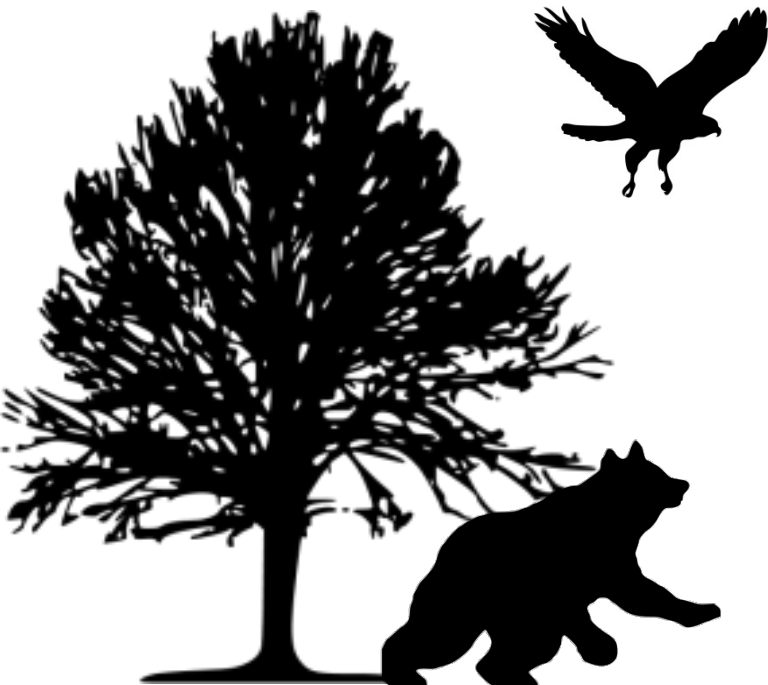


# Religion & Non-Religion

the belief that all things have a  
transcendent spiritual nature

# animism



the belief that all numerous powerful, transcendent  
spiritual beings influence the immanent world

# polytheism



belief in one, all-powerful,  
spiritual being and creator

# monotheism



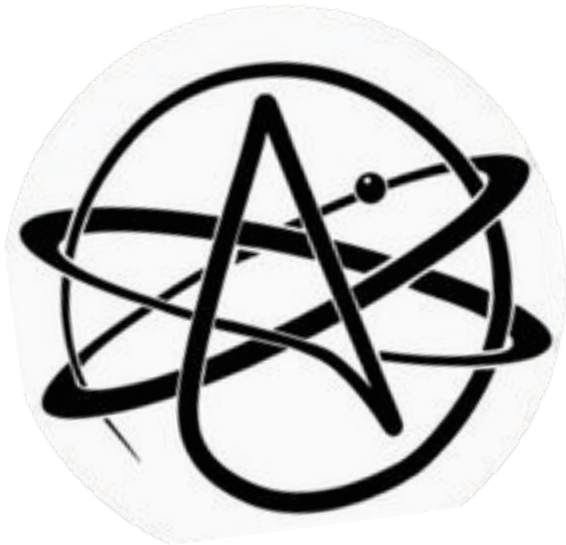
the neutral position adopted by those  
who neither believe nor disbelieve  
in a transcendent reality

# agnosticism



the absolute position that there is  
no transcendent dimension to reality

atheism



an ethical stance that emphasises  
the collective good as the ultimate  
goal of human endeavour

# humanism



a humanist approach that emphasises  
the unconditional equality of all persons  
in the pursuit of the common good

## rational-humanism





a humanist approach which advances the position  
that a greater good that can be accomplished for  
the majority is an acceptable outcome

## scientific-humanism



- compare the response of one religious and one non-religious belief system to the human person and social responsibility

Christianity proclaims that the human person is made in the image and likeness of God and endowed with an inherent dignity

Humanists believe that the human person is the ultimate reality and that all persons have equal value as individuals and collectively

**Each believes in the value of the human person and our shared social responsibility to protect the rights and dignity of all but for different reasons.**





# #TheyAreUs



- discuss how atheism, agnosticism and humanism determine the aspirations and behaviour of individuals

Non-religious belief systems lack the external/revealed moral codes of religious communities.

Moral imperatives are reached through the application of reason, empathy and self knowledge.

Individual fulfilment is realised through shared achievement and mutual benefit.



