrote the <i>Summa theologia</i> , a compendium of Christian knowledge that used Aristotle's categories to treat theological problems.
<b>transfiguration</b>	Hierophanic event reported in the Christian Gospel of Luke where Jesus took disciples Peter, James, and John to Mount Tabor for prayer, and appeared with a face shining like the sun with clothes of white light.
<b>transubstantiation</b>	Actual transformation of the inner essence of the bread and the wine of the Eucharist into the body and blood of Jesus Christ; belief officially held by Roman Catholics since the Council of Trent (1545–1563), but rejected by other Christians.
<b>Tutu, Desmond</b>	(b. 1931) Activist theologian who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984 for his work in helping end apartheid in South Africa; became the first black Anglican Archbishop in South Africa.
<b>Wesley, John</b>	(1703–1791) Christian reformer who wrote <i>Rules</i> for the Methodist faith, and recast core documents of the Anglican Church; he did not break with the Anglican Church, but his followers started the Methodist denomination.

## Chapter 5 Islamic tradition

### TERMS (60)

ʿAbbāsids  
 ʿĀʾisha bint Abī Bakr  
 Allāh  
 Arab  
 ʿAṭṭār, Farīd al-Dīn  
*barzakh*  
 al-Bukhārī  
 Burāq  
 companions  
 Day of ʿĀshūrāʾ  
 dhikr  
*dhimmī*  
 Fātima  
 Five Pillars of Islam  
 ḥadīth  
 ḥajj  
 ḥanīf  
 Ḥasan and Ḥusayn  
 ḥijāb  
 Hijra  
 Ibn al-ʿArabī  
 Ibn Rushd (Averroës)  
 Ibn Sīnā (Avicenna)  
 iḥrām  
 imām  
 Injīl  
 Iqbāl, Muḥammad  
 jihād  
 jinn  
 Kaʾbah

*kalām*  
 Khadījah  
 Khidr  
 Khumayni, Ruḥallāh  
 al-Kindī  
*kufr*  
 Mahdī  
 Malcolm X  
 muezzin  
 Mullā Ṣadrā  
 Muslim  
 pbuh  
 Qurʾān  
 Rābī a  
 Rightly Guided Ones  
 Salafism  
 Shahādah  
 sharīʿa  
 Shīʿah  
 shirk  
 Ṣūfī  
 al-Suhrawardī  
*Sunnah*  
 Sunnī  
 sūrah  
*tawḥīd*  
 Twelvers  
*ulamā*  
 Umayyads  
 Wahhābi

### DEFINITIONS (60)

ʿAbbāsids	Islamic caliphate that ruled from Baghdad, Iraq from 750–1258, claiming descent from one of Prophet Muḥammad's uncles.
ʿĀʾisha bint Abī Bakr	Wife of Prophet Muḥammad who contributed significantly to the body of ḥadīth tradition.
Allāh	Primary name for God in Islam.
Arab	A person from or descended from a nomadic Bedouin tribe of Arabia; a person whose language is a dialect based on Arabic; a person who uses Arabic as a ritual language,

	i.e., Muslims.
<b>ʿAṭṭār, Farīd al-Dīn</b>	(1145?–1220) Persian Sūfī poet who wrote the allegorical <i>Conference of the Birds</i> , which identifies seven valleys through which a mystic seeker of God travels.
<b><i>barzakh</i></b>	A hidden "barrier" between two things; describes the imaginal realm in Islamic cosmology where angels abide.
<b>al-Bukhārī</b>	(810–870) Muslim compiler of an authoritative collection of ḥadīths.
<b>Burāq</b>	Name for the creature who, according to Islamic sacred lore, transported Prophet Muḥammad on the Night Journey from Mecca to Jerusalem and back.
<b>companions</b>	Early Muslims who saw or heard Muḥammad speak at least once.
<b>Day of ʿĀshūrāʾ</b>	Name of the holy day on the tenth of Muḥarram (the first month of the Islamic lunar calendar) during which the Shīʿa recall al-Ḥusayn's martyrdom.
<b>dhikr</b>	Arabic term for "remembrance," used with reference to the Muslim contemplative practice of reciting the ninety-nine beautiful names of Allāh.
<b><i>dhimmī</i></b>	Protected people; people of the book (typically Jews, Christians, and Zoroastrians) who may practice their faith in a Muslim country, under certain restrictions.
<b>Fāṭima</b>	Prophet Muḥammad's daughter who married ʿAlī, and gave birth to Ḥasan and Ḥusayn.
<b>Five Pillars of Islam</b>	Five key rituals performed by Muslims: proclaiming the creed, prayer, social welfare tax, fasting, and pilgrimage.
<b>ḥadīth</b>	Narrative; traditional report that relates Prophet Muḥammad's words, deeds, or silent approval under various circumstances.
<b>ḥajj</b>	Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca, Minā, ʿArafāt, and Muzdalifah.
<b>ḥanīf</b>	A monotheist who traced back to Ishmael and his mother Ḥājar; Prophet Muḥammad was considered as such.
<b>Ḥasan and Ḥusayn</b>	Sons of ʿAlī and Fāṭima; Prophet Muḥammad's grandsons, revered by Shīʿas as the rightful second and third caliphs after ʿAlī (who, in fact, served as the fourth caliph).
<b>ḥijāb</b>	Cover; traditional clothing of Muslim women following the custom of women in Prophet Muḥammad's family; known as purdah in South Asia.
<b>Hijra</b>	Migration; Muḥammad's migration from Mecca to Yathrib (Madīna) on Friday, July 16, 622 CE marks the formation of the Muslim community, and the start of the Islamic calendar as year 1 AH ( <i>Anno Hegirae</i> ).
<b>Ibn al-ʿArabī</b>	Spanish-born Muslim philosopher (1165–1240) who spoke of the "unity of existence," and the creative imagination that sees things in the <i>barzakhī</i> realm as

	though in a mirror.
<b>Ibn Rushd</b>	(1126–1198), Spanish-born Arab Islamic philosopher known to the West as Averroës, who translated many of Aristotle's works into Latin from Arabic and Hebrew.
<b>Ibn Sīnā</b>	(980–1037) Persian Islamic philosopher known to the West as Avicenna; perhaps the first scholastic philosopher; wrote Neoplatonic allegories that impacted Sūfī thought.
<b>iḥrām</b>	A state of ritual purity adopted by Muslim pilgrims before entering Mecca and circling the Ka'ba.
<b>imām</b>	Honorific title for a Muslim who leads the daily prayers; refers to divinely sanctioned spiritual-political leaders in Shī'ī Islam.
<b>Injīl</b>	Term in the Qur'ān for the Gospel of the Christians.
<b>Iqbāl, Muḥammad</b>	(1876–1938) Pakistan's national poet who wrote the groundbreaking work, <i>Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam</i> to reconcile traditional Islamic and Western-educated thinkers.
<b>jihād</b>	Struggle; the inner (personal) and outer (political) effort to overcome threats to the practice of Islam.
<b>jinn</b>	In Islamic tradition, the term for spirits created by Allāh from smokeless fire.
<b>Ka'ba</b>	Cube-shaped shrine in Mecca, Saudi Arabia that is the focal point of Muslim pilgrimage and daily prayer.
<b>kalām</b>	Islamic dialectical theology, sometimes contrasted with Islamic philosophy.
<b>Khadijah</b>	Prophet Muḥammad's wife; first convert to Islam.
<b>Khidr</b>	Imaginal figure in the Qur'ān who appeared as a spiritual guide to Moses.
<b>Khumayni, Ruḥallāh</b>	(1902–1989) Iranian leader who took power amidst the revolt against the monarchic secular ruler Muḥammad Reza Pahlavi; became Supreme Ruler of Iran in 1979, adopting the title Imām.
<b>al-Kindī</b>	Arab tutor (803–873) to the Abbāsīd caliph's son in Baghdad; researched medicine, mathematics, geography, astronomy, physics, and music; developed a vocabulary for Arab philosophy, and studied Indian mathematics.
<b>kufr</b>	Disbelief or denial of God; a major offense in Islam because it shows ungratefulness to Allāh.
<b>Mahdī</b>	Holy figure descended from Prophet Muḥammad who will appear at the end of times, and open the way for the second coming of Jesus.
<b>Malcolm X</b>	(1925–1965) American-born convert from Christianity to Islam, who as a prominent Muslim leader in the US urged African-Americans focus on their human rights and take their case to the United Nations.

