**PERIOD 2: ORGANIZATION AND
REORGANIZATION OF HUMAN SOCIETIES c. 600 B.C.E. to c. 600 C.E.**

Key Concept 2.1. The Development and Codification of Religious and Cultural Traditions
As states and empires increased in size, and contacts between regions multiplied, people transformed their religious and cultural systems. Religions and belief systems provided a social bond and an ethical code to live by. These shared beliefs also influenced and reinforced political, economic, and occupational stratification. Religious and political authority often merged as rulers (some of whom were considered divine) used religion, along with military and legal structures, to justify their rule and ensure its continuation. Religions and belief systems also generated conflict, partly because beliefs and practices varied greatly within and among societies.

social bond:

ethical code:

stratification:

divine:

I. Codifications and further developments of existing religious traditions provided a bond among people and an ethical code to live by.

Examples of codification of ethical codes:

A.

B.

C.

A. The association of monotheism with Judaism further developed with the codification of the Hebrew Scriptures, which also reflected the influence of Mesopotamian cultural and legal traditions. The Assyrian, Babylonian, and Roman empires conquered various Jewish states at different points in time. These conquests contributed to the growth of Jewish diasporic communities around the Mediterranean and Middle East.

How and when were the Hebrew scriptures codified?

In what ways were the Hebrew laws influenced by Mesopotamian cultural and legal traditions?

What is a diaspora?

How did the conquests of the the Hebrew people by the following empires create diasporic Jewish communities?

    Assyrian:

    Babylonian:

    Roman:

B. The core beliefs outlined in the Sanskrit scriptures formed the basis of the Vedic religions—later known as Hinduism. These beliefs included the importance of multiple manifestations of Brahma and teachings about reincarnation, and they contributed to the development of the social and political roles of a caste system.

    Describe the basic tenets of the Vedic religions:

    How did Vedic beliefs about reincarnation contribute to the development of the social and political roles of the caste system?

    How can Hinduism be considered monotheistic when it has thousands of gods?

II. New belief systems and cultural traditions emerged and spread, often asserting universal truths.

What are "universal truths"?

A. The core beliefs about desire, suffering, and the search for enlightenment preached by the historic Buddha and collected by his followers in sutras and other scriptures were, in part, a reaction to the Vedic beliefs and rituals dominant in South Asia. Buddhism changed over time as it spread throughout Asia—first through the support of the Mauryan emperor Ashoka, and then through the efforts of missionaries and merchants, and the establishment of educational institutions to promote Buddhism's core teachings.

What are the Four Noble Truths of Buddhism?

Which ideas contained in the Vedic religions did Buddhism reject?

Map the spread of Mahayana and Theravada Buddhism.

Europe, Asia, and Africa

0   1,000   2,000 miles
0 1,000 2,000 kilometers

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List three specific ways in which Ashoka promoted the Buddhist religion.

List the ways in which Mahayana Buddhism differs from Theravada Buddhism.

    1.

    2.

    3.

List five symbols associated with Buddhism.

    1.

    2.

    3.

    4.

    5.

B. Confucianism's core beliefs and writings originated in the writings and lessons of Confucius. They were elaborated by key disciples who sought to promote social harmony by outlining proper rituals and social relationships for all people in China, including rulers.

What are the five relationships the Confucius believed should govern society.

    1.

    2.

    3.

    4.

    5.

The collection of Confucius' teachings is called _____.

In what ways did Confucianism influence Chinese society and culture?

Which Chinese dynasties were most influenced by Confucianism?

C. In major Daoist writings, the core belief of balance between humans and nature assumed that the Chinese political system would be altered indirectly. Daoism also influenced the development of Chinese culture.

Who was the founder of Daoism and what are its basic tenets?

In what ways did Daoism influence Chinese culture?

D. Christianity, based on core beliefs about the teachings and divinity of Jesus of Nazareth as recorded by his disciples, drew on Judaism and Roman and Hellenistic influences. Despite initial Roman imperial hostility, Christianity spread through the efforts of missionaries and merchants through many parts of Afro-Eurasia, and eventually gained Roman imperial support by the time of Emperor Constantine.