# new religious expression

not to be confused with a new-age approach to spirituality from religion in Australia post-1945

new religious expressions constitute a departure from established religious structures/communities & the search for meaning along new paths & places that provide ethical guidance & a sense of belonging whilst eliminating some aspects of the original 'donor' tradition



# new religious expression

the Sunday Assembly is a new form of expression that is bringing together religious and non-religious people in a new community that aims to live better, help often and wonder more and celebrate life

reform movements within established religious communities also constitute new expressions of faith

- The Grail
- Hare Krishna Movement
- Falun Gong



# the rise of materialism

traditional religious communities place great emphasis on eternal reward for a life well-lived

materialism promotes instant gratification and immediate personal fulfilment

The back-lash to materialism has given rise to NREs such as:

- Deep Ecology
- Eco-spirituality
- New Paganism



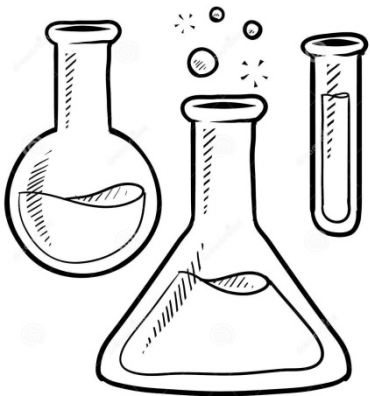
# scientific progress

many questions about human life were once answerable only on the basis of faith

progress in scientific discovery has now answered some of these questions •• established religion no longer occupies the privileged position it once did

Scientific progress has influenced NREs such as:

- Happy Science





# disenchantment

individuals have lost confidence in the credibility of established religions: SSM | Gender Inequality | Child Sexual Abuse | lack of action on Climate Change

many people are less inclined to accept the teaching authority of a 'tarnished' community



The back-lash to established religious traditions has given rise to NREs such as:

- Dudeism
- Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster

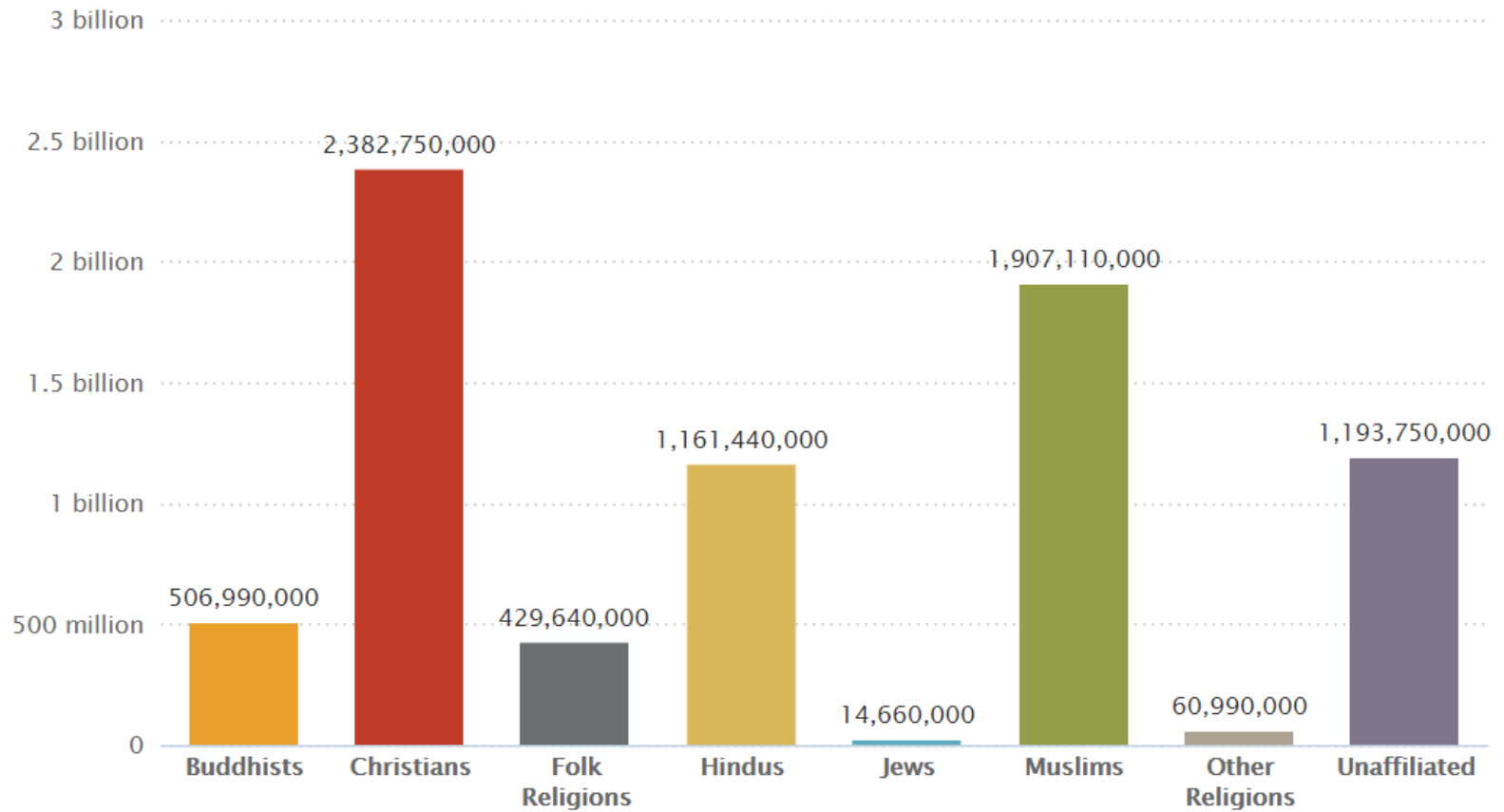
# social transformation & cohesion

established religion has made a significant contribution to Australia society e.g. in the provision of health and social welfare services

non-violent advocacy founded on religious values ended segregation in America and oppression of Indian communities