<b>muezzin</b>	One who calls people to Islamic prayer.
<b>Mullā Ṣadrā</b>	(1571–1640) Persian Islamic philosopher who claimed that the imaginal world has an objective reality with properties of form but no ordinary material existence.
<b>Muslim</b>	One who “surrenders” (to Allāh's will); a person of the Islamic faith.
<b>pbuh</b>	Letters standing for “peace be upon him,” written by Muslims after the name of a prophet; in Arabic this becomes <i>alaihi as-salam</i> abbreviated “as.”
<b>Qur'ān</b>	Recital; name of the Muslim holy scripture.
<b>Rābī'ah</b>	(d. 801 CE) Muslim saint born in Basra, Iraq whose life spanned the Umayyad-Abbāsīd transformation of Islam; probably the first woman Ṣūfī.
<b>Rightly Guided Ones</b>	The first four Muslim caliphs, who ruled in close succession after the death of Prophet Muḥammad: Abū Bakr, 'Umar, 'Uthmān, and 'Alī.
<b>Salafism</b>	General term for the Islamic fundamentalist movement that includes Muslims who strive to return to the disciplined ways of their predecessors in the early days of Islam.
<b>Shahādah</b>	Muslim creed that says, “There is no God but God; Muḥammad is his Prophet.”
<b>sharī'a</b>	Body of sacred law in Islam.
<b>Shī'a</b>	Branch of Islam concentrated in Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Bahrain, parts of Afghanistan, and Pakistan that includes about one-fifth of Muslims worldwide.
<b>shirk</b>	Arabic term used in Islam, for polytheism or associating someone or something with God's power.
<b>Ṣūfī</b>	Muslim mystic.
<b>Suhrawardī, al-</b>	(ca. 1154–1191) Persian Islamic philosopher impacted by Zoroastrian tradition, who developed a theory of mystic colors, and started the “illuminationist” school that discussed the presence of an imaginal realm ( <i>'alam al-khāyal</i> ).
<b>Sunna</b>	The body of Muslim tradition about Prophet Muḥammad including legal perspectives, orders, matters of worship, sayings, habits, and so on; the Arabic term means tradition or path.
<b>Sunnī</b>	Branch of Islam whose members (amounting to around four-fifths of Muslims) refer to themselves as people of the tradition and community.
<b>sūrah</b>	Chapter of the Qur'ān (amounting to 114 all together).
<b>tawḥīd</b>	Arabic for belief in the unity of God.
<b>Twelvers</b>	Term for the majority of Shī'ī Muslims; they believe in a lineage of twelve imāms, and expect al-Mahdī, the Twelfth Imām, to appear in the world again after his

	"occultation" (i.e., mysterious disappearance or hiding) in the ninth century CE; this sect of Islam was made the official religion of Iran in 1500 under Ṣafavid rule.
<i>ūlamā</i>	Scholars involved in research on any of the Islamic sciences based in the Qur'ān, <i>Sunna</i> , and sharī'a, such as jurisprudence or theology.
<b>Umayyads</b>	The first Islamic leaders after the Rightly Guided Ones; their dynasty ruled from 661–750 from Damascus, Syria.
<b>Wahhābi</b>	Name of a conservative Islamic movement begun in the 1700s to clear un-Islamic elements from Muslim life in Arabia; today identified with Islamic fundamentalism.

## Chapter 7 Bahá'í tradition

### TERMS (20)

<p>‘Abdu’l-Bahá  ‘Akká (Acre)  Bábís  Bahá’u’lláh  <i>Bayán</i>  Covenant  four valleys  Gate  Glory of God  Greatest Name</p>	<p><b>Hands of the Cause of God</b>  <i>Kitab-i-Aqdas</i>  Louis G. Gregory  <b>Manifestation</b>  <b>Nineteen Day Feast</b>  <b>progressive revelation</b>  <b>Ruhiyyih Khánum</b>  <b>Shoghi Effendi</b>  <b>Táhirih</b>  <b>Universal House of Justice</b></p>
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### DEFINITIONS (20)

‘Abdu’l-Bahá	(1844–1921) Son and successor of Bahá’u’lláh; he is not considered as a Manifestation of God, though his writings are considered as infallible.
‘Akká (Acre)	Palestinian prison city where, in turn, Bahá’u’lláh and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá were held.
Bábís	Followers of the Báb; the Bahá’í Faith grew from their spiritual community.
Bahá’u’lláh	(1817–1892) Founder of the Bahá’í Faith who declared publicly in 1863 that he was the one expected as "Him Whom God shall make manifest."
<i>Bayán</i>	Utterance, exposition; name given to works in Persian and Arabic composed by the Báb; here he spoke of one to come who would be "Him Whom God shall make manifest."
Covenant	Bahá’í term for God's assurance of continuing guidance to humanity based on divine guidance that came through Bahá’u’lláh.
four valleys	Metaphor used by Bahá’u’lláh to describe the process of coming to see the Unseen according to these Arabic words that describe aspects of God: (1) Intended One ( <i>maqṣūd</i> ); (2) Praiseworthy One ( <i>maḥmūd</i> ); (3) Attracting One ( <i>majdhūb</i> ); and (4) Beloved ( <i>maḥbūb</i> ).
Gate	Báb; religious name for the founder of the Bábí Faith (from which came the Bahá’í Faith).
Glory of God	Translation of the name of the Bahá’í founder, Bahá’u’lláh.
Greatest Name	Term in the Bahá’í Faith for the Name of God, which is "Bahá" (Glory, Splendor, Light).
Hands of the Cause of God	People appointed by Bahá’u’lláh, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá and

	Shoghi Effendi to protect and propagate the Bahá'í message.
<b><i>Kitab-i-Aqdas</i></b>	The <i>Most Holy Book</i> authored by Bahá'u'lláh; a book of laws that serves as a charter of the new Bahá'í world order.
<b>Louis G. Gregory</b>	(1874–1951) African-American lawyer from South Carolina and son of a freed slave, he worked for social justice and converted to the Bahá'í Faith; posthumously designated as Hand of the Cause of God.
<b>Manifestation</b>	Bahá'í term for one of God's messengers or universal prophets. Each perfectly reflects God's attributes on earth, but is not God. Bahá'ís consider that Bahá'u'lláh is God's messenger for this age.
<b>Nineteen Day Feast</b>	A monthly gathering among all local groups of Bahá'ís, held on or about the first day of each of the 19 months of the Bahá'í calendar.
<b>progressive revelation</b>	Bahá'í belief that God's revelation is never final, and that Manifestations of God revealed God's teachings and laws according to the needs of the times in which they lived.
<b>Ruhiyyih Khánum</b>	(1910–2000) Born as Mary Maxwell, she was married to Shoghi Effendi, and was influential in keeping the community organized and promoting the Bahá'í Faith after he passed away.
<b>Shoghi Effendi</b>	(1897–1957) Successor to, and grandson of, 'Abdu'l-Bahá in the Bahá'í tradition; his writings are considered as authoritative, but he is considered an ordinary human being.
<b>Táhirih</b>	(1817–1852) First female disciple of the Báb; Muslim-born Persian poet who was martyred in Iran as a Bábí; outspoken proponent of women's rights.
<b>Universal House of Justice</b>	The supreme administrative body of the Bahá'í community, ordained by Bahá'u'lláh. Nine members are elected by the membership of the National Spiritual Assemblies.

