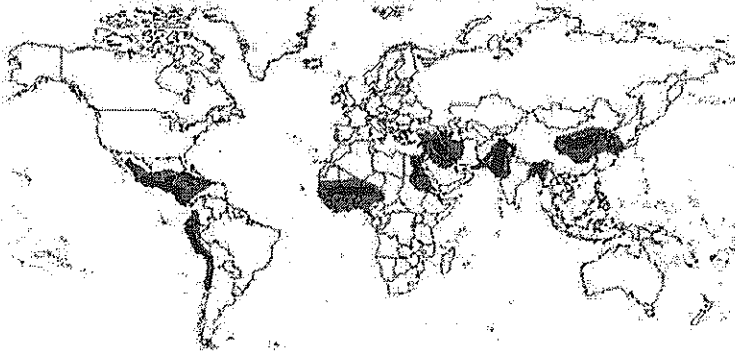


Culture hearths- places where things and ideas came from/ societies start  
Location of the World's Ancient Culture Hearths

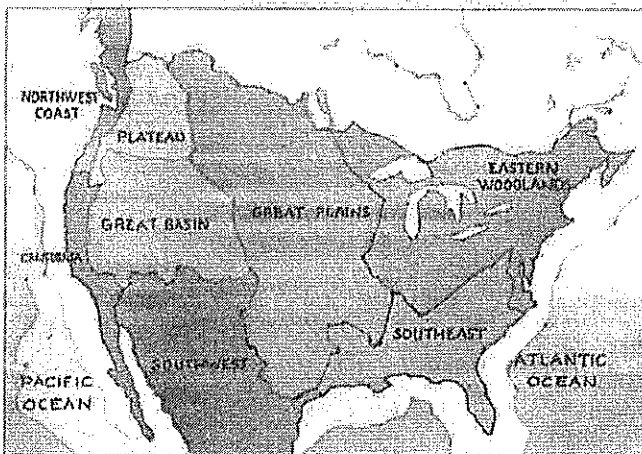


- 7 original hearths: Nile River Valley, Indus River Valley, Wei-huang Valley, Ganges River Valley, Mesopotamia, Mesoamerica, West Africa
- Example- (now) world cities~ London, Tokyo, New York, etc.

Culture realm-

- Entire region is influenced by a specific religion, language, diet, costumes, or economic development
- Uprising caused by diffusion of the impact of some early cultural centers over large areas

Cultural regions- regions defined by similar culture traits and cultural landscape features

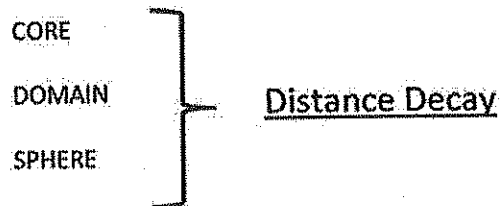


## Types of Culture Regions

A region has to:

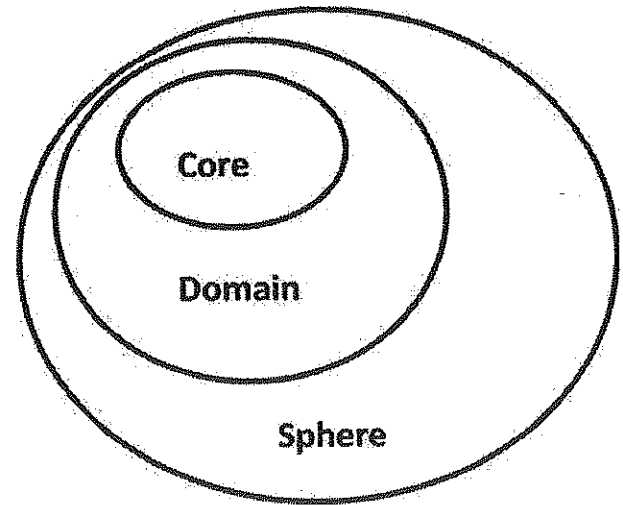
- Have activities
- Have people
- Have an environment
- Differ in some way from other regions
- Possibly differ from political boundaries

### Defining culture regions



### Formal Regions

- Aka uniform region
- Homogenous region
- Shared feature(s) such as:
  - climate
  - political boundaries
  - key crop
- shared feature may or may not apply to 100% of the people; it is just predominant