Jewish influences on Christianity:

Hellenistic influences on Christianity:

Roman influences on Christianity?

Map the spread of Christianity.

Europe, Asia, and Africa

List four ways in which the Christian religion changed after Constantine made it a legal religion in the Roman Empire.

    1.

    2.

    3.

    4.

E. The core ideas in Greco-Roman philosophy and science emphasized logic, empirical observation, and the nature of political power and hierarchy.

F. Art and architecture reflected the values of religions and belief systems.

Explain how the following works reflect the values of the belief systems of their respective cultures.

Hinduism:

Buddhism:

Daoism:

Christianity:

Greco-Roman:

III. Belief systems generally reinforced existing social structures while also offering new roles and status to some men and women. For example, Confucianism emphasized filial piety, and some Buddhists and Christians practiced a monastic life.

filial piety:

monastic life:

IV. Other religious and cultural traditions, including shamanism, animism, and ancestor veneration, persisted.

Shamanism:

Animism:

Ancestor Veneration:

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Key Concept 2.2. The Development of States and Empires
As the early states and empires grew in number, size, and population, they frequently competed for resources and came into conflict with one another. In quest of land, wealth, and security, some empires expanded dramatically. In doing so, they built powerful military machines and administrative institutions that were capable of organizing human activities over long distances, and they created new groups of military and political elites to manage their affairs. As these empires expanded their boundaries, they also faced the need to develop policies and procedures to govern their relationships with ethnically and culturally diverse populations, sometimes to integrate them within an imperial society and sometimes to exclude them. In some cases, these empires became victims of their own successes. By expanding their boundaries too far, they created political, cultural, and administrative difficulties that they could not manage. They also experienced environmental, social, and economic problems when they overexploited their lands and subjects and permitted excessive wealth to be concentrated in the hands of privileged classes.

Which three empires do you believe to have been the most powerful between 600 CE and 600 BCE? Give two reasons for each being so powerful.

1.

> *a.*

> *b.*
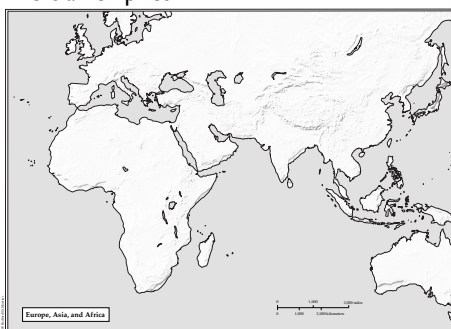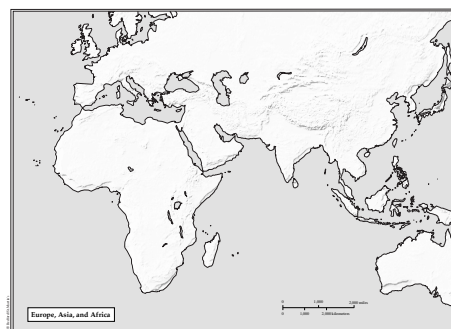
2.

> *a.*

> *b.*

3.

> *a.*

> *b.*

I. The number and size of key states and empires grew dramatically as rulers imposed political unity on areas where previously there had been competing states. Key states and empires include:

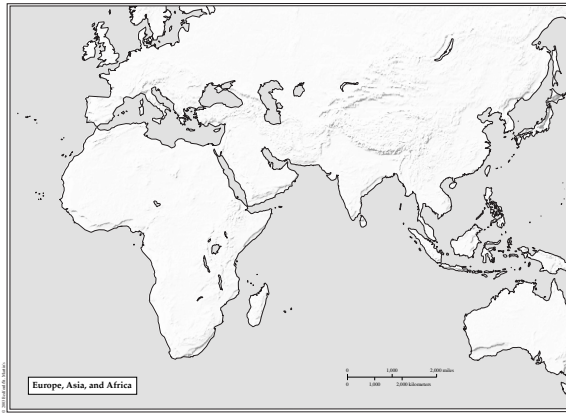Map the following empires

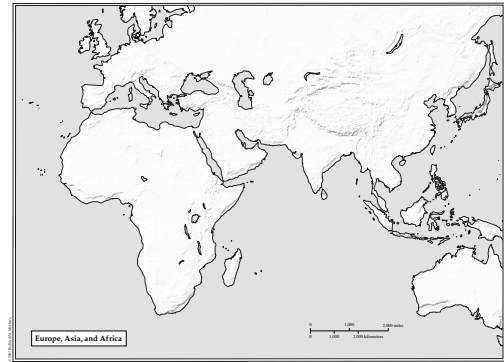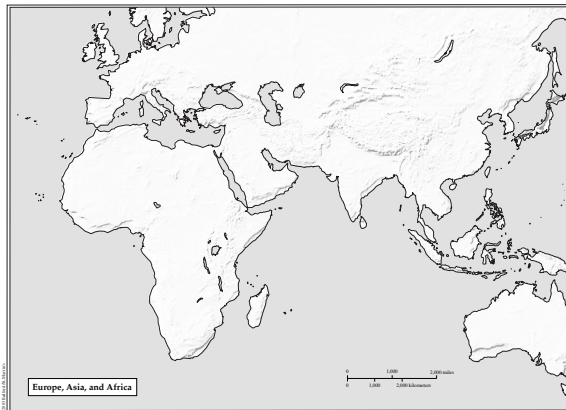~ Persian empires

~ Qin and Han empires

~ Mauryan and Gupta empires

Europe, Asia, and Africa

~ Mediterranean region: Phoenicia and its colonies

Europe, Asia, and Africa

~ Mediterranean region: Greek city-states and colonies

Europe, Asia, and Africa

~ Mediterranean region: Hellenistic empire

Europe, Asia, and Africa

~ Mediterranean region: Roman Empire

Europe, Asia, and Africa

~ Mesoamerica: Teotihuacan & Maya city-states
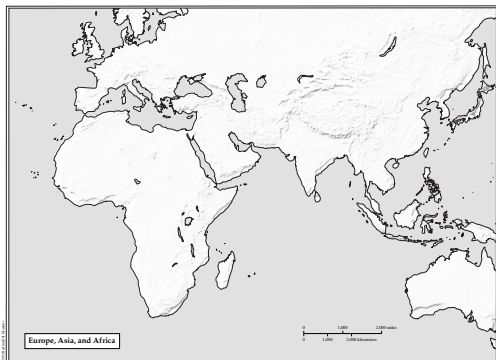
~ North America: Chaco & Cahokia
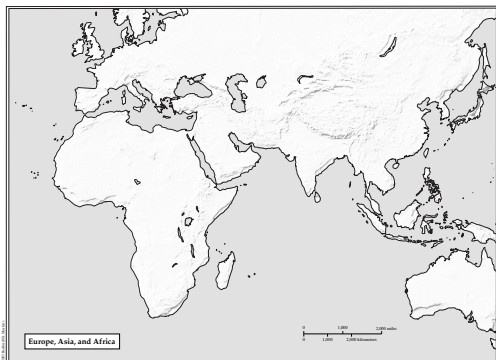
~ Andean South America: Moche

II. Empires and states developed new techniques of imperial administration based, in part, on the success of earlier political forms.

A. In order to organize their subjects, in many regions the rulers created administrative institutions, including centralized governments as well as elaborate legal systems and bureaucracies.

Describe in detail the type of governments, bureaucracies, and legal systems of the following:

Greek city-states:

Persia:

Alexander's Empire:

Roman Empire:

*Qin Dynasty China:*

Han Dynasty China:

Mauryan Empire:

Gupta Empire:

Maya city-states:

Draw colored bars below to indicate the duration of each empire. Use a different color for each empire.