## Chapter 8 Jain tradition

### TERMS (30)

ahimsā  
anekānta  
aparigraha  
Bhadrabāhu  
brāhmaṇa  
Chitrabhanu, Gurudev Shree  
Digambara  
divya-dhvani  
gaṇadhara  
Jina  
jīva  
karma  
kevala-jñāna  
kevalin  
kṣatriya

Lonkā Shāh  
Mahāvīra  
mantra  
mokṣa  
non-theistic  
Pārśva  
samlekhanā  
saṃsāra  
siddha  
siddhi  
śramaṇa  
Śvetāmbara  
Three Jewels  
tīrtha  
tīrthaṃkara

### DEFINITIONS (30)

ahimsā	Non-violence; the core value of Jain tradition, which involves minimizing harm to oneself or other beings through acts of body, speech, and mind.
anekānta	Not one-sided or non-bias; the ideal perspective in Jain tradition, which involves seeing all sides of an issue or situation.
aparigraha	Non-grasping; a form of non-violence in Jain tradition that entails not clinging to material things or opinions.
Bhadrabāhu	(fl. ca. 350) Digambara Jain who trace the origin of their "sky clad" sect to this man who led a group of Jains to southern India during a time of famine in the north, and returned to find those who stayed had adopted the custom of wearing white clothing.
brāhmaṇa	A member of the priestly class of ancient India, according to Vedic teachings; the caste persists today among Hindus.
Chitrabhanu, Gurudev Shree	(b. 1922) A modern Jain who renounced "renunciation" itself, giving up the life of a monk to do social work and teach in the West.
Digambara	The "sky clad" community of Jains whose monks take a vow of nudity.
divya-dhvani	Divine sound; sound emitted from a Jain who attains to the highest knowledge.
gaṇadhara	Spiritually talented disciples in the Jain tradition; Mahāvīra had eleven of these, and Digambaras say that

	only such a "supporter of the order" can understand the <i>divya-dhvani</i> of a <i>tīrthaṃkara</i> .
<b>Jina</b>	Conqueror, Victor; title given to Jain <i>tīrthaṃkara</i> because they are victorious over the suffering of <i>saṃsāra</i> .
<b>jīva</b>	Life force or soul; term used by Jains to describe any living being with one to five senses, including earth bodies, human beings, godlings, and so forth.
<b>karma</b>	Action; actions of body, speech, and mind that bring effects in line with their causes. Jains, Buddhists, and Hindus have slightly different interpretations on the nature of such action.
<b>kevala-jñāna</b>	Unique knowledge; the highest realization according to Jain teachings, after which a person becomes a <i>siddha</i> upon dying.
<b>kevalin</b>	A person in the Jain tradition who has perfected knowledge, and thus will attain liberation from the cycle of rebirth.
<b>ṛṣatriya</b>	A person of the warrior or ruling class in ancient India according to Vedic teachings; contemporary Hindus still abide by such notions of caste.
<b>Lonkā Shāh</b>	(ca. 1450) Śvetāmbara Jain who led a movement that declared use of idols as heretical, and thus was a precursor to Jains who later formed the <i>Sthānakavāsī</i> sect.
<b>Mahāvīra</b>	(d. 500s BCE) Name meaning "great hero" used for <i>Vardhamāna</i> , the twenty-fourth Jain <i>tīrthaṃkara</i> , who may have been an older contemporary of <i>Gautama Buddha</i> 's.
<b>mantra</b>	A set of sacred words whose vibrations have a purifying effect on the person who recites them; for Jains and Hindus the most inclusive sacred word is <i>AUM</i> .
<b>moṁṣa</b>	Liberation from the cycle of rebirth; Jains, and Hindus aspire to this; Buddhists (and sometimes Jains) call it <i>nirvāṇa</i> .
<b>non-theistic</b>	Term used with reference to religious traditions that do not rely on worship of God or godlings for their spiritual practice, and do not uphold any transcendent being as the focus of their cosmology; this, in theory, does not constitute rejection of the existence of such a being or beings.
<b>Pārśva</b>	(b. 800s BCE) Name of the twenty-third Jain <i>tīrthaṃkara</i> ; considered to be the first known by historical standards to have lived.
<b>saṃlekhānā</b>	Jain ritual of holy death in which consumption of food is gradually curtailed, until nothing is eaten or drunk.
<b>saṃsāra</b>	Wandering around; the cycle of birth and death characterized by suffering; until one attains <i>nirvāṇa</i> (Buddhism), <i>moṁṣa</i> (Hinduism), or <i>kevala</i> (Jainism) one is

	reborn into this cycle.
<b>siddha</b>	The disembodied soul of a Jain who has attained liberation; such a being abides at the apex of the universe.
<b>siddhi</b>	A supernormal power such as clairvoyance and telepathy that comes as a side-product of meditation; discussed in Jain, Buddhist, and Hindu texts.
<i>śramaṇa</i>	A striver; renunciate mendicant of India who seeks liberation from saṃsāra.
<b>Śvetāmbara</b>	The "white-clad" community of Jains, who wear clothes.
<b>Three Jewels</b>	In Jain tradition: Right Thought, Right Faith, Right Conduct, all of which hearken back to the principle of non-violence. In Buddhist tradition: the three objects of Refuge, namely the Buddha, dharma and sangha (also translated as the Triple Gem).
<i>tīrtha</i>	Ford or crossing-place; refers to Jain holy places and the four-fold spiritual community that includes monks, nuns, laymen, and laywomen.
<b>tīrthaṃkara</b>	Human beings that reintroduce the Jain path, and inspire disciples to establish <i>tīrthas</i> . Twenty-four appear in each phase of an endless cosmic cycle.

## Chapter 9 Buddhist tradition

### TERMS (60)

Abodes of Brahmā

Ādi Buddha

*anātman*

aniconic

*anitya*

arhat

Aśoka Maurya

Bashō and Hakuin

bhikṣu and bhikṣuṇī

*bodhicitta*

Bodhidharma and Hui-neng

bodhisattva

buddha-bodies

Chinul

dharma

dhyāna

*duḥkha*

Eisai and Dōgen

Four Noble Truths

four opponent powers

Gautama

Hōnen and Shinran

hwadu

*Jātaka* tales

*jiriki* and *tariki*

kōan

Kūkai and Milarepa

lam-rim

Mahāyāna

maṇḍala

mudra

Nichiren

Nikāya

nirvāṇa

Noble Eightfold Path

Padmasambhava

parinirvāṇa

prajñā

Refuge

*śamatha*

saṃgha

satori

*shikan-taza*

six perfections

skandhas

Sulak Sivaraksa and Tenzin Gyatso

*śūnyatā*

supreme buddha

tantra

Tathāgata

*tathatā*

Theravāda

Three Jewels

three marks of existence

three poisons

*Tripiṭaka*

Tsong-kha-pa

Tuṣita heaven

*vipaśyanā*

zazen

zen

### DEFINITIONS (60)

Abodes of Brahmā	Four levels of meditation (dhyāna) in saṃsāra's realm of pure form according to Buddhist cosmology; each is associated with a boundless social emotion: love, compassion, sympathetic joy, and equanimity; where the god Brahmā dwells.
Ādi Buddha	Mahāyāna Buddhist concept of the ground of awareness personified through this metaphor.
<i>anātman</i>	Non-self; Buddhist notion that there is no inherently

	existing ātman, but rather a stream of consciousness subject to impact from karma.
<b>aniconic</b>	Adjective describing a tradition that does not use figural representations of extraordinary persons, such as prophets, buddhas, and so forth.
<i>anitya</i>	Impermanence; among the three marks of existence to be realized in Buddhist meditation.
<b>arhat</b>	Person who realized non-self and need not take rebirth after passing away; goal of Theravāda Buddhist practice.
<b>Aśoka Maurya</b>	Indian king who reigned around 270–232; he is thought of as a Buddhist king, but he promoted all forms of dharma in India through patronage, giving dharma tours, and writing advice on rocks, pillars, and caves.
<b>Bashō and Hakuin</b>	Two Buddhist Japanese artists from seventeenth century Japan; the first (1644–1694) gave up his life as a samurai and composed haiku poetry; the second (1685–1768) was a poet and inkwash painter who spoke of the Great Doubt that kōan practice generated in the mind.
<b>bhikṣu and bhikṣuṇī</b>	Term for monk and nun in the Buddhist tradition.
<i>bodhicitta</i>	Mind of enlightenment; compassionate mental decision to bring all living beings out of suffering; with this mind the practitioner starts the bodhisattva path.
<b>Bodhidharma and Hui-neng</b>	A pair of Chan Buddhists; the first (fl. 480–520) brought the dhyāna tradition from India to China; the second (638–713) became the sixth Chan patriarch in China.
<b>bodhisattva</b>	A "being of enlightenment;" Nikāya (Theravāda) Buddhists typically use the word this word with reference to Gautama Buddha before he became enlightened, while Mahāyānists use the word with reference to practitioners (at different levels of spiritual development) who seek enlightenment and vow to return to the world endlessly to free sentient beings from suffering.
<b>buddha-bodies</b>	Buddhist concept referring to the forms in which an enlightened being can appear to people. (1) The form body is a flesh and blood person, such as the human Gautama who lived in India. (2) The communion body is the subtle form body that appears in the dreams and contemplative visions of skilled meditators and faithful people. (3) The dharma body is the mind of an enlightened being, seen when someone realizes the deepest point of Buddha's teachings. Theravāda Buddhists do not discuss the communion body.
<b>Chinul</b>	1158–1210) Korean Buddhist reformer who established the monastic center and school of Korean Sōn named Chogye after the mountain on which the sixth patriarch Hui-neng lived in south China.