### Functional Regions

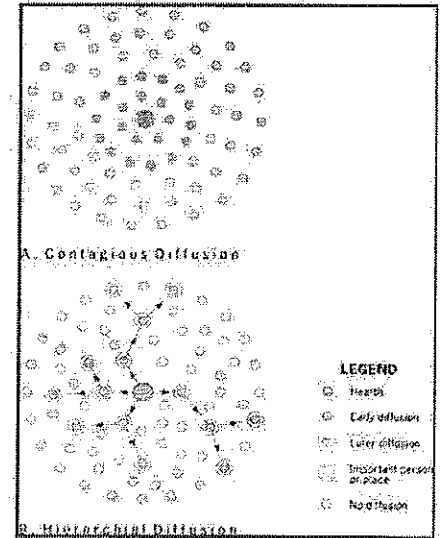
- aka nodal region
- has a CENTRAL POINT which leads to:
  - transportation systems
  - communication systems
  - economic associations
  - functional associations
- The boundaries of this region mark limits of activities

### Vernacular Region

- Aka perceptual region
- Borders tend to be highly variable
- Based on mental maps; sense of identity
- May be *partially* based on measurable traits

## TYPES OF DIFFUSION

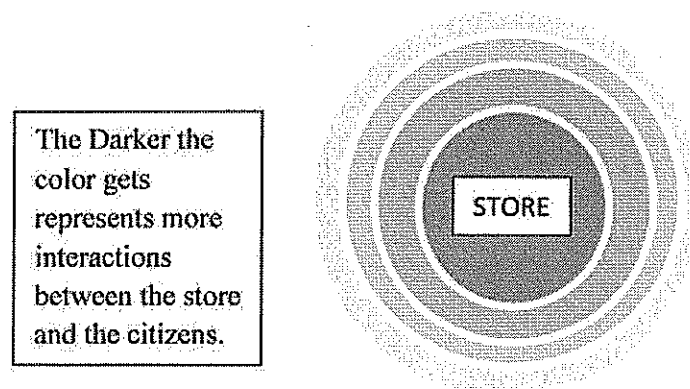
- In diffusion, an idea or invention, called an **innovation**, moves outward from its place of origin (called the "**hearth**") to other places.
- Usually, diffusion occurs when people interact with one another and the innovation is shared.
- **Friction of distance** and the **distance decay effect** affect diffusion.
  - **Friction of distance** states that the farther away two places are, the more energy is expended trying to maintain some communication between them. Therefore, an innovation would be less likely to affect a certain place if that place was farther away.
  - The **distance decay effect** states that interaction decreases with distance. An innovation would therefore have less impact on places farther from the hearth.
- There are two main types of diffusion: expansion diffusion and relocation diffusion.
  - **Expansion diffusion**: the innovation moves outward while the people or technology causing the diffusion to occur remain at the hearth. There are three different types of expansion diffusion:
    - In **contagious diffusion**, the innovation spreads outward from the hearth, coming into contact with everyone in a widening circle. This type of diffusion spreads to everyone in a certain area and does not skip over places.
      - For example, a disease such as bubonic plague spreads through contagious diffusion.
    - In **hierarchical diffusion**, the innovation spreads from authority figures or more-connected people/organizations to less-powerful or less-connected ones. Usually, an innovation will originate in a large, well-connected city and diffuse to other similar cities.
      - There is a "hierarchy" involved here, where the more-connected places are higher up in the hierarchy, while less-connected ones are lower down. Diffusion starts higher up.
      - Fashion spreads through hierarchical diffusion: a fashion design might originate in Paris and spread to world cities such as London, before arriving at small, rural areas.
    - In **stimulus diffusion**, which can be in the form of either of the above types of diffusion, the innovation is not completely absorbed into the new place. Rather, a trait or idea in the innovation stimulates the new place, causing it to develop an innovation that is related to, but not identical to, the original innovation.
      - Mental or cultural (ideological) barriers can prevent an innovation from completely diffusing to an area.
        - As a result, only some traits of the innovation get through.
          - For example, in Hindu-dominated India, eating cow products is against most people's religion. However, when hamburgers – which are made with beef – were brought to India, restaurants substituted the beef with vegetables in order to cater to the majority of the population.
  - **Relocation diffusion**: the innovation spreads outward by people at the hearth relocating to other areas. There, the innovation is diffused to the new population.
    - For example, when immigrants from other countries arrived in the United States, they brought many cultural traits and innovations with them.
      - When they came into contact with other cultures, the other cultures integrated some of the innovations into themselves.
      - Likewise, foods native to the Americas, such as potatoes and maize, were diffused to Great Britain, where they were absorbed into the culture.