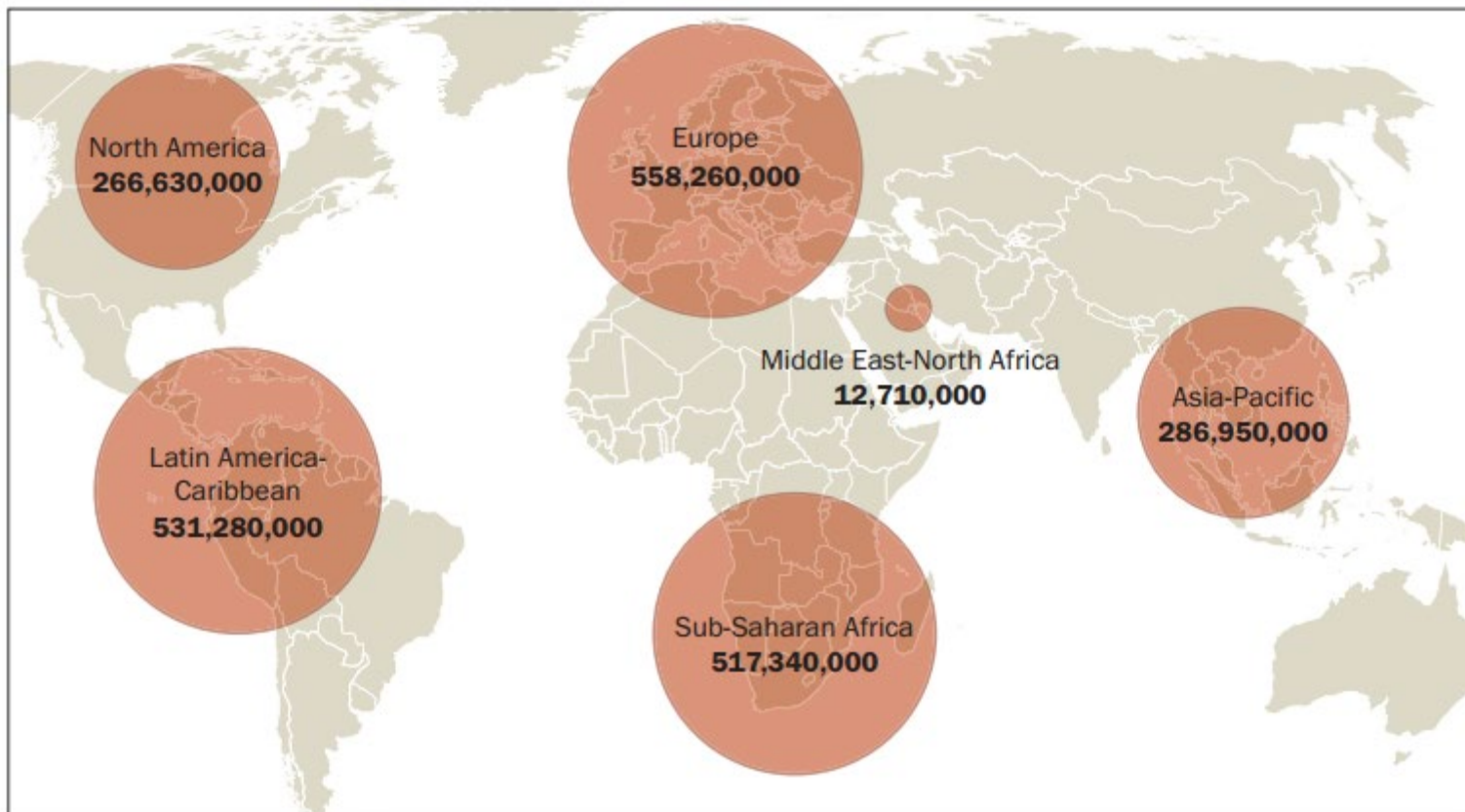
## Worldwide All Population, 2020



Highcharts.com

## Regional Distribution of Christians

*Population