<b>dharma</b>	Universal law or duty; key concept in Jain, Buddhist and Hindu traditions, used with various emphases in each; Hindus focus on caste duty, while Buddhists and Jains focus on the notion of cosmic law; more generally, Buddha's teachings are called by this term, which is included as one of the Three Jewels.
<b>dhyāna</b>	Meditation; any of eight high states of consciousness within samsāra reached through <i>samatha</i> meditation; basic term used for buddhist meditation school, which includes Chan, Sōn, Thiên, and Zen.
<i>duḥkha</i>	Suffering, dissatisfaction, alienation; Buddha's first Great Fact says this characterizes life before enlightenment.
<b>Eisai and Dōgen</b>	Two Buddhists who founded the Rinzai and Sōtō branches of Zen in Japan around the start of the thirteenth century CE.
<b>Four Noble Truths</b>	Gautama Buddha's key teaching, which speak of suffering, the causes of suffering, the cessation of suffering, and the path to the cessation of suffering.
<b>four opponent powers</b>	Four Buddhist ways to minimize the effects of negative karma: take refuge, confess, apply an antidote, and vow not to repeat the act.
<b>Gautama</b>	Family name of the buddha who lived in the middle Ganges basin of North India around 563–483 BCE (or by an alternative account, who died around 411–400).
<b>Hōnen and Shinran</b>	A pair of Japanese Buddhists; the first (1133–1212) established the Pure Land sect (Jōdo-shū) in Japan; the second (1173–1261) studied with the first, and then established the True Pure Land sect (Jōdo Shinshū).
<b>hwadu</b>	Buddhist meditation in Korean practice that involves a focus on the question or key point of a kōan.
<i>Jātaka tales</i>	"Birth" tales about Gautama Buddha's past lives.
<i>jiriki and tariki</i>	Terms used in Japan to speak of "self power" and "other power;" the first refers to Buddhist practice in which personal discipline and effort plays a major role, as in Zen; the second refers to Pure Land Buddhist practice in which reliance on the compassion of Amida Buddha plays a key role.
<b>kōan</b>	Mental puzzle based on enlightened words and actions of Buddhist masters of the Meditation schools, especially Chan masters who lived during the Tang Dynasty (ca. 600–900) in China.
<b>Kūkai and Milarepa</b>	A pair of tantric Buddhists; the first (774–835) founded the Shingon school from Japan; the second (1040–1135) founded the Kagyu school in Tibet.
<b>lam-rim</b>	Stages of the path; genre of Tibetan Buddhist literature outlining meditations according to topics designed to lead

	to realization of emptiness and generation of compassion.
<b>Mahāyāna</b>	Northern Buddhism; culturally progressive branch of Buddhism found primarily in East and Central Asian countries: Taiwan, Korea, Japan, and Vietnam (which also has the other branch), as well as pre-Communist China and Tibet; holds the bodhisattva ideal.
<b>maṇḍala</b>	Circle; a stylized cosmic diagram used in tantric rituals among Buddhists and Hindus; it may be created as a painting, through hand gestures, or in the imagination.
<b>mudra</b>	Seal or sign; a canonical gesture (mostly formed by the hands) with symbolic meaning used in Hindu, Buddhist and Jain rituals, as well as in the visual arts and choreography.
<b>Nichiren</b>	(1222–1282) Japanese Buddhist reformer who established a sect parallel to the Pure Land and the True Pure Land sects; he focused his teaching on the <i>Lotus Sūtra</i> , and one principle offshoot of his lineage today is Sōka Gakkai.
<b>Nikāya</b>	Term used nowadays by scholars with reference to the Theravāda Buddhist tradition as the only surviving non-Mahāyāna school; term for a collection of early Buddhist texts.
<b>nirvāṇa</b>	Blown out; Buddhist enlightenment whereby rebirth into saṃsāra stops.
<b>Noble Eightfold Path</b>	The eight steps Buddha recommended as the way to attain enlightenment; these constitute the fourth Great Fact (Noble Truths); divided into three categories: wisdom, moral conduct, and mental cultivation.
<b>Padmasambhava</b>	Tibetan Buddhist founder of Nyingma tradition who traveled to Tibet from Swat (present-day Pakistan) in 746 CE.
<b>parinirvāṇa</b>	A buddha's final nirvāṇa, which occurs at the time of death.
<b>prajñā</b>	Wisdom; in Buddhism, realization of <i>śūnyatā</i> or <i>anātman</i> .
<b>Refuge</b>	Standard prayer that orients a Buddhist's mind toward the Three Jewels: buddha, dharma, saṃgha.
<i>śamatha</i>	Quiescence, calmness; a branch of Buddhist meditation leading to the dhyānas, but not to enlightenment.
<b>saṃgha</b>	Buddhist four-fold spiritual community; monks, nuns, laymen, and laywomen; typically refers to monks and nuns.
<b>satori</b>	Zen Buddhist term for enlightenment.
<i>shikan-taza</i>	Just-sitting; represents the highest form of meditation for Zen Buddhists of Dōgen's Sōtō school.
<b>six perfections</b>	Buddhist spiritual path of a bodhisattva, involving the practice of: generosity, morality, patience, joyous effort, calm abiding, and wisdom.

<b>skandhas</b>	Five heaps of conditioning making up the person, according to Buddhist theory: forms, feelings, perceptions, mental formations, and minds.
<b>Sulak Sivaraksa and Tenzin Gyatso</b>	A pair of modern Buddhist social activists; the first (b. 1933) spoke of Buddhism with a "small b;" the second (b. 1935) won a Nobel Peace Prize.
<i>śūnyatā</i>	Emptiness; lack of inherent existence; deepest nature of reality as dependently arising according to Buddhist philosophy.
<b>supreme buddha</b>	Technical term used only with reference to buddhas who come into the world to show the path to enlightenment when it has become defunct; examples are Dīpaṅkara, Gautama, and Maitreya (the future buddha).
<b>tantra</b>	Form of yogic practice involving mantras, mudras, and maṇḍalas; Buddhist forms include Vajrayāna in India and Tibet, and Shingon in Japan.
<b>Tathāgata</b>	Thus-gone; title that Gautama Buddha liked to apply to himself.
<i>tathatā</i>	Thusness; reality just so, as-it-is; Buddhist concept telling how things appear when a person is enlightened.
<b>Theravāda</b>	Southern Buddhism; culturally conservative branch of Buddhism found primarily in Sri Lanka, Kampuchea, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam (which has both Theravāda and Mahāyāna); holds the arhat ideal, and emphasizes the historical Buddha.
<b>three marks of existence</b>	Term for three realizations that are central to the Buddhist worldview: non-self, impermanence, and suffering.
<b>three poisons</b>	Three mental afflictions that, according to Buddhist theory, cause suffering and rebirth into saṃsāra: ignorance, greed, hatred.
<i>Tripīṭaka</i>	Three baskets of Buddha's teaching: <i>Vinaya</i> (including the monastic saṃgha training precepts), <i>Sūtras</i> (discourses), and <i>Abhidharma</i> (systematic commentaries).
<b>Tsong-kha-pa</b>	(1357–1419) Founder of the Gelug school of Buddhist tradition in Tibet; promoted the key Buddhist idea that buddha-dharma should be approached by hearing, thinking, and meditating.
<b>Tuṣita heaven</b>	A realm of existence in Buddhist cosmology where Maitreya, the future Buddha, waits to descend to earth; Gautama Buddha's mother was reborn here.
<i>vipāśyanā</i>	Branch of Buddhist meditation leading to insight into the three marks of existence.
<b>zazen</b>	Discipline of sitting meditation, emphasized by Zen Buddhists.
<b>Zen</b>	Name for the "meditation" school in Japan; this Buddhist tradition goes by various names in East Asia that represent

	transliterations of the Sanskrit term <i>dhyāna</i> , including Chan in China, Sŏn in Korea, Thiên in Vietnam, and this one in Japan.
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## Chapter 10 Hindu tradition