## Time-Distance Decay, Acculturation, Time-Space Compression

### ❖ *Time-Distance Decay* –

- States that as time and distance increases the cultural or spatial interactions between two areas will **decline** and as time
- Also as distance **decreases** the cultural or spatial interactions between two areas will **increase**.
  - An examples of time-distance decay is:
    - With a supermarket at the center of a city, citizens further away from the city will shop at the store. While citizens closest to the store will shop their more frequently.



### ❖ *Acculturation*-

- When a person or a group changes adapts enough to a new culture to survive in a new area or situation.
- Usually by changing one's own culture by borrowing from another culture.
  - One Example of acculturation is when immigrants arrived at the United States, they needed to learn English to survive in the new location.

### ❖ *Time-Space Compression*-

- Describes the effects of new technology and transportations making places seem closer than they actually are.
- In other words, with faster ways of transportation the space or distance between two areas seem to be shorter because it takes less time.
  - An example is before the Transcontinental Railroad it would take months to reach California. Afterward with the railroad, you would be able to reach California in weeks. But now with airplanes it could take only a day or two to get to California.

Ethnicity, Race, Racism

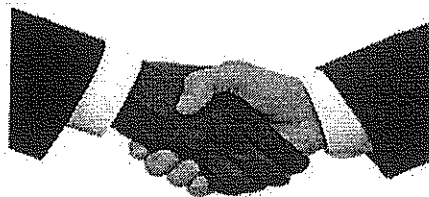
- **Ethnicity** is the identity or relations between a group of people who are connected by a common culture, or ancestry; it is typically based on perspective and traits rather than physical characteristics.
  - An example of ethnicity would be a common language and religion, so an ethnic group could comprise of multiple people of different races but all speaking English and following Christianity.
  - Ethnicity of a person can change if they begin to adopt other cultural traits, but a race of a person cannot change
- **Race** is defined as the physical categorization of humans based on, for example, skin color. This is different from ethnicity because this includes biological differences, rather than cultural differences.
  - An example of race would be a group of African Americans, Indians, Chinese, etc.
- **Racism** incorporates hostile attitudes toward a race because of their certain physical characteristics, like skin color.
  - An example of racism would be Caucasians against African Americans

Real World Examples:

- An African American man can be classified as an African American, racially, but ethnically he could be Ethiopian
- An American can be classified as American, but his/her race could be anything, ranging from Caucasian to Oriental
  - People assume that ethnicity and racism are the same, when they are not
  - Racism can stem from any two races, ethnicity does not affect racism as much as physical appearances of a race does
    - Racism can lead to genocide
      - Prime examples of ethnic genocides are the Rwandan genocide, Hutus against Tutsis when they were the same race, and the Holocaust when two people could be the same race but different ethnicities

Conclusion:

- Race is not ethnicity; humans can be different skin colors and the same ethnicity, and the same ethnicity but different skin colors, for example
- Race does not just encompass skin color; race can be anything biological ranging from eye color, to hair follicles
  - This is an example of two different races, but they could be the same ethnicity



## Languages Throughout History

### What Are Languages, & What Role Do They Play in Culture?

- **Language** - A set of sounds, combination of sounds, & symbols that are used for communication
- **Culture**
  - Who we are as a culture, as a people is reinforced by language
  - Language reflects where a culture has been, what a culture values & how people in culture think, describe & experience things
  - Language binds a cultural identity
- Dialect (geographically distinct versions of a single language that vary somewhat from the original form) can describe a culture's way of using language
- **Isogloss** - A geographic boundary within which a particular linguistic feature occurs

### Distribution & Diffusion on Languages

- **Language Family** - Group of languages with a shared, but fairly distant origin (All languages belong to a language family)
- **Subfamilies** - Divisions within a language family where the shared interests are more definite & the origin is more recent (language groups)  
EX: Spanish & Italian - Romance Languages
- 50% of the world's people speak languages belonging to the **Indo-European Family**, family that is dominate in Europe, Russia, North & South America, Australia, & parts of Southwestern Asia & India
- 20% speak languages from the **Sino-Tibetan Family**, spreads through most of Southeast Asia & China & is comprised of Chinese speakers
- 30% speak languages from the Afro-Asiatic, Niger-Congo, or Austronesian families
- Language Diffusion occurs when migration, trade, war or some other event exposes one group of people to the language of another
- **Pidgin Language** - When two groups of people with different languages meet, a new language with some characteristics of each is formed
- **Creole Language** - A pidgin that has evolved to the point at which it becomes the primary language of the people who speak it
- **Lingua Franca** - Language used among speakers of different languages for the purpose of trade & commerce
- **Official Language** - A language that is assigned to one country by it's government to tie all of the residents together & to let there be common ground when communicating

