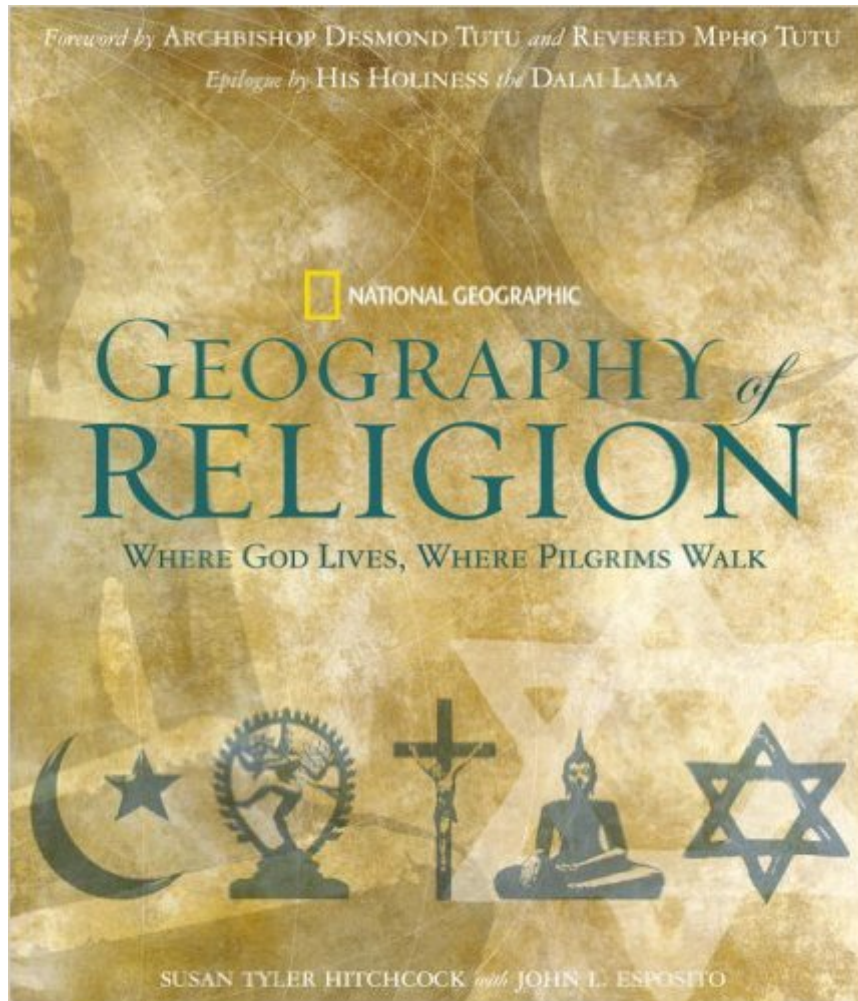


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# Geography Of Religion: Where God Lives, Where Pilgrims Walk



## Synopsis

From its introduction by Nobel Laureate Desmond Tutu to the epilogue by the Dalai Lama, *Geography of Religion* encourages new understanding of the world's great religions and of their evolution from ancient roots to vital roles in modern life. With a text as fascinating as it is authoritative; vivid photographs that evoke the reverence, rituals, and rewards of each spiritual tradition; and a rich variety of essays, sidebars, and maps, this magnificent book charts the many paths that guide us to God. Chapters on each of the 5 major religions—Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—explore the landscapes and cultures where they took hold and flourished. Eminent scholars share the faiths they live and study, revealing their sacred scriptures and rites. Every page offers new insights into religious history and doctrine, along with stunning images of believers at prayer, the holy places they cherish, and their houses of worship—from soaring cathedrals and magnificent mosques to humble shrines infused with a blessed simplicity. Fittingly, each chapter closes with a photo-essay on pilgrims and their devotional journeys—a wonderful visual reminder that no matter which faith we may embrace, we are all fellow travelers in our search for the truth. "The 200 photographs demonstrating the diversity of architecture, people, and terrain, are stunning in their beauty and simplicity." —Publishers Weekly

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

National Geographic's lovely *Geography Of Religion: Where God Lives, Where Pilgrims Walk* opens with a bang - an introduction by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and his daughter the Rev. Mpho Tutu -

and continues to present astounding detail and revelations all the way to the Epilogue by His Holiness the Dalai Lama himself. Here are 200 illustrating ranging from photos and examples of sacred art from around the world to maps, discussions of great leaders and faiths of the five great religions, and a timeline of events following their spread around the world. A gorgeous blend of history, culture, and religious insight.

This is a collection of visuals on a) the religions - east and west - and b) about religious experiences - past and present. Herein, the two academic experts as editors, i.e., Hitchcock & Esposito, have added-value to the visual history with a foreword by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and his daughter the Rev. Mpho Tutu and an epilogue by H.H. The Dalai Lama. In the 416 pages, *Geography of Religion* is focused on five religions, viz., Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. "For each of 5 major religions, explore the landscapes, areas, and cultures where these faiths took hold and flourished. See them spread around the world, survive conflict, and translate into other enduring faiths based on their geographic location and cultures. Learn what it means to be a Hindu and bathe in the sacred Ganges; for a Buddhist to revere a statue of the Enlightened One; for a Muslim to trek to Mecca; for Christian martyrs to welcome death. Beautiful maps, photographs, and art illuminate the history of each religion." This book is, then, useful resource for public libraries, as well specialized libraries, in the areas of art, architecture, etc. More specifically, high school students will find interesting content in this visual geography and its related discussions.

Though colorful, glaring errors seem evident as illustrated on page 316. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was founded by Joseph Smith not John Smith. A simple Google search would have been helpful. If an error like this is present, my concern about other factual errors is very worrisome.

This book has absolutely beautiful pictures. We gave it as a gift to someone that is very knowledgeable about different world religions and he enjoyed it. I was proud to have found such a nice, complete book, and I will be buying one for my own family.

This book is a must read for anyone who hasn't had a formal introduction to the world's five largest religions. The book is loaded with concise and relevant information and beautiful photography. A basic understanding of these religions goes along way.

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