

Religions	Founder	Writings	Beliefs
1. Animism	No single founder	Oral tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animists practice nature worship. • They believe that everything in the universe has a spirit. • Animists also believed that ancestors watch over the living from the spirit world. • This belief resulted in ancestor worship as a means of communicating with and showing respect to ancestors.
2. Shintoism	Mix of tribal religions	Record of Ancient Matters and Chronicles of Japan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shinto teaches the whole universe and that humans can be in tune with this sacredness. • Every mountain, river, plant, animal, and all the diverse phenomena of heaven and earth have spirits, or kami, which inhabit them. • Reverence is paid to the ancestors through the practice of ancestor worship.
3. Judaism	Abraham, Moses	Torah and Talmud The Ten Commandments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judaism teaches that there is one God who is the creator of all things. • Moses went atop Mount Sinai and returned with two stone tablets containing laws known as the Ten Commandments • Monotheistic
4. Hinduism	No one single founder, credit given to the Aryans	The Vedas, Upanishads, and Bhagavad-Gita	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salvation is achieved through a spiritual oneness of the soul • To achieve this goal, the soul must obtain <u>moksha</u>, or liberation from the endless cycle of birth, death, and rebirth. • Believe in <u>reincarnation</u> or rebirth • <u>Karma</u> : actions resulting from the consequences of previous actions • <u>Dharma</u>: fulfilling one's duty in life • Hindus consider to be extremely sacred is the cow. • Supports the Caste System.
5. Buddhism	Siddhartha Gautama, or Buddha	Three Baskets of Wisdom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buddha deduced that desire was the root caused of all suffering. • <u>Four Noble Truths</u> • Life is full of pain and suffering. • Human desire causes this suffering. • By putting an end to desire, humans can end suffering. • Humans can end desire by following the Eightfold Path. • Eightfold Path

6. Confucianism	<u>Founder</u> Confucius	<u>Writings</u> The Analects	<u>Beliefs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confucianism teaches the Five Relationships: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ruler to the ruled 2. Father to son 3. Older brother to younger brother 4. Husband to wife 5. Friend to friend • In these relationships, the second role is considered subordinate to the first. • It was taught that if everyone knew his or her place in society, then order would prevail. • <u>Filial Piety</u> is one should respect their elders.
7. Daoism	Lao Tzu	The Way of Virtue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Means "the way." • Nature has a "way" in which it moves, and that people should passively accept the "way" of nature, rather than resist it. • This means that people should openly accept the natural way. • An emphasis is placed on the link between people and nature. This leads to a better understanding of the world. • The Yin and Yang symbol has also been used to illustrate the natural harmony that exists in the world. • Everything must have an opposing force that allows the harmonious universe to exist.
8. Christianity	Jesus Christ	The Bible, the Old and New Testament	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christianity evolved from Judaism • Christians subscribe to the Ten Commandments. • Christians believe that Jesus of Nazareth was the Son of God, sent to redeem the world of sin. • This has led the Christian faith to proclaim that there is a Holy Trinity formed by the Creator (Father), Redeemer (Son), and Sustainer (Holy Spirit).
9. Islam	Mohammad	The Koran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flight of Mohammed from Mecca to Medina helped the founding of the religion of Islam • Basic teachings of Islam are known as the Five Pillars of Islam. • Confession of Faith: The belief that "there is no God but Allah. • Prayer: Pray five times, facing Mecca. • Charity: Support the local Mosque • Fasting: During the Ramadan • Pilgrimage: Hajj, holy pilgrimage to Mecca