### TERMS (60)

Ālvārs and Nāyaṇārs  
Ānandamāyī Mā  
Ārya Samāj  
Āryan  
ātman  
avatāra  
bhakta  
Brahman  
Caitanya Mahāprabhu  
darśana  
deva  
Devī  
gopī  
guṇa  
gurū  
Hanumān  
heterodox  
iṣṭa-devatā  
jīvan-mukta  
Jñāneśvara  
Kṛṣṇa  
kuṇḍalinī  
Kurukṣetra  
mārga  
māyā  
Mīrābāī  
Prabhupāda, A. C. Bhaktivedānta  
Swāmī  
prāṇāyama  
prema  
pūjā

*Purāṇas*  
Rāma  
Rāmānuja and Madhva  
*rasa*  
Roy, Rām Mohan  
ṛṣi  
Ṛta  
Śaiva  
Śākta  
Śakti  
samādhi  
Sāṃkhya  
*saṃnyāsī*  
saṃskāra  
Śāṅkara  
sati  
Śiva  
śruti  
Tilak, B. G. and Gāndhī, M. K.  
Trimūrti  
Tulsidās  
*upanāyana*  
*Upaniṣads*  
Vaiṣṇava  
Vallabha  
*varṇa-āśrama-dharma*  
*Vedas*  
Viṭṭhala  
Vṛndāvana  
yoga

### DEFINITIONS (60)

Ālvārs and Nāyaṇārs	(ca. 600s–900s) Names of two groups of Śaiva Tamils; there are twelve famous poets in the first group, and sixty-three in the second.
Ānandamāyī Mā	(1896–1981) Modern Hindu saint from a family of Kṛṣṇa devotees who was self-initiated; she performed healing miracles and established an āśram in Haridwar.
Ārya Samāj	Hindu social movement founded in 1875 by Svāmī Dayānanda Sarasvatī, who argue that the <i>Vedas</i> are

	monotheistic, and contain scientific truths that can be applied in modern research.
<b>Āryan</b>	Name of the Indo-European people whose beliefs and traditions underlie both the Hindu and Zoroastrian traditions; this is a cultural (not a racial) designation.
<b>ātman</b>	The true self, the soul; used in Hindu and Sikh traditions to describe the eternal energy within a person whose correspondence to the pervasive divine energy (Brahman or God) can be realized.
<b>avatāra</b>	One descended from on high; one of ten incarnations of the Hindu deity Viṣṇu.
<b>bhakta</b>	Devotee; a Hindu on the path of devotion.
<b>Brahman</b>	The ultimate principle of Hindu tradition, thought of as the living essence of the universe.
<b>Caitanya Mahāprabhu</b>	(1485–1533) Hindu saint from Bengal; founded the Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇava sect whose members worship Kṛṣṇa, particularly in his form as flute-playing cowherder.
<b>darśana</b>	View, perspective; name given to any of six schools of Hindu sacred science; in Hindu devotional theism "taking" this refers to seeing and being seen by a holy person or deity.
<b>deva</b>	Shining one; general term for a god of the ancient Vedic religion, used later in Hindu tradition.
<b>Devī</b>	Name of a Hindu goddess; (non-capitalized) a general term for the goddess in Hindu tradition.
<b>gopī</b>	Milkmaid; Hindu devotee of Kṛṣṇa from the Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇava tradition; Rādhā is the foremost of these devotees.
<b>guṇa</b>	One of three dynamic qualities of the material world, according to the Hindu Sāṃkhya darśana: light ( <i>sattva</i> ), movement ( <i>rajas</i> ) and inertia ( <i>tamas</i> ).
<b>gurū</b>	A teacher; literally means "heavy" in Sanskrit; used in India's religions; when capitalized it refers in Sikh tradition to Nānak, his nine successors, and the Sikh holy scripture.
<b>Hanumān</b>	Monkey character in the Hindu <i>Rāmāyaṇa</i> ; he stands as an exemplar of great devotion and service to God due to his love of Rāma, which was so great that the deity's name became inscribed on his heart.
<b>heterodox</b>	Not adhering to the orthodox or authoritative views of a tradition; examples are Jains and Buddhists who did not adhere to the Vedic traditions of their culture.
<b>iṣṭa-devatā</b>	The "chosen deity" of a Hindu who focuses worship on one among many gods and goddesses; worship can include village, family, and personal chosen deities.
<b>jīvan-mukta</b>	One who is liberated while living; the goal of many

	Hindus is to become one of these.
<b>Jñāneśvara</b>	(1275–1296?) Devotee of both Śiva and Kṛṣṇa; wrote a commentary on the <i>Bhagavadgītā</i> in the Marathi language that combined the spirituality of bhakti as well as haṭha yoga.
<b>Kṛṣṇa</b>	Name of an immensely popular Hindu deity who appears as the warrior Arjuna's charioteer in the <i>Bhagavadgītā</i> ; one of Viṣṇu's ten avatāras.
<b>kuṇḍalinī</b>	A form of the Hindu goddess imagined as a snake thrice-coiled at the base of the spine to be awakened in meditation by Śākta yogīs.
<b>Kuruṣetra</b>	Field in North India upon which the action of the <i>Bhagavadgītā</i> takes place; where the Mahābhārata war was fought.
<b>mārga</b>	Sanskrit word meaning path; Hindu tradition is often thought of as including paths of works, knowledge, and devotion.
<b>māyā</b>	Illusion; term used in Hindu tradition, especially in the Advaita Vedānta school.
<b>Mīrābāī</b>	(Sixteenth century?) A Hindu devotee of Kṛṣṇa; she was among the first women Hindu saints on the bhakti-mārga, and her life exemplifies challenges faced by women.
<b>Prabhupāda, A. C. Bhaktivedānta Swāmī</b>	(1896–1977) Hindu founder of ISKCON, the International Society for Krishna Consciousness; this Bengali was initiated into the spiritual lineage that runs through the teachers Madhva and Caitanya.
<b>prāṇāyama</b>	Term for the science of breath; it is listed fourth among the eight limbs of yoga, and is discussed after an account of the <i>āsanas</i> in Patañjali's <i>Yoga Sūtras</i> .
<b>prema</b>	A spontaneous and unalloyed love of Lord Kṛṣṇa; the highest spiritual emotion of a Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇava devotee.
<b>pūjā</b>	Homage; ritual in Indian religions in which offerings are made to holy beings who are treated as honored guests.
<b>Purāṇas</b>	Ancient stories; a genre of Hindu bhakti literature that relates stories of deities in various forms, such as Kṛṣṇa, Śiva, and Śakti.
<b>Rāma</b>	An avatāra of Viṣṇu whose story is told in the Hindu <i>Rāmāyaṇa</i> epic; he was an obedient prince who became king, and is beloved for his exemplary conduct.
<b>Rāmānuja and Madhva</b>	(1056–1157) and (1238?–1317?) Two Vaiṣṇava thinkers who developed alternative views within the sacred science of Vedānta; the first proposed a Qualified Non-Dualist Vedānta, while the second developed a Dual (Dvaita) Vedānta perspective.
<b>rasa</b>	The "taste" conveyed through performance (e.g., dance) in both Hindu aesthetic and devotional traditions; the highest