by region as of 2010*



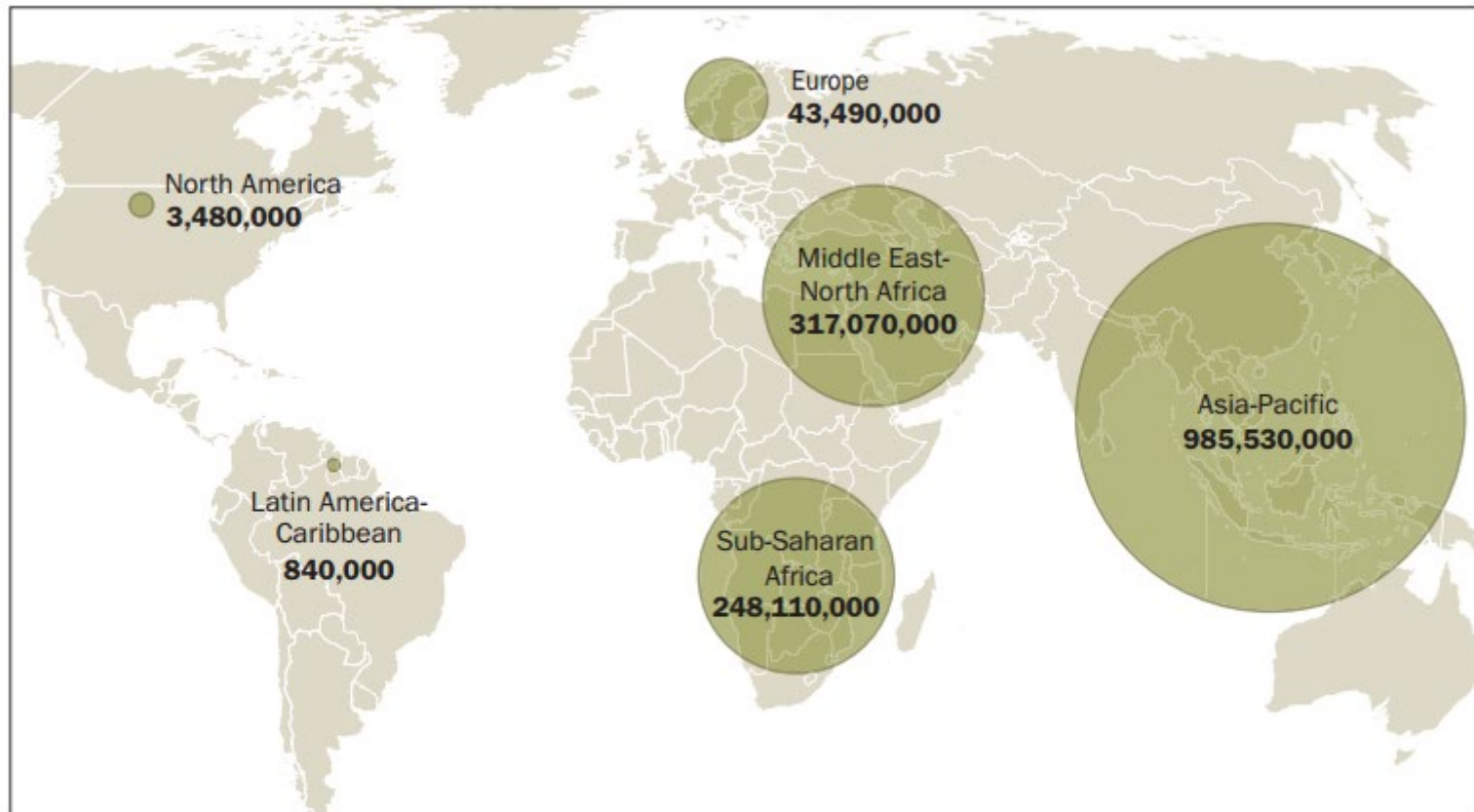
*Percentage of world Christian population in each region as of 2010*



