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| **WORLD CULTURES: Religious Conflict Project** |

**The major world religions seem to share many beliefs. In every day practice, however, some of those religions appear to be in great conflict.**

* ***How do people regard the religious part of their culture?***
* ***Does religion make the rules for everything?***
* ***Does religion tell them how to treat other people?***
* ***Is God on their side?***
* ***Are they tolerant of other religions?***
* ***When they use violence against other people, do they believe it to be justified?***

**Current conflicts and wars:**

**It is important to realize that most of the world's current "hot spots" have a complex interaction of economic, racial, ethnic, religious, and other factors.**

**Examples of Religious conflict in the world today and which religions are involved:**

**AFRICA**

* **Muslims / Christians in Ethiopia**
* **Christians / Animists / Muslims in Nigeria**
* **Christians / Muslims in the Sudan**

**MIDDLE EAST**

* **Sunni / Shia in Bahrain**
* **Fundamentalist Muslim/Copts/Egyptian government in Egypt**
* **Persecution of the Baha’is and Jews in Iran**
* **Sunni / Shia [ISIS] in Iraq**
* **Sunni / Alawis / Christians in Syria**

**ASIA**

* **Taliban/less conservative Muslim/Western in Afghanistan**
* **Fundamental Christian/Chinese Communist in China**
* **Tibetan Buddhists/Chinese government in Tibet**
* **Muslim/Sikh/Hindu in Kashmir**
* **Christians / Muslims in Indonesia**
* **Hindus / Muslims / Christians in Malaysia**
* **Buddhists / Muslims / Christians in Myanmar**
* **Muslims / Roman Catholics in the Philippines**
* **Hindu Tamil / Sinhalese Buddhist in Sri Lanka**

**AMERICAS**

**Catholics / Candomble in Brazil**

**Muslims / Jews + Christians in U.S.A.**

**EUROPE**

* **Roman Catholics / Protestants in Northern Ireland**
* **Muslims / Eastern Orthodox in the Balkans (Kosovo)**
* **Muslims / Eastern Orthodox in the Caucasus**

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| **PROJECT DIRECTIONS** |

1. **PICK ONE OF THE RELIGIOUS CONFLICTS ABOVE FOR A RESEARCH PROJECT 🡪 WEDNESDAY**
2. **IN YOUR REPORT, ANSWER ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:**
3. **Who is involved and in what part of the world? 🡪 THURSDAY**
   * **Detail specific branches or sects, if appropriate**
4. **DESCRIBE the place where the conflict is taking place?**
5. **How and when did the trouble begin? 🡪 THURSDAY**
   * **Detail current time and any earlier conflict period as well**
6. **What is the basis of the conflict? 🡪 FRIDAY**
   * **REASONS for the conflict**
7. **Have attempts been made to make peace? 🡪 FRIDAY**
   * **Detail solutions that have been tried or are still being considered**
8. **Have others tried to help bring about a truce? Why? 🡪 FRIDAY**
9. **What is the prospect for peace? Is this conflict likely to continue?**
10. **If the conflict continues, might it expand to include others? Who?**
11. **What do different parts of the world think about the conflict?** 
    * **Agreement OR Different Perspectives?**
12. **IN YOUR REPORT INCLUDE:**
    1. **Map of area(s) involved 🡪 WEDNESDAY**
    2. **Images of conflict 🡪 WEDNESDAY**
    3. **Bibliography – List of all sources / websites for information, map and images 🡪 WEDNESDAY**

**Recommended Websites**

* 1. [**www.religioustolerance.org/**](http://www.religioustolerance.org/)
  2. [**http://www.center2000.org/**](http://www.center2000.org/)