	taste is love for God.
<b>Roy, Rām Mohan</b>	(1772–1833) A Bengali brāhmaṇa who took up leadership of the Brāhmo Samāj in 1828, and thus worked for women's rights, supported western education, and argued that Hindu tradition was monotheistic.
<b>ṛṣi</b>	Seer; authors of the Vedic hymns; term used more broadly with reference to some holy people in the Hindu tradition.
<b>Ṛta</b>	A force emulated in the <i>Ṛgveda</i> that is associated with universal law, the seasons, and cosmic order.
<b>Śaiva</b>	Hindu devotee of Śiva.
<b>Śākta</b>	Hindu devotee of Śakti, the goddess.
<b>Śakti</b>	Energy; name for the feminine cosmic spiritual power; she takes on many forms, such as Sītā, Rādhā, Kālī, and Durgā; she is associated closely with the kuṇḍalinī energy experienced by yogīs.
<b>samādhi</b>	Name for the eighth limb of yoga discussed in Patañjali's <i>Yoga Sūtras</i> ; it represents the highest state of contemplation in which even "desire" for union with the divine drops away.
<b>Sāṃkhya</b>	One of the six Hindu sacred sciences; it teaches that the world is divided into Prakṛti (matter) and Puruṣa (spirit); the sacred science of Yoga uses this teaching as its cosmological base.
<b>saṃnyāsī</b>	Renunciate; Hindu in the fourth and final āśrama according to the ancient Vedic system of life stages; also called śramaṇa and śramaṇi (striver), or sādhu and sādhvī (accomplished ones).
<b>saṃskāra</b>	One of sixteen rites of the Hindu life cycle.
<b>Śaṅkara</b>	(ca. 800 CE) Hindu saint who played a key role in defining Advaita Vedānta thought, which defines reality as <i>Tat Tvam Asi</i> (That Art Thou), based on insights gleaned from the <i>Upaniṣads</i> .
<b>sati</b>	Ancient custom (now outlawed) in India of a woman burning herself on her husband's funeral pyre.
<b>Śiva</b>	Member of the Hindu Trimūrti called the cosmic destroyer; he is associated with the liṅgam, and sometimes appears as Ardhanārīśvara who is half-male, and half-female; he is the patron of yogīs, and the father of Gaṇeśa.
<b>śruti</b>	Sanskrit term meaning heard; used with reference to the body of most sacred texts of the Vedic (early Hindu) tradition.
<b>Tilak, B. G. and Gāndhī, M. K.</b>	(1856–1920) and (1869–1948) Two Hindu freedom fighters of the modern era who debated the effectiveness of non-violence in social action.
<b>Trimūrti</b>	Hindu divinity portrayed as three-in-one: Brahmā the creator, Viṣṇu the sustainer, and Śiva the destroyer of the

	world.
<b>Tulsīdās</b>	(1532–1623) Vaiṣṇava author of a bhakti <i>Rāmāyaṇa</i> , written in Hindi; this lengthy poem uses the metaphor of a holy lake in which devotees become immersed in the ultimate reality of Rāma and Sītā.
<i>upanāyana</i>	Hindu boys of the upper three <i>varṇas</i> are called "twice born" because around twelve years of age they go through this ritual of receiving a sacred thread.
<i>Upaniṣads</i>	Name of a group of Vedic texts that form the basis of Vedānta studies; their main subject is the relationship between ātman and Brahman.
<b>Vaiṣṇava</b>	Hindu devotee of Viṣṇu, most often of his incarnations as Kṛṣṇa or Rāma.
<b>Vallabha</b>	(1475–1531) Founder of a Vaiṣṇava spiritual community called the Way of Nourishment ( <i>Pushtī Marg</i> ); his disciples developed the art of cooking to feed the idols during pūjā, and thus sparked a theological debate as to whether a deity inhabits an image.
<i>varṇa-āśrama-dharma</i>	Duty according to the caste, life stage, and gender of a person in Hindu society.
<i>Vedas</i>	Term for the corpus of Hindu foundational scriptures, including four collections ( <i>Samhitās</i> ); the ancient religion of India (pre-Hindu) is named with reference to this group of texts.
<b>Viṭṭhala</b>	A divine manifestation with characteristics of both Śiva and Kṛṣṇa; worshipped by Sants from Mahārāṣṭra; devotees trace their lineage through Jñāneśvara back to Gorākhnāth.
<b>Vṛndāvana</b>	Sacred place in North India where the Hindu deity Kṛṣṇa is said to carry out his pastimes; devotees of Kṛṣṇa are said to experience this place on different levels of subtlety.
<b>yoga</b>	Spiritual practice common in India that refers not only to physical postures but also to practice on the path of knowledge (jñāna-mārga), path of devotion (bhakti-mārga), and path of action (karma-mārga).

## Chapter 11 Sikh tradition

### TERMS (30)

**Akal Takhat**  
**Amar Dās**  
*anahat śabad*  
**Añgad**  
**Arjan Dev**  
*Dasam Granth*  
**Five Ks**  
**Gobind Siñgh**  
*gurbāñi*  
 gurdwārā  
 Gurmukhī  
*Gurū Granth Sāhib*  
 Har Krishan  
 Har Rāi  
 Hargobind

**Harimandir**  
*hukam*  
**Japjī**  
*jot*  
**Khālsā**  
 kīrtan  
*lañgar*  
*nād*  
*Nām simaran*  
**Nānak**  
**Rām Dās**  
**Sat Nām**  
*sevā*  
**Tegh Bahādur**  
**Wāhegurū**

### DEFINITIONS (30)

<b>Akal Takhat</b>	Throne of the Timeless; seat of Sikh <i>panth's</i> legal, political, and military authority, which is located in Amritsar near the Harimandir.
<b>Amar Dās</b>	(1479–1574) The third Sikh Gurū; instituted the <i>lañgar</i> ; defended religious freedom.
<i>anahat śabad</i>	The unstruck sound apprehended within the heart; Sikhs say that this unmanifest sound beyond speech corresponds to the Nām, which is the manifest name of God.
<b>Añgad</b>	(1504–1552) The second Sikh Gurū; taught the Gurmukhī script; educated a new generation of Sikhs.
<b>Arjan Dev</b>	(1563–1606) The fifth Sikh Gurū; compiled the <i>Ādi Granth</i> ; started building the Harimandir; martyred (seated on hot plate, covered with hot sand) under Jahāngīr.
<i>Dasam Granth</i>	A Sikh holy book attributed to Gobind Siñgh, the Tenth Gurū (although scholars debate the authorship of some parts).
<b>Five Ks</b>	Articles worn by members of the Sikh Khālsā: <i>keś</i> (uncut hair), <i>kanghā</i> (comb), <i>kaccha</i> (men's undergarment), <i>kaṛā</i> (steel bracelet), <i>kirpān</i> (sword, dagger).
<b>Gobind Siñgh</b>	(1666–1708) The tenth Sikh Gurū; founded the Khālsā; was a scholar and writer.
<i>gurbāñi</i>	Recitation of prayers from the Sikh holy scripture, whose effect is conveyed through meaning conjoined with sound vibration.

<b>gurdwārā</b>	General name for a Sikh temple.
<b>Gurmukhī</b>	Script in which the Sikh holy scripture is written, meaning Gurū's mouth.
<b><i>Gurū Granth Sāhib</i></b>	Name of the Sikh holy scripture; also known as the <i>Ādi Granth</i> (Primal Book).
<b>Har Krishan</b>	(1656–1664) The eighth Sikh Gurū; became Gurū at age 5; healed people of smallpox, then caught the disease and died.
<b>Har Rāi</b>	(1630–1661) The seventh Sikh Gurū; maintained a Sikh army, but lived mostly in seclusion.
<b>Hargobind</b>	(1595–1644) The sixth Sikh Gurū; built the Akal Takhat; wore <i>mīrī</i> and <i>pīrī</i> (two swords).
<b>Harimandir</b>	Temple of God; the main Sikh temple, located in Amritsar, India; also called the Golden Temple.
<b><i>hukam</i></b>	Divine Order; reading from the <i>Ādi Granth</i> chosen at random, which applies to one's situation in life that day or at that time.
<b>Japjī</b>	The Sikh "morning prayer" by Gurū Nānak; first prayer in the <i>Gurū Granth Sāhib</i> .
<b><i>jot</i></b>	Divine light embodied by the ten human Sikh Gurūs, and the holy scripture.
<b>Khālsā</b>	Order of Sikhs who wear the Five Ks instituted by Gurū Gobind Siṅgh on March 30, 1699.
<b>kīrtan</b>	Sikh communal singing with music based on scriptural verses.
<b><i>laṅgar</i></b>	Sikh free community meal where all devotees eat together without divisive ritual taboos.
<b><i>nād</i></b>	Seed syllables in Sikh holy scripture, with particular vibrational qualities and meanings.
<b><i>Nām simaran</i></b>	Remembrance of God's True Name; preferred form of individual worship in Sikhism.
<b>Nānak</b>	(1469–1539) The first Sikh Gurū; introduced the practice of <i>Nām simaran</i> ; traveled widely.
<b>Rām Dās</b>	(1534–1581) The fourth Sikh Gurū; founded the city of Amritsar, and excavated the tank there.
<b>Sat Nām</b>	True Name; Sikh name for God.
<b><i>sevā</i></b>	Service for the sake of others; key value in Sikhism.
<b>Tegh Bahādur</b>	(1621–1675) The ninth Sikh Gurū; defended the Hindu and Sikh religious from persecution; martyred (beheaded) under Aurangzeb.
<b>Wāhegurū</b>	Sikh term used to express God's ineffable nature – that which is beyond description.