### Language's Role in Making Places

- **Place** - The uniqueness of a location, what people do in a location, what they create, what their impact is
- Geographer Yi-Fu Tuan stated that by simply naming a place, people call the place into being & impart a certain character on that place
- **Toponyms** - Place names - A toponym can give us a quick glimpse into the history of a place

### Language Issues

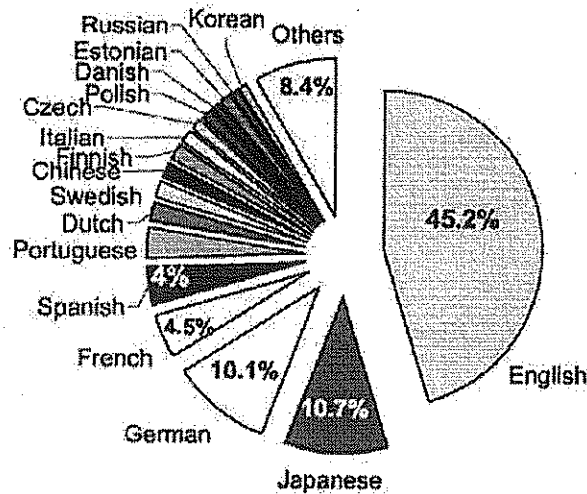
- Language Extinction occurs when a language is no longer in use
- **Acculturation** - the adoption of cultural traits, while under the influence of another culture
- Acculturation & cultural extinction are contributing factors to language extinction

For more Info: Barron's Book Pgs. 153-158 & APHG Textbook Pgs. 148-175

## Major Languages/The Disappearance of Language

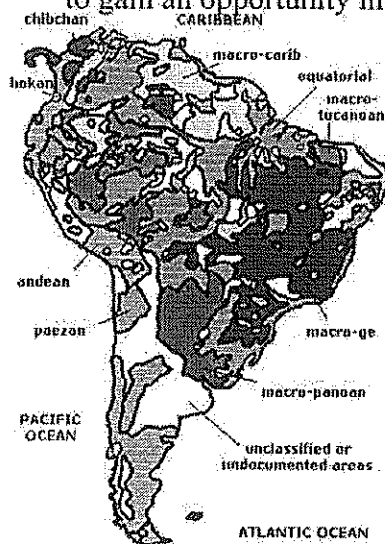
### Linguistic Diversity

- In a state with many different ethnicities, it is very important for everyone to learn the major language to keep the state unified.
- People that immigrate to the United States should learn English so they obtain more of an opportunity in our country.
- The learning of multiple languages is called linguistic diversity and a lot of people have linguistic diversity because of the usefulness of major languages.
- English is taught all around the world because it is needed to be used in business and government between the many different cultures.



### Language Extinction

- People from small villages that have their own special language, are leaving to search for jobs in more urban areas. Eventually, only the elderly of a village will know their special language, and when they die, they take the language with them, this is called language extinction.
- Within the next century, the megalanguages like Chinese, Spanish, and English will take over all of the non-dominant languages because they need to know the major languages to gain an opportunity in the world.



All of the small tribal languages of South America and Africa will not likely become extinct within the next century and one major language will be present for most of the population, or they will all learn two languages, their native language and the business language, English, so they can trade and such.

## Convergence and Diffusion of Language

### Definitions and Examples

**Language Convergence** – where two or more languages with many bilingual speakers borrow words, grammar, or syntax from each other. This makes the languages similar. Example: Spanish speakers use some words from English and vice versa.

**Language Diffusion** – the spread of a certain language or language family. Example: The Indo-European languages began in Eurasia but spread to Australia and North America.

