## Basic information on various religions (at 2000):

Religion	Date Founded	Sacred Texts	Membership	% of World
Christianity	30 AD	The Bible	2,100 million	32% (dropping)
<u>Islam</u>	622 AD	Qur'an & Hadith	1,300 million	19% (growing)
<u>Hinduism</u>	1,500 BC with truly ancient roots	Bhagavad-Gita, Upanishads, & Rig Veda	900 million	13% (stable)
No religion	-	None	775 million	12% dropping
Chinese folk rel.	270 BC	None	390 million	6%
<u>Buddhism</u>	523 BC	The Tripitaka & Sutras	364 million	6% (stable)
Tribal Religions, Shamanism, Animism	Prehistory	Oral tradition	232 million	4%
<u>Atheists</u>	No date	None	150 million	2%
New religions.	Various	Various	103 million	2%
<u>Sikhism</u>	1500 AD	Guru Granth Sahib	23.8 million	<1%
<u>Judaism</u>	Note 3	Torah, Tanach, & Talmud	14.5 million	<1%
Spiritism			12.6 million	<1%
Baha'i Faith	1863 AD	Alkitab Alaqdas	7.4 million	<1%
Confucianism	520 BC	Lun Yu	6.3 million	<1%
<u>Jainism</u>	570 BC	Siddhanta, Pakrit	4.3 million	<1%
Zoroastrianism	600 to 6000 BC	Avesta	2.7 million	<1%
Shinto	500 AD	Kojiki, Nohon Shoki	2.7 million	<1%
Taoism	550 BC	Tao-te-Ching	2.7 million	<1%
Other	Various	Various	1.1 million	<1%
Wicca	2,500 BC	None	0.5 million	<1%

- Note 1: Persons with no formal, organized religion include <u>agnostics</u>, freethinkers, humanists, secularists, etc.
- Note 2: We have included <u>Wicca</u>, even though is <u>no reliable measure of their</u> <u>numbers</u>. Some Wiccans believe that their faith can be traced back to the origins of the Celtic people and the building of Stonehenge.
- Note 3: There is no consensus on the data of founding of Judaism. Some claim that Adam and Eve were the first Jews, and lived circa 4000 BCE; others suggest that they never existed. Some would place the date at the time of Abraham, circa 1900 BCE; others consider Abraham to be a mythical character. Some date it to the Exodus from Egypt circa 1490 BCE; others say that no Exodus happened, and the ancient Hebrews were originally a group that gradually separated from the main body of Canaanites and developed a different culture.