## Chapter 12 Chinese traditions

### TERMS (40)

**Dao**  
*Dao De Jing*  
**De**  
*Five Classics*  
*Four Books*  
**Fu Xi, Shen Nong, and Huang-di**  
**Ge Hong**  
**Guo Xiang**  
**Han**  
**hexagram**  
*jun-zi*  
**Kong-fu-zi**  
*li*  
**Mao Ze-dong**  
**Mencius**  
**Mo-zi**  
**Pan-gu**  
**Qin**  
**rectification of names**  
*ren*

**Shang**  
**Song**  
*Tai-ji*  
**Tai-ji quan**  
**Taiwan**  
**Tang**  
**Tian**  
**Wang Bi**  
**Wang Yang-ming**  
**Way of Great Peace**  
**Way of the Five Pecks of Rice**  
*wu-wei*  
*xiao*  
**Xun-zi**  
**Yao, Shun, and Yu**  
**yin and yang**  
**Zhou**  
**Zhu Xi**  
*Zhuang-zi*  
**Zhuang-zi**

### DEFINITIONS (40)

<b><i>Dao De Jing</i></b>	Chinese Daoist classic attributed to Lao-zi, also known as the <i>Lao-zi</i> .
<b>Dao</b>	Way, road, path; term used in Chinese traditions for the way of the universe.
<b>De</b>	Power or virtue; term used in Chinese traditions for the moral force that brings social and cosmic influence.
<b><i>Five Classics</i></b>	Five ancient texts that became foundational texts in the Confucian tradition: <i>Book of Odes</i> , <i>Book of Rites</i> , <i>Book of History</i> , <i>Spring and Autumn Annals</i> and <i>Book of Changes</i> .
<b><i>Four Books</i></b>	Four texts that became the basis for the Chinese Confucian civil service examination from 1313 to 1905: <i>Analects</i> , <i>Book of Mencius</i> , <i>Great Learning</i> and <i>Doctrine of the Mean</i> .
<b>Fu Xi, Shen Nong, and Huang-di</b>	Ancient Chinese culture heroes, traditionally said to date from the third millennium BCE.
<b>Ge Hong</b>	(284–364 CE) A proponent of the Dark Learning school whose thought was encountered by elite Confucian émigrés fleeing southward after the break-up of the Han dynasty; A Chinese alchemist who believed that

	immortality was an option for a person of any social class, provided that the proper methods were practiced.
<b>Guo Xiang</b>	(d. 312) Chinese thinker who contemplated the paradoxical nature of wu-wei, and wrote a commentary on the <i>Zhuang-zi</i> ; he taught that to "act without acting" a person must preserve their <i>qi</i> , and act in harmony with nature.
<b>Han</b>	Chinese dynasty lasting around four-hundred years (206 BCE–220 CE); in the middle of this time Buddhist ideas from India came into China over the Silk Routes.
<b>hexagram</b>	A figure made of six lines (whole or divided) stacked on one another. The Chinese <i>Book of Changes</i> is based on sixty-four of these.
<i>jun-zi</i>	Princely person, gentleman; word for prince in ancient China; Confucius used it to mean someone of sound moral character.
<b>Kong-fu-zi</b>	(551–479) Founder of the Confucian tradition; revalorized the meaning of some ancient Chinese concepts (such as <i>jun-zi</i> , <i>li</i> ), and emphasized the importance of education and development of one's character.
<b>Lao-zi</b>	Founder of the Daoist tradition; he may be a legendary figure, but Daoists traditionally say he lived in the sixth century BCE; the <i>Dao De Jing</i> is attributed to him.
<i>li</i>	(1) Ancient Chinese rituals as prescribed in the <i>Book of Rites</i> ; Confucius added the sense of propriety; (2) Derived from a different Chinese character it means principle; in the neo-Confucian School of Principle it is the principle (archetype, law) that governs the form of all material things.
<b>Mao Ze-dong</b>	(1893–1976) Modern leader of the Chinese Cultural Revolution who sought to rid China of its four "olds," namely: ideas, culture, customs, and habits from his Chinese heritage; he created a political philosophy in reaction to colonialism, but with an appeal to Marxism-Leninism.
<b>Mencius</b>	(372?–289?) The first great thinker to elaborate upon Confucius' teachings; he claimed that human nature was fundamentally good, but people needed education to bring out their goodness.
<b>Mo-zi</b>	(468?–376?) Ancient Chinese philosopher who promoted the notion of universal love; this negated the Confucian idea of the five social relationships; he was a utilitarian who said that the government should ban all customs that served no purpose in society.
<b>Pan-gu</b>	Ancient Chinese culture hero; a traditional story says that his body turned into the earth's geological formations, as

	his head turned into the four sacred mountains, and so forth.
<b>Qin</b>	Short-lived Chinese dynasty (221–207) during which the philosophy of Legalism took root, predicated on the notion that human nature is fundamentally bad.
<b>rectification of names</b>	Chinese (especially Confucian) principle of living up to one's prescribed social role (e.g., the ruler should live up to the name "ruler"); making the meaning of names (words) clear and consistent.
<b>ren</b>	Benevolence, humaneness; a key Confucian virtue.
<b>Shang</b>	The earliest dynasty of China (ca. 1600–1045 BCE) for which there is archaeological data; it was based in north central China, knew use of writing, harvested wheat and millet, and was ruled by a warrior clan.
<b>Song</b>	Chinese dynasty (960-1279) during which Neo-Confucian tradition developed; during this period Chan and Pure Land Buddhist sects grew up after the severe persecution of 845 CE.
<b>Tai-ji quan</b>	Supreme Ultimate Fist; Chinese martial art based on concepts in the <i>Dao De Jing</i> and <i>Book of Changes</i> .
<b>Tai-ji</b>	Supreme Ultimate; in Chinese thought the reservoir of infinite potentiality that embodies yin and yang.
<b>Taiwan</b>	Country that is the seat of most religious Daoist practice in modern times; the Celestial Masters sect flourishes there today.
<b>Tang</b>	Chinese dynasty (618–906 CE) during which a creative interplay between Confucian, Daoist, and Buddhist traditions occurred; the era ended with anti-Buddhist sentiment, and a nationalistic attitude among certain Confucian thinkers.
<b>Tian</b>	Chinese term for Heaven introduced by ancient Chinese Zhou rulers in the second millennium BCE.
<b>Wang Bi</b>	(226-249) Chinese thinker in the Dark Learning movement who wrote a commentary on the <i>Dao De Jing</i> , <i>Book of Changes</i> , and <i>Analects</i> ; he identified four levels of meaning in the <i>Book of Changes</i> , namely words, images, meaning, and precepts.
<b>Wang Yang-ming</b>	(1472–1529) Chinese philosopher, often considered the fourth great Confucian thinker, who developed the School of Mind as an alternative to the School of Principle; he concluded that to know the world one must look within the mind rather than at external objects.
<b>Way of Great Peace</b>	An early Daoist group founded by three "healer" brothers who rallied peasants to join a guerrilla band known as the Yellow Turbans; members of this <i>taiping dao</i> expected an era of Great Peace following their attempts to bring down