☐ Greek city-states
☐ Persian Empire
☐ Hellenistic Empire
☐ Roman Empire
☐ Qin China
☐ Han China
☐ Mauryan Empire
☐ Gupta Empire
☐ Maya city-states
☐ Teotihuacan
☐ Chaco culture
☐ Cahokia

600 BCE

0

600 CE
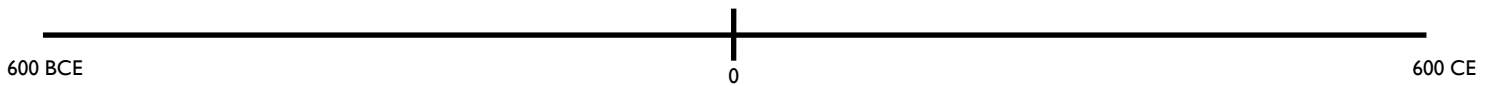
B. Imperial governments promoted trade and projected military power over larger areas using a variety of techniques, including issuing currencies; diplomacy; developing supply lines; building fortifications, defensive walls, and roads; and drawing new groups of military officers and soldiers from the location populations or conquered populations.

Cite specific examples of how empires during this period used currencies to promote trade:

Cite specific examples of ways in which empires during this period used diplomacy to promote trade AND to project military power:

Cite specific examples of fortifications and defensive systems built by empires in this period, explaining how these helped to project military power:

Cite examples of how empires drew soldiers and military officers from local conquered populations into their armies:

III. Unique social and economic dimensions developed in imperial societies in Afro-Eurasia and the Americas.

    A. Imperial cities served as centers of trade, public performance of religious rituals, and political administration for states and empires.

List the major cities within each empire:

        Greek city-states:

        Hellenistic Empire:

        Persian Empire:

        Roman Empire:

        Qin China:

        Han China:

        Mauryan Empire:

        Gupta Empire:

        Maya city-states:

B. The social structures of empires displayed hierarchies that included cultivators, laborers, slaves, artisans, merchants, elites, or caste groups.

Outline the social class structure for each of the following empires (What were the different classes? Who made up each class? What were the roles and responsibilities of each class? Rank the classes within each society from highest to lowest.):

Greek city-states:

Roman Empire:

Han China:

Gupta Empire:

C. Imperial societies relied on a range of methods to maintain the production of food and provide rewards for the loyalty of the elites.

List four innovations in food production between 600 BCE and 600 CE.

1.

2.

3.

4.

List three methods that rulers used to reward elites in society.

1.

2.

3.

D. Patriarchy continued to shape gender and family relations in all imperial societies of this period.

Analyze the status of women in each of the following societies. Be sure to discuss the status of women from different social classes within each society.

Greek city-states:

Roman Empire:

Han China:

Mauryan Empire:

Gupta Empire:

Mayan city-states:

IV. The Roman, Han, Persian, Mauryan, and Gupta empires encountered political, cultural, and administrative difficulties that they could not manage, which eventually led to their decline, collapse, and transformation into successor empires or states.

    A. Through excessive mobilization of resources, imperial governments generated social tensions and created economic difficulties by concentrating too much wealth in the hands of elites.

    Analyze the ways in which drastic social inequality within the societies of two empires led to social tensions.

      1.

      2.

B. Security issues along their frontiers, including the threat of invasions, challenged imperial authority.

Describe at least two external threats to three of the empires discussed in this period.

Empire: _____

   Threat:

   Threat:

Empire: _____

   Threat:

   Threat:

Empire: _____

   Threat:

   Threat:

Analyze several ways in which these threats undermined imperial authority.

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Key Concept 2.3. Emergence of Interregional Networks of Communication and Exchange
With the organization of large-scale empires, the volume of long-distance trade increased dramatically. Much of this trade resulted from the demand for raw materials and luxury goods. Land and water routes linked many regions of the Eastern Hemisphere. The exchange of people, technology, religious and cultural beliefs, food crops, domesticated animals, and disease pathogens developed alongside the trade in goods across extensive networks of communication and exchange. In the Americas and Oceania, localized networks developed.

