

# PREFACE

For more than three and a half decades, this introduction to the world's religions, has combined factual information with empathic writing that seeks to instill in readers a sense of the richness of the religious lives of the peoples of the world. While striving for accuracy and depth, *Many Peoples, Many Faiths* is neither an encyclopedic compilation of data nor a survey of alternative philosophies. Instead, the goal is to present a sense and feeling of the total human experience of religious life from past to present, made up as it is in an inseparable mingling of concepts, worship and other practices, and social factors. Also, the hope is that readers will become curious about the areas of scholarship that lie behind this introductory presentation of the world's religions and will be inspired to explore these areas more deeply.

## NEW MATERIAL AND SPECIAL FEATURES OF THIS EDITION

The tenth edition has been fully updated throughout with material reflecting new scholarship and general interest and, where appropriate, addressing rapidly developing and shifting areas, taking account of the dynamic, changing quality of religion. The authors call the readers' attention to special features of this book and a few examples of new material that are especially significant:

- This book places the world's religions in historical context, illustrating the complex dynamic of each religion over time, while also presenting current beliefs, practices, and group formations.
- The chapters include substantial sections on women in religion; religion governance and political life; and religion in America, which have been revised and updated and many of these sections include new narrative accounts.
- MyReligionLab, an online resource produced by Pearson Education, is available with this book and includes "Suggested Websites" and other helpful electronic tools for this book.
- Chapter Two on indigenous peoples has been fully revised, including a revised map and additional accounts of indigenous religions to enhance readers' understanding of these foundational faiths and their importance for understanding other religions.
- In Chapter Three, the discussion of the religions of India has been substantially revised to reflect new scholarship on the development of Hinduism from prehistory to the present, and the chapter now has more developed sections on "the Practice of Hinduism Today," "Sikhism," and "Jainism."
- Chapter Eight includes a new section on "Independent Christianities", including a new section on the "Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (the Mormons)," and the sections on "Missionaries and the Modern Expansion of Christianity" and on "Christian Mysticism and Devotion" have been substantially revised.
- Chapter Nine reflects new developments in Islam and includes a new section on Islam in Europe.
- Throughout the book, some descriptive writing has been replaced by profiles of individuals who exemplify the same point in personal terms, and additional narratives of the authors' experiences have been included.

- Many new photographs and other art have been added to increase the attractiveness and accessibility of the book.
- The Glossary is a helpful tool for students, as are the bibliographies at the end of each chapter, which have been updated to reflect new scholarship, and the maps, timelines, and summary information tables.
- The Appendix gives practical suggestions on how to write papers for courses using this text and makes suggestions about how to do research in the library and on the Internet.

As always, true understanding of the many faiths of the many peoples of Earth requires a mixture of knowledge and empathy. While reading this book, keep the necessary facts in mind, but read it also with compassion, which alone can furnish an understanding of what those facts mean to human beings for whom they are gateways to ultimate meaning.

### The Authors

Robert S. Ellwood is emeritus of the Religious Studies Department, University of Southern California. Generous in sharing with other scholars, whether young or old, his clear understanding of the deeper goals of education and scholarship, his breadth of knowledge and insight have resulted in numerous impressive works. Dr. Ellwood has a legacy with a long trajectory—*Many Peoples, Many Faiths* being one of his many significant contributions over the past more than four decades.

Barbara A. McGraw, Professor and Director of the Center for Engaged Religious Pluralism, Saint Mary's College of California, has been coauthor of *Many Peoples, Many Faiths* for half of all editions of this book, having joined Dr. Ellwood from the sixth edition forward in the rewriting, editing, updating, and additions to all sections of the book. Among other things, she contributed most of the material on women in the world religions, on religion, governance, and political life, and on the religions in America.

### TEACHING AND LEARNING RESOURCES FOR *MANY PEOPLES, MANY FAITHS, TENTH EDITION*

Whether you want to enhance lectures, create or study for tests or review outside material to reinforce content from the text, you will have with *Many Peoples, Many Faiths, Tenth Edition*, the most comprehensive set of instructional materials available to reinforce and enliven the study of the world religions.

#### MyReligionLab

MyReligionLab provides engaging experiences that personalize, stimulate, and measure learning for each student. Key components include:

- **MyReligionLibrary** features over 30 sacred texts and over 100 secondary source articles on a wide range of topics in world religion to help students better understand course material.
- **NPR Program Broadcasts**, including 90 selections relevant to the study of religion, help students engage with the material.
- **The Person eText** is enriched with multimedia and lets students access their textbook anytime and anywhere they want

- **A personalized study plan** for each student helps them succeed in the course and beyond.
- **Assessment** tied to every video, application, and chapter enables both instructors and students to track progress and get immediate feedback. With results feeding into a powerful gradebook, the assessment program helps instructors and students identify student challenges early and find the best resources with which to help students succeed.
- **Class Preparation Tool** collects the very best class presentation resources in one convenient online destination, so keep students can be engaged throughout every class.

Please see your local Pearson representative for access to MyReligionLab.

### **Instructor's Manual with Tests**

For each chapter in the text, this valuable resource provides a chapter outline, preview questions, lecture topics, research topics, and questions for classroom discussion. In addition, test questions in multiple choice and essay formats are available for each chapter; the answers are page-referenced to the text. For easy access, this manual is available within the instructor section of MyReligionLab for *Many Peoples, Many Faiths, Tenth Edition*, or at [www.pearsonhighered.com](http://www.pearsonhighered.