	the Han ruler in 184 CE; remnants of the group were absorbed into the Celestial Masters sect.
<b>Way of the Five Pecks of Rice</b>	The first organized Daoist church in Chinese history; called the <i>wudoumi dao</i> because of the annual fee people paid for the benefits of healing that came to members of the group; the founder Zhang Daoling had a vision of Lao-zi, and became the first Celestial Master.
<b>wu-wei</b>	Actionless action; in Chinese thought (especially Daoist) the paradox of doing nothing, and leaving nothing undone.
<b>xiao</b>	Filial piety; reverence in ancient China for spirits, one's ancestors and one's deceased parents.
<b>Xun-zi</b>	(330?–227?) Chinese thinker born after the great second Confucian and Daoist thinkers were elderly; he wrote <i>The Art of War</i> , and taught that human nature was fundamentally bad, and that people should be given little freedom of choice.
<b>Yao, Shun, and Yu</b>	Ancient Chinese Sage Kings, traditionally said to date from the third millennium BCE; the first stood as a model ruler due to his virtuous character and lifestyle.
<b>yin and yang</b>	In Chinese thought, the complementary principles that manifest in all things in the universe, such as female, dark, receptive and male, light, creative.
<b>Zhou</b>	The ancient Chinese dynasty from the Wei River area; they claimed that Heaven (Tian) had given them a mandate to rule.
<b>Zhu Xi</b>	(1130–1200) Chinese philosopher, often considered the third great Confucian thinker, who worked to purify the Confucian tradition of Daoist and Buddhist elements; he is credited with bringing the School of Principle to its highest point, and influencing the course of neo-Confucian thought in Korea and Japan.
<b>Zhuang-zi</b>	(360?–280?) Daoist thinker who lived at the same time as Mencius; his collection of essays incorporates humor and an incisive critique of society; he taught that rulers should not meddle, and that a true <i>jun-zi</i> could anticipate the ill-effects of his meddlesome actions.
<b>Zhuang-zi</b>	Chinese Daoist classic attributed to Zhuang-zi.

## Chapter 13 Shintō tradition

### TERMS (40)

**Ainu**  
**Akihito**  
**Amaterasu**  
**Bushidō**  
*butsudan*  
 geisha  
*goshintai*  
 haiku  
**Heian**  
**Hirohito**  
**Jimmu Tennō**  
**Kamakura**  
 kami  
**Kami Way**  
 kamidana  
**Kirishitan**  
*Kojiki*  
*kokugaku*  
*kokutai*  
*makoto*

**Motoori Norinaga**  
**Murasaki Shikibu**  
**Nakayama Miki**  
**Nara**  
**New Religions**  
*Nihongi (Nihon-Shoki)*  
**Pimiku**  
*sabi*  
**samurai**  
*shimenawa*  
**Shintō**  
**Shōtoku Taishi**  
**Tale of Genji**  
**Tenrikyō**  
**Tokugawa**  
 torii  
*tsumi*  
*uji-gami*  
*wabi*  
*yamabushi*

### DEFINITIONS (40)

<b>Ainu</b>	Early Caucasian-like people living in Japan with a distinctive culture, including bear sacrifice.
<b>Akihito</b>	(b. 1933) Name of the current Japanese emperor, who is today a figurehead with no overt political power.
<b>Amaterasu</b>	The kami of the sun, from whom all Japanese emperors are said to be descended, according to Shintō belief.
<b>Bushidō</b>	Way of the warrior-knight; code of conduct for samurai that appeared earlier, but was formalized around 1600 in the Tokugawa era.
<i>butsudan</i>	A household Buddhist altar in Japan.
<b>geisha</b>	A professional group of women entertainers in Japan, who are trained from childhood in singing, dancing and the art of conversation; they are inspired by the mythic kami named Ame no Uzume no Mikoto.
<i>goshintai</i>	A sacred object used in a Shintō shrine to represent or embody a kami presence.
<b>haiku</b>	A seventeen-syllable poem in three lines of 5-7-5 format that developed in Japan.

<b>Heian</b>	Japanese city established in 794 CE that forms the old part of today's Kyōto; it became the center of an aristocratic court, about which Murasaki Shikibu wrote ca. 1000 CE.
<b>Hirohito</b>	(1901–1989) Japanese emperor who was forced to publicly declare his humanity on January 1, 1946, after Japan was defeated in the Second World War.
<b>Jimmu Tennō</b>	The first human Japanese emperor, whose traditional date given in Shintō is 660 BCE.
<b>Kamakura</b>	(1192–1333) Japanese era of history known for its samurai; during this time Shintō shrines ( <i>jinja</i> ) and Buddhist temples ( <i>tera</i> ) were built in the same religious complexes.
<b>kami</b>	Mysterious creative life energies that form the focus of Shintō worship; literally means high, above, lifted up.
<b>Kami Way</b>	(Japanese: <i>kami no michi</i> ) Another name for Shintō.
<b>kamidana</b>	Shintō home altar for use in kami worship; literally, kami shelf.
<b>Kirishitan</b>	A Japanese Christian.
<b>Kojiki</b>	<i>Record of Ancient Matters</i> ; earliest surviving Shintō book (completed in 712 CE).
<b>kokugaku</b>	Nativism or national learning; a literary-philological cultural movement from the Tokugawa era (1603–1867) dedicated to understanding and restoring the <i>kokutai</i> (national essence) of Japan.
<b>kokutai</b>	National essence or national polity; ideology promoted during the Meiji era (1868–1912) in Japan to justify the establishment of State Shintō.
<b>makoto</b>	The life-attitude of sincerity that is the core value of Shintō tradition.
<b>Motoori Norinaga</b>	(1730–1801) Major proponent of the <i>kokugaku</i> movement in Japan; he wrote in the ancient Japanese style to imbue himself with <i>mono no aware</i> , and wrote a long commentary on the <i>Kojiki</i> .
<b>Murasaki Shikibu</b>	(b. 978?) Author of the <i>Tale of Genji</i> , which was arguably the world's first novel.
<b>Nakayama Miki</b>	(1798–1887) Woman who was visited by (channeled) a kami, and subsequently founded the Japanese New Religion called the Tenrikyō sect.
<b>Nara</b>	Early capital city of Japan (established in 710 CE) modeled after the Chinese Tang capital; Buddhist monasteries grew up so fast around here that the ruler decided to relocate to escape their political influence.
<b>New Religions</b>	The "newly arisen religions" that developed in Japan starting in the late Tokugawa era, including Tenrikyō and Sōka Gakkai; Japanese: Shinkō Shūkyō.
<b>Nihongi (Nihon-Shoki)</b>	<i>History of Japan</i> ; second oldest Shintō book (completed

	in 720 CE).
<b>Pimiku</b>	(201?–269?) Queen of Japan from the Bronze-Iron period; she was a miko.
<i>sabi</i>	Principle in Japanese art indicating an objective simplicity, rustic character, or poverty.
<b>samurai</b>	Men who serve; members of the military class in medieval Japan.
<i>shimenawa.</i>	Enclosing rope; ceremonial rope braided with rice straw displayed in Shintō sacred places.
<b>Shintō</b>	Japan's indigenous religion; Shintō is the Chinese pronunciation of the Japanese term <i>kami no michi</i> , Kami Way; it is comprised of the Chinese characters for <i>shen</i> (spirit) and <i>dao</i> (way).
<b>Shōtoku Taishi</b>	(574–622) Crown prince of Japan who wrote a seventeen point "constitution;" played a key role bringing Buddhist tradition and the Tang-era fine arts to Japan.
<b>Tale of Genji</b>	First novel in world literature; written by Murasaki Shikibu around 1000 CE about life in the Heian court.
<b>Tenrikyō</b>	Religion of Divine Wisdom; a Japanese New Religion founded by Nakayama Miki (1798–1887) after being possessed by a kami.
<b>Tokugawa</b>	(1603–1867) Era of Japan's history during which the rulers adopted a strict isolationist policy, and refused virtually all the country's economic and cultural dealings with the outside world.
<b>torii</b>	Gateway to a Shintō shrine; also symbols marking places associated with kami; literally, bird-perch.
<i>tsumi</i>	Pollution in Shintō; this is in contrast to <i>harai</i> ; thus a Shintōist removes this by means of <i>harai</i> .
<i>uji-gami</i>	A tutelary clan kami in the Shintō tradition.
<i>wabi</i>	Principle in Japanese art indicating a subjective feeling of loneliness, tearfulness, or nostalgia.
<i>yamabushi</i>	Mountain ascetics who combine elements of Shintō and Buddhist traditions in their practices of healing and exorcism.