**Ch. 6 Religions**

**Key Issue 4 Why Do Territorial Conflicts Arise Among Religious Groups?**

**Rubenstein, p.218-225**

1. Conflicts between religious groups occur around the world, but are especially intense in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**I. CHALLENGES FOR RELIGIONS IN SOUTH AND EAST ASIA**

2. Hinduism has been challenged by ideas from the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, especially through British

colonialism.

3. a. Define **caste system**:

b. Where did this system originate?

c. Identify and define the four castes:

d. Who are the Dalits?

4. How does the caste system impact religious practices?

5. How has the caste system changed in recent years? How has it remained in place?

6. What is the communist attitude towards (any) religion?

\*\*Why do you think this is (2 reasons)?

7. What anti-religious actions did the communists take in Russia/Soviet Union?

\*\*What is the difference between Russia and the Soviet Union?

8. Since the Soviet Union dissolved in the early 1990s, what changes have taken place?

9. a. Conflict between communism and Buddhism remains in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

b. Who is the Dalai Lama, where does he reside, and why there?

c. Outline the political and religious history of Tibet.

**II. CHALLENGES FOR RELIGIONS IN CENTRAL AND SOUTHWEST ASIA**

10. More than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_% of Afghans are Muslim.

11. a. Define **fundamentalism**:

b. Rubenstein states that the Taliban in Afghanistan are an example of a fundamentalist group.

It is important to note that there are fundamentalist groups in other religions (fundamentalist Christians and Jews, for example), not just Islam. Additionally, not all fundamentalist groups are violent. While Rubenstein does not make this distinction, other scholars do: The Taliban may hold fundamentalist beliefs, but their actions go further and reflect **religious extremism**.

c. Outline the history of the Taliban in Afghanistan:

d. In the 1990s, the Taliban implemented very strict law, including:

\*\*What is Sharia Law?

12. Identify each of the following religion’s “claim” (and reason for it) to Palestine\* and Jerusalem.

\*Note: The state of Israel has only existed since 1948; before, this region was called Palestine.

* Judaism –
* Christianity –
* Islam –

13. Outline the history of Palestine starting in the 7th century through World War II.

**III. GEOGRAPHIC PERSPECTIVES IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

14. How did the 1947 UN vote partition Palestine?

15. In 1948, when the British withdrew from Palestine, what did the Jews in Palestine do?

\*\*Who are the Palestinians?

16. READ about the four wars that followed. Summarize the actions and outcome:

\*\*Impact on Palestinians:

17. Palestinians claim what territory as theirs?

18. Complete the chart regarding control of Palestine.

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| --- | --- |
| **Israeli Perspective** | **Palestinian Perspective** |
|  |  |

What do you think would be a good solution to the situation? (Is your solution realistic?)

**IV. JERUSALEM’S CHALLENGING GEOGRAPHY**

19. While Christians, Jews, and Muslims all view Jerusalem as holy, the main conflict arises between

Muslims and Jews because…

20. Explain the importance of Jerusalem to

* Jews –
* Muslims –

21. Take key notes on the West Bank Barrier.