### Notes

- ❖ Languages change by diffusion, convergence and replacement
  - When a language diffuses, it breaks into dialects because the people who speak that language are spread out over a large area. New languages are eventually created from the dialects
    - Isolation from other people who speak the same languages lets the language evolve in different ways
      - Creates the different languages in a language branch
    - This process creates new languages, but the original language may be lost in the process
  - When languages converge, two or more languages borrow words, grammar and syntax from each other. A new language is eventually created
    - This is how you end up with “Spanglish”
    - The languages that converged end up being combined into a new language, and the original languages are lost (unless they survive in another place)
      - For example, if everyone in the Americas ends up speaking Spanglish a hundred years from now, English will still exist because it will still be spoken in Europe. Spanish will still be spoken in Spain
  - When a language gets replaced, one language is lost while another “takes over” an area
    - Also known as assimilation



## Lingua Franca, Pidgin, Creole, Standard language, Official language

- **Lingua franca-** a language used among speakers of different languages for the purposes of trade and commerce.
  - A lingua franca can be a single language, OR it can be a mixture of 2 or more languages.
  - Example: Swahili developed from an African Bantu language mixed with Arabic and Persian, through centuries of trade and interaction.
  
- **Pidgin language-** When parts of two or more languages are combined in a simplified structure and vocabulary.
  - Example of pidgin that we use in Hawai'i: (Brah / bruddah -Similar to "Brother" or "pal" in slang. Example: "Eh, brah!"), (Hele On- Let's go, get moving.)
  
- **Creole language-** a pidgin language that has developed a more complex structure and vocabulary and has become the native language of a group of people.
  - Example: Modern English contains aspects of half a dozen different languages because the British Isles have seen so many foreign conquerors and visitors over the centuries.
  
- **Standard language-** the language that is promoted as the norm for use in schools, government, and is recognized by other states.
  - Example: In the United States English is the standard language. We use it in the schools and it is spoken by the government.
  
- **Official language-** the language chosen by the educated and politically powerful elite, to promote internal cohesion.
  - The official language is not often one that ties them to the colonizer, as the colonizer's language invariably is one already used by the educated and politically powerful elite.
  - Example: Nigeria is using English as their official language so that it will not favor a language in Nigeria.

**Toponymy**  
(the study of place names)

**-10 types of place names**

- **Descriptive**  
-ex. Rocky Mountains
- **Associative**  
-ex. Mill River (a mill was on the river)
- **Incident Names**  
-ex. Battle Creek, Bloody Ridge
- **Possessive Names**  
-ex. Pittsburgh
- **Commemorative**  
-commemorating someone well-known, or in honor of someone  
-ex. Seattle (named after chief Seattle), Illinois (names after the Illini Indians)
- **Commendatory**  
-praising the place  
-ex. Pleasant Valley
- **Manufactured**  
-'made up' so to speak  
-ex. Tesnus (sunset spelled backwards)
- **Mistaken**  
-historic errors in identification or translation  
-ex. West Indies (not west of the Indies and not the Indies)
- **Shift Names**  
-relocated names or names from the settlers homeland  
-ex. Athens (Greece and Texas), Palestine (Middle East and Texas), New Mexico, New England
- **Folk Etymology**  
-a false meaning is extracted from a name based on its structure or sounds  
-ex. Hellespont (explained by the Greeks as being named after Helle, who drowned there, but is most likely named from an older language such as Pelasgian and probably meant 'good port')

**General Types of Toponyms**

- ~Agronym-name of a field or pasture
- ~Dromonym- the name of a transportation route
- ~Drymonym-name of a forest or grove
- ~Econym-name of a village or town
- ~Limnonym-name of a lake or pond
- ~Necronym- name of a cemetery or burial ground

## Ethnic Religions

·What defines an Ethnic Religion:

- A person is BORN into their faith
- Members do not try to convert others to follow their religion
- is spread through relocation diffusion
- messages are culturally specific
- Examples- Hinduism, Judaism

**Hinduism**- World's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest religion

-Where: India and some in Indonesia

-Beliefs:

- 3 main Gods: Brahma, Shiva, and Vishnu (together called **triumvirate**)
  - Brahma-created universe
  - Shiva- destroys universe
  - Vishnu- preserver of earth and universe
- reincarnation: life after death
  - you are placed where you are based on your actions in previous lives as well as current life
  - one of the highest achievable forms- cow- life builders
- goals:
  - Brahmins- highest level of caste system
  - Priests and scholars
  - Moksha-when your spirit is with the Gods

-Conflicts:

-Hindu people have conflicts with Muslim people ever since the Muslims took over India.