I. Land and water routes became the basis for interregional trade, communication, and exchange networks in the Eastern Hemisphere.

    A. Many factors, including the climate and location of the routes, the typical trade goods, and the ethnicity of people involved, shaped the distinctive features of a variety of trade routes, including Eurasian Silk Roads, Trans-Saharan caravan routes, Indian Ocean sea lane, and Mediterranean sea lanes.

       Eurasian Silk Roads:

        Influence of climate:

        Typical goods traded:

        Ethnicity/Religion of people involved in trade:

       Trans-Saharan caravan routes:

        Influence of climate:

        Typical goods traded:

        Ethnicity/Religion of people involved in trade:

Indian Ocean sea lanes:

Influence of climate:

Typical goods traded:

Ethnicity/Religion of people involved in trade:

Mediterranean sea lanes:

Influence of climate:

Typical goods traded:

Ethnicity/Religion of people involved in trade:

II. New technologies facilitated long-distance communication and exchange.

 A. New technologies permitted the use of domesticated pack animals to transport goods across longer routes.

 List the technologies that allowed the use of domesticated pack animals to transport goods and describe their use:

B. Innovations in maritime technologies, as well as advanced knowledge of the monsoon winds, stimulated exchanges along maritime routes from East Africa to East Asia.

List the innovations in maritime technology during this era and describe their purpose/use:

On the map below, draw arrows to illustrate the typical directions of the Indian Ocean monsoon winds. Indicate the months in which the winds blow in each direction.

Europe, Asia, and Africa
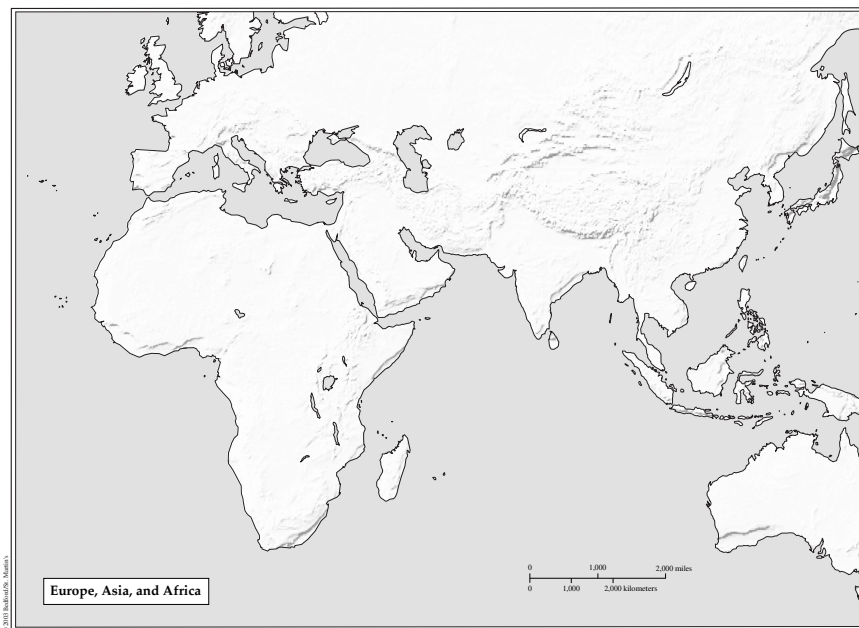
III. Alongside the trade in goods, the exchange of people, technology, religious and cultural beliefs, food crops, domesticated animals, and disease pathogens developed across extensive networks of communication and exchange.

A. The spread of crops, including rice and cotton from South Asia to the Middle East, encouraged changes in farming and irrigation techniques.

How did rice and cotton farming change farming and irrigation techniques in South Asian and the Middle East?