Population estimates are rounded to the ten thousands. Percentages are calculated from unrounded numbers. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

## Regional Distribution of Muslims

*Population by region as of 2010*

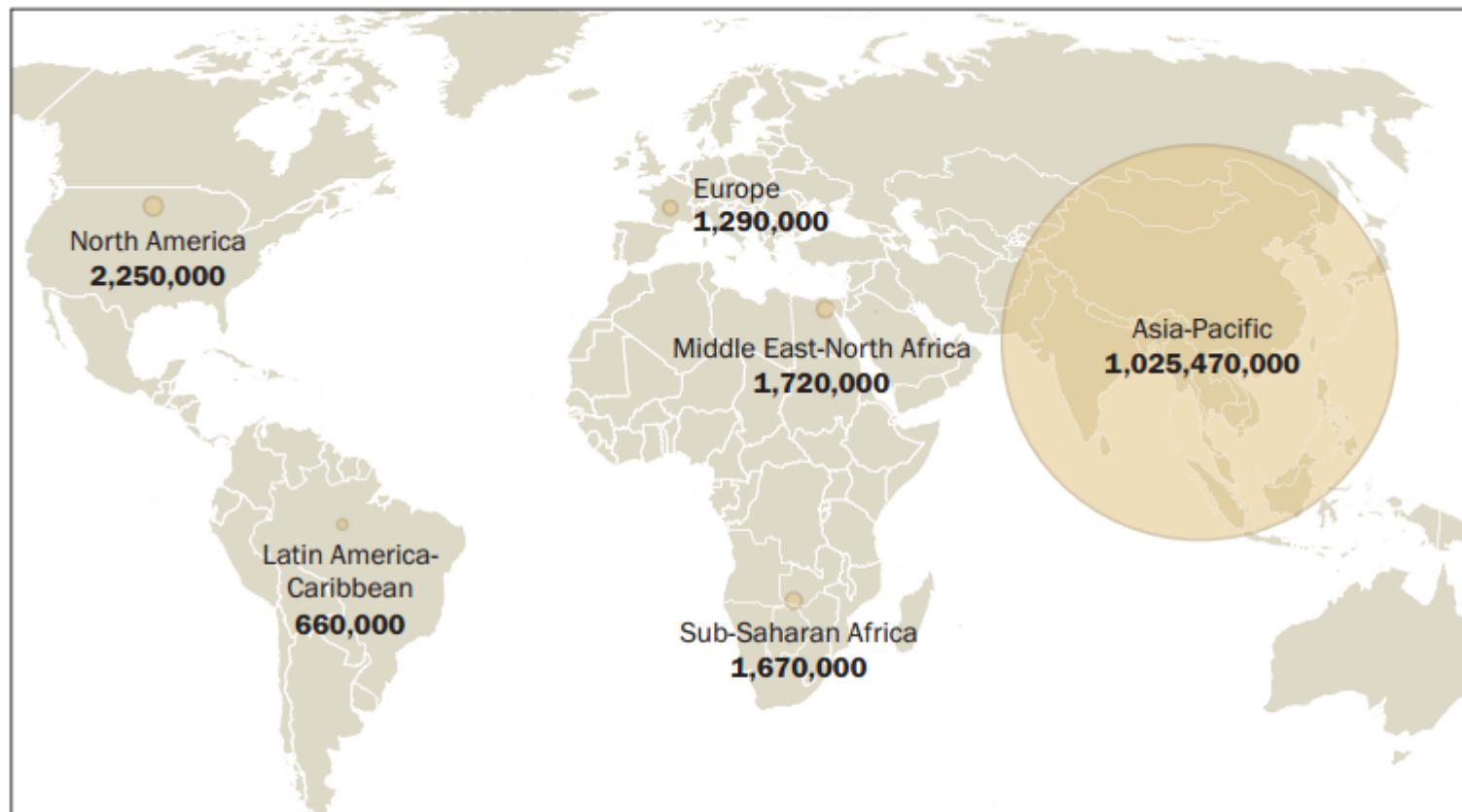


*Percentage of world Muslim population in each region as of 2010*

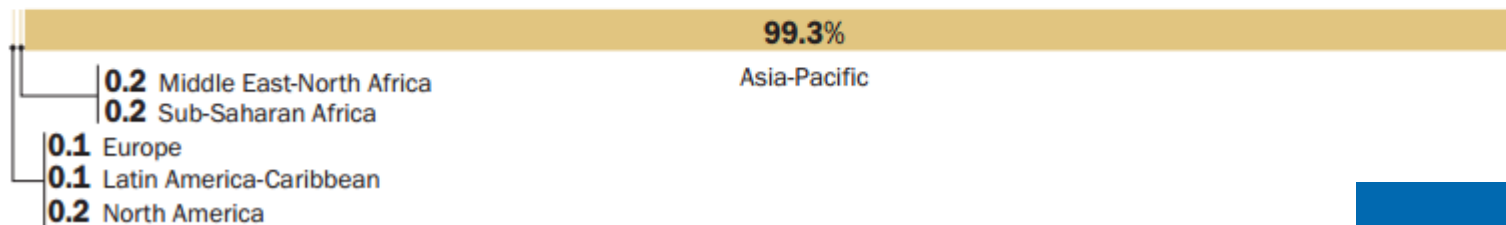


## Regional Distribution of Hindus

*Population by region as of 2010*

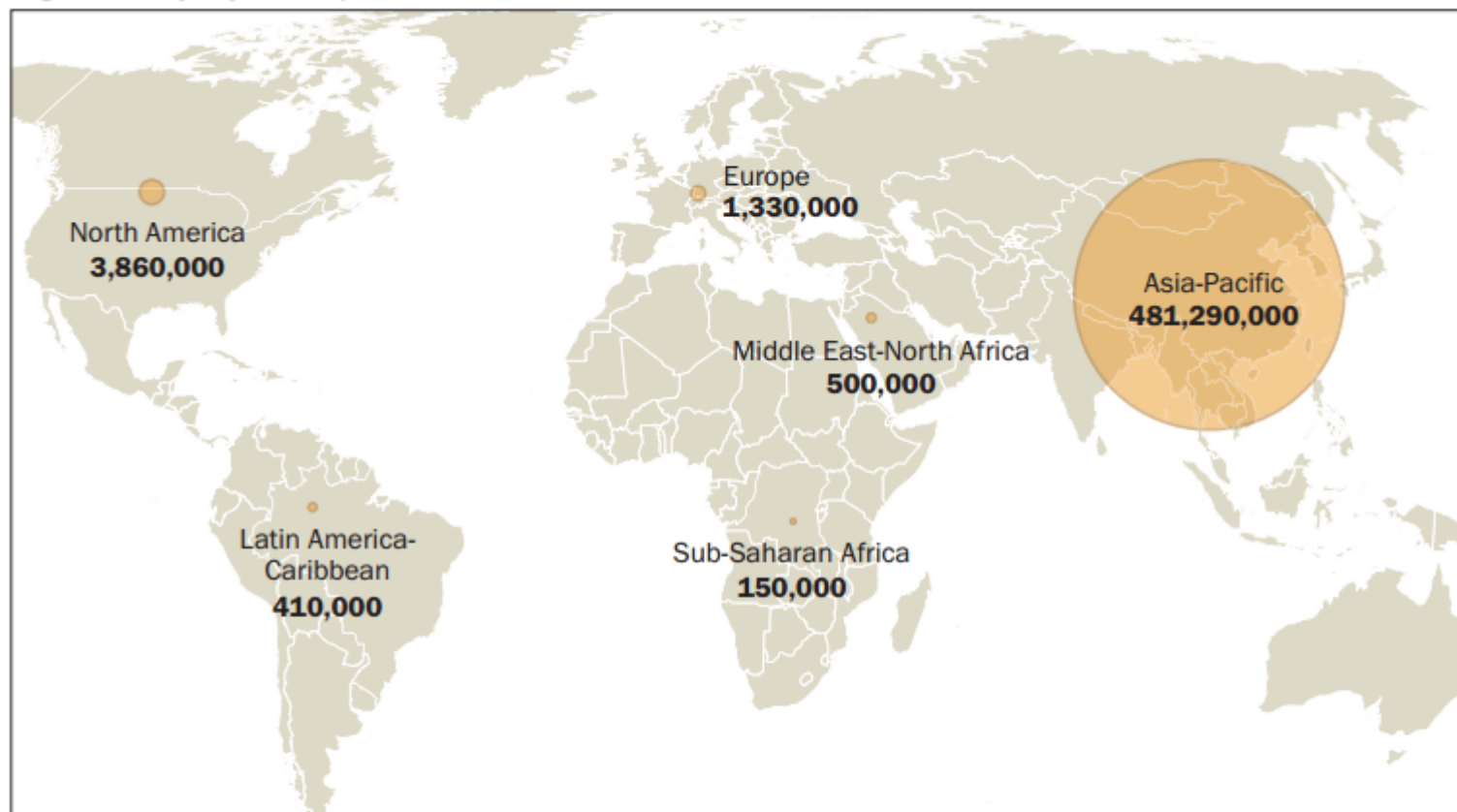


*Percentage of world Hindu population in each region as of 2010*

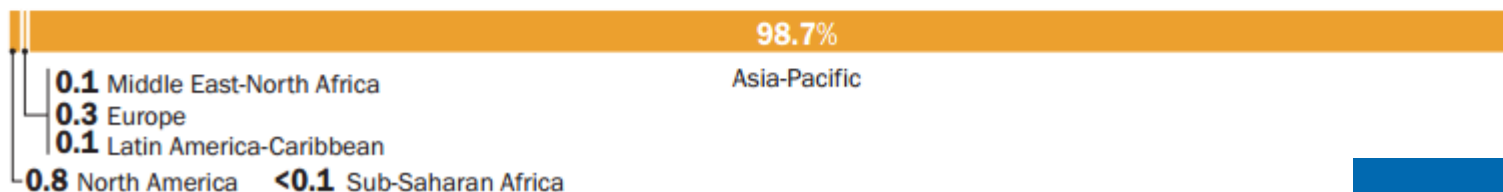


## Regional Distribution of Buddhists

*Population by region as of 2010*



*Percentage of world Buddhist population in each region as of 2010*



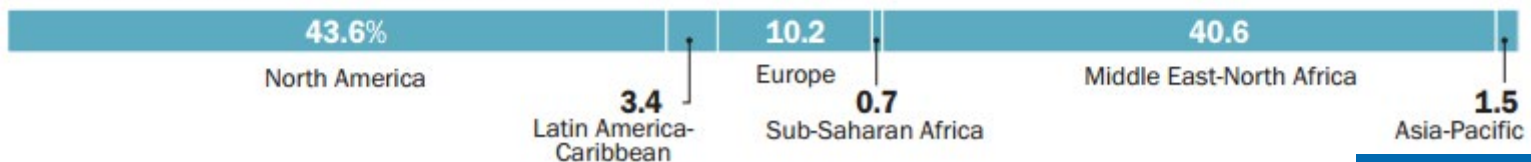


## Regional Distribution of Jews

*Population by region as of 2010*



*Percentage of world Jewish population in each region as of 2010*





[http://www.globalreligiousfutures.org/explorer#/?subtopic=15&chartType=bar&year=2020&data\\_type=number&religious\\_affiliation=all&destination=to&countries=Worldwide&age\\_group=all&gender=all&pdfMode=false](http://www.globalreligiousfutures.org/explorer#/?subtopic=15&chartType=bar&year=2020&data_type=number&religious_affiliation=all&destination=to&countries=Worldwide&age_group=all&gender=all&pdfMode=false)

Which of the following best describes animism?

- a) Both humans and animals have souls
- b) The soul does not exist
- c) There are many gods
- d) There is no god

To acknowledge the existence of many different divine beings is to be an

- a) atheist
- b) agnostic
- c) polytheist
- d) monotheist