**Judaism**-oldest western religion and one of the oldest religions

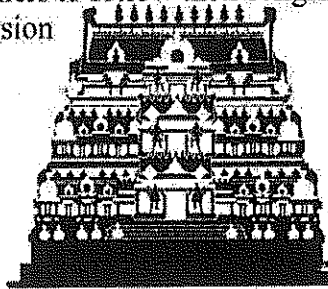
-Where: East Coast of the U.S. (mainly New York) and in Israel

-How many: over 14 million Jews today

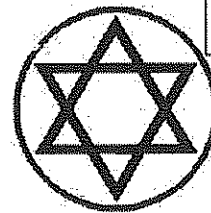
-Language: Hebrew

-Beliefs:

- monotheistic- god is called Yaweh in Hebrew
  - God will help them through their hardships and Jesus was just a profit
- Jewish Bible- Tanakh- based on the Torah and Talmud (holy books)
- worship is led by rabbi in the synagogue on Saturdays (holy day)
- 3 Divisions:
  - Reform- relaxed/not strict
  - Conservative- in between
  - Orthodox- very strict practitioners
- Conflicts: 1940- Holocaust, Jews and Muslims fight over establishment of Israel as state



This is a Hindu Temple.



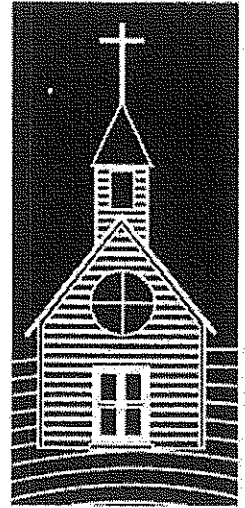
Star of David-  
Jewish Symbol

## Universal Religions

- What defines a Universal Religion:
  - intentionally spread through missionaries
  - messages aren't culturally specific
  - Examples- Christianity, Islam, Buddhism

### Christianity-World's LARGEST religion (over 2 billion followers)

- Where: Throughout Europe and America now spreading through Africa b/c of missionaries
- 3 Main Branches:
  - Roman Catholic-largest denomination-based in Vatican City-Pope
  - Protestantism- Martin Luther broke away from Roman Catholic and started it-
    - Do not follow Pope- head of church is pastor or minister
  - Orthodox- head is patriarch
- Foundational Beliefs: based around life of Jesus Christ
  - follow the Bible
  - Holy Trinity- God, Jesus the son, and the Holy Spirit
- Architecture: focused around cross
  - steeple extends to heaven
- Conflicts: fight for Jerusalem against Jewish



### Islam- 2<sup>nd</sup> largest world religion

- goal- to convert the whole world
- followers called Muslims
- Where: Middle East, Northern Africa, and Southeast Asia
- Beliefs:

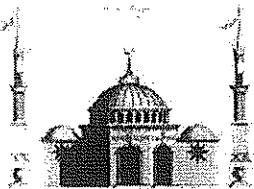
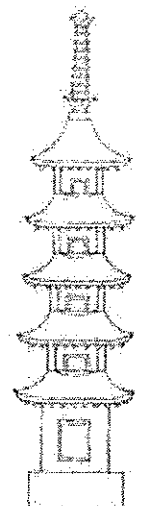
- 5 Pillars of Islam- you must strive to achieve the 5 pillars
  - 1.) Only one God, Allah-- Shahadah
  - 2.) Pray 5 times a day facing Mecca-- Salah
  - 3.) Taxes go straight to poor or the mosque-- Zakat
  - 4.) Fast during Ramadan -- Sawm
  - 5.) Must make a pilgrimage to Mecca once during your life-- Hajj

- Qur'an- holy book
- Two Branches- Shiites and Shiahhs

- Architecture: based around the mosque with minarets around the sides that point up towards Allah
- Conflicts-Crusades- took of Jerusalem and went on for 100-200 years-- no win

### Buddhism- Eastern Religion

- Where: East Asia, Northeast to Southeast Asia
- Beliefs: elimination of unwanted desires-- done through meditation
- Architecture- Pagodas- tall buildings extending towards sky-- lots of incense
- Conflicts: In the U.S. the Buddhist faith is at a cross road b/c the leaders are dying and they don't know who to elect