B. The spread of disease pathogens diminished urban populations and contributed to the decline of some empires.

What major diseases led to the decline in urban populations and to the decline of some empires during this period?
   *Site specific examples of how they led to the decline of empires.*

C. Religious and cultural traditions—including Christianity, Hinduism, and Buddhism—were transformed as they spread.

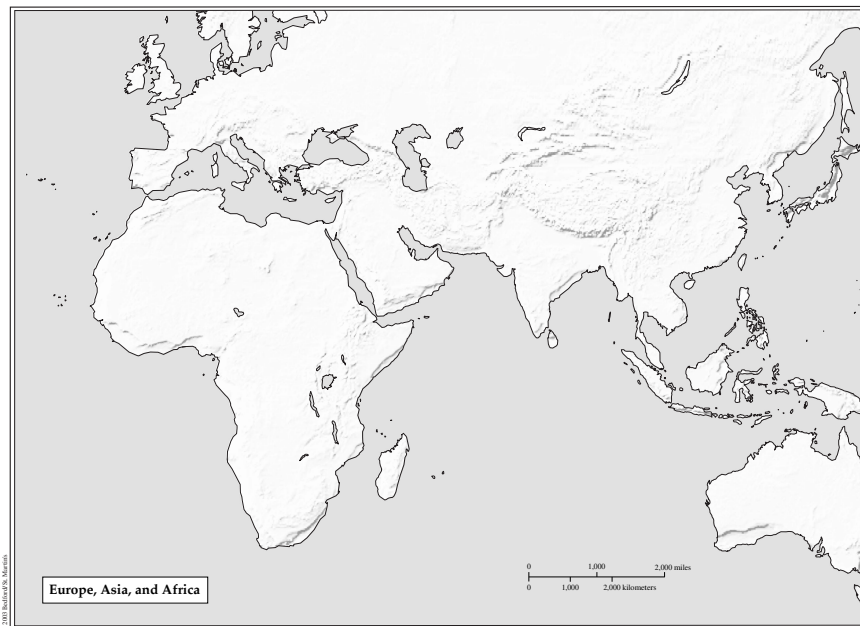*Map the extent of/spread of **Hinduism** during Period 2.*

Europe, Asia, and Africa
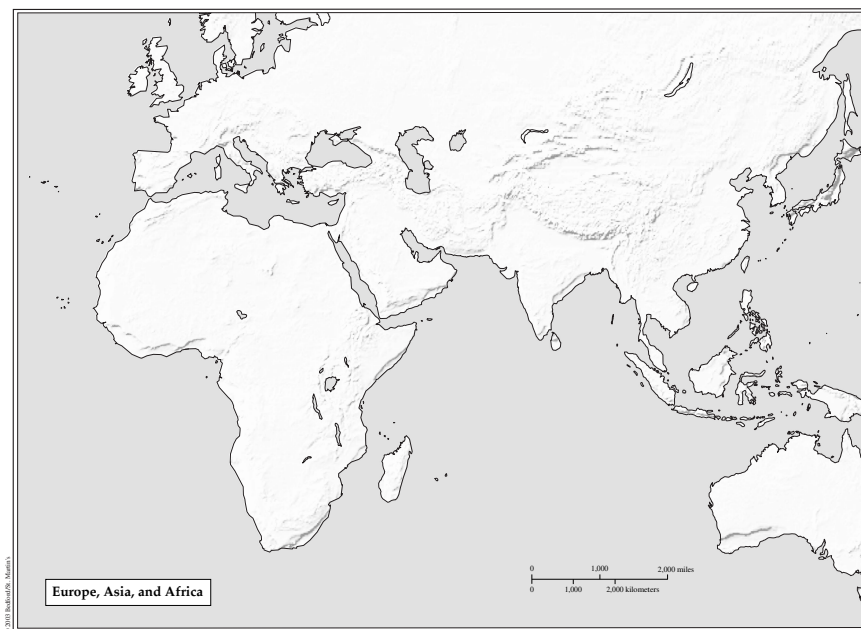
How did Hinduism influence culture in areas where it was the dominant belief system?

*Map the extent of/spread of **Buddhism** during Period 2.*
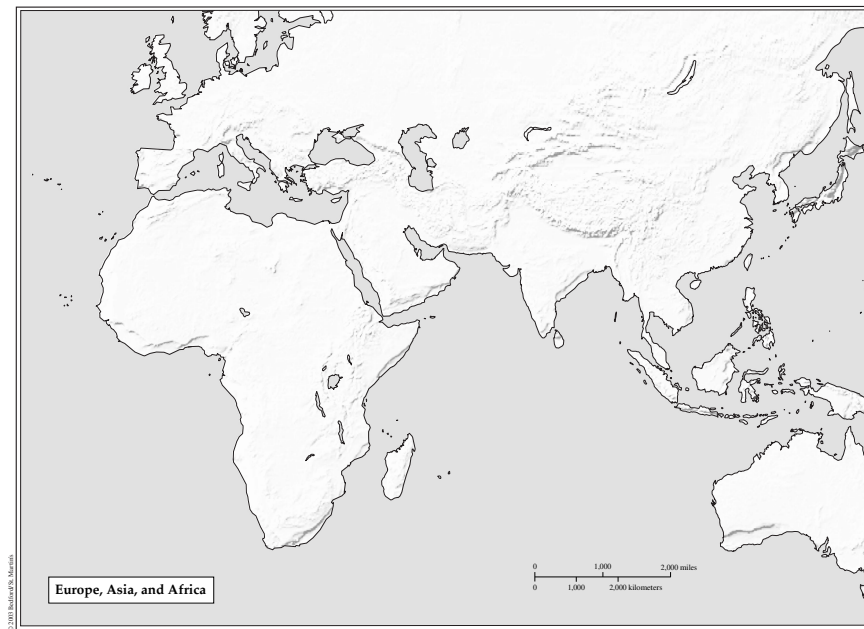
How did Buddhism influence culture in areas where it was the dominant belief system?

Using colored pencils, map the areas in which each form of Buddhism was dominant:

☐ **Theravada (Hinayana) Buddhism**

☐ **Mahayana Buddhism**

Map the extent of/spread of **Christianity** *during Period 2.*

Europe, Asia, and Africa

0   1,000   2,000 miles
0   1,000   2,000 kilometers
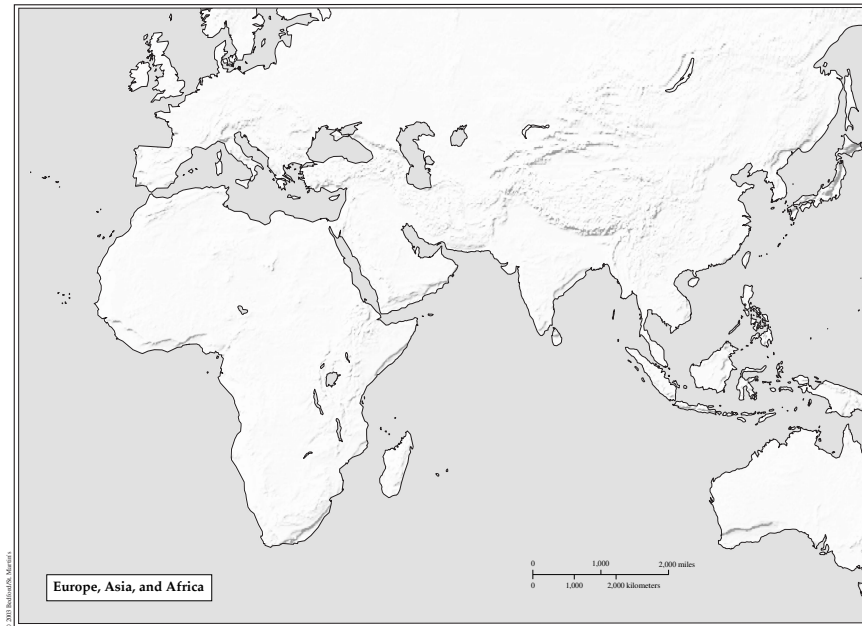
How did Christianity influence culture in areas where it was the dominant belief system?

Draw/List three major symbols for each religion:

Hinduism   **Buddhism**   **Christianity**