## ➤ POPULAR CULTURE

---

- In large heterogeneous (varied) populations
- Constantly changing
- Large percentage of people in this culture
- Usually urban, with *rapidly* changing traits
- Based on whatever is "hot" at the time
- Much, if not all, pop culture refers to leisure time and growing affluence (wealth or prosperity)
  - Diffuses hierarchically
    - *Ex. - Fashion diffuses from the innovator to the designer, then to the models, editors and writers, then to major fashion magazines, and then the followers.*
  - Diffused by transportation, communication, and technology.
  - The cultural landscape tends to look alike wherever you go even though heterogeneity is pushed
    - *(ex. - McDonald's a few blocks from another)*
  - Population has greater material demands than those that are part of folk culture
    - Even within pop culture, there are people who strive to be different than everyone else; this contributes to the very heterogeneous population.
    - Pop culture tries to find new and different things to bring into the "mainstream" culture and will target folk culture or small groups within pop culture for new styles or ideas.

### ◦EXAMPLES:

- *The large fast food chain McDonald's is a type of food in popular culture that many people are familiar with.*
- *Pop music is a large part of pop culture (hence the "pop" in pop music and in pop culture).*
- *The clothing chain Forever 21 is a well known supplier of popular clothing in pop culture.*

## ➤ FOLK CULTURE

---

- In small homogeneous (uniform) populations
- Stays mostly the same with small changes that help the local population
- Small percentage of people in this culture
- Usually located in rural areas, cohesive (consistent) in cultural traits and self sufficient
- Promoted by isolation
  - Is also called local culture (*but while it is called this it is more of an in between for pop and folk culture*).
  - Folk and local culture views itself as what pop culture is *not* and does what it can to stay unique in its own way.
  - Greatly affects the cultural landscape because it is so different from pop culture
  - Physical landscape around a population of a folk culture can *greatly* determine certain traits
    - *(ex. - food, clothing, housing structure, stories, music, etc.)*
  - Some folk cultures accept technology but only if it helps them to farm or clean, but televisions, cameras, cell phones and computers are not accepted.
  - *Could* be diffused through relocation diffusion

### ◦EXAMPLES:

- *Lion Dance is a folk dance in Asia where dancers wear a large dragon costume.*
- *A well known type of folk music in Sweden is the Polka.*
- *The leather and animal fur clothing worn by many tribes of Native Americans is a part of their folk culture.*

## Housing Types

Daniel Segal (Red 2)

- For a very long time, the houses people built reflected their environments, their availability of resources, their aesthetic values, and the uniqueness of the place
- When people migrate, they carry with them the ways that they think homes should be planned and constructed, but when they get to new environments, those ideas may be modified

\*A good example of this was conducted by a man named Fred Kniffen, he concluded that three principal housing types appeared at the same time in New England, the Mid-Atlantic region, and the "Tidewater South" of lower Chesapeake Bay.

- \*From these sources, the different building styles diffused westward and southward in several parallel streams. By the 19<sup>th</sup> century, these three streams were called the folk housing regions. (Look at figure 1) \*\*\*\*A. New England, B. Mid-Atlantic, C. Southern Tidewater

Figure 1:



The 3 housing types: (New England, Mid-Atlantic, and Tidewater South)

- New England- The New England house is wood frame construction. This type of house is also called a "saltbox" house; it shows a style that is from colonial times but that became more and more elaborate as time passed. New Englanders usually placed the fireplace in the center of the home, to counter their cold climate.
- Mid-Atlantic- originated as a one room log cabin with a stone chimney and a fireplace at the end. The climate is much warmer than in New England, so instead of placing the fireplace in the center of the home, the fireplace could be put where it would function best. Later, additional rooms, a porch, and a second floor were added to the home.
- Tidewater South- the size and the way the house was constructed reflected the means of most builders and the warmth of the climate. The houses were smaller than New England houses, and usually only had one story (sometimes had a small attic) and a porch. Sometimes the house would be placed on a platform to reduce interior heat, and in low lying places they would be placed on stone platforms to reduce flood damage to the house.

Figure 2 shows the diffusion of the 3 housing types in the US: New England was confined to a northern corridor, but the Mid-Atlantic and the Lower Chesapeake were spread more widely. Figure 2: \*\*\*green is New England, Pink is Mid-Atlantic, and blue is Southern Tidewater



\*What the map doesn't show is the eastward diffusion of the ranch-style homes from the west. This housing style evolved in California during the 1920's. This diffused first along the Sunbelt and then more widely. Ranch style homes were designed for balmy climate and outdoor living. It is one story and its open construction isn't suitable for climates with extreme temperatures. Today, ranches are found almost everywhere in the US, even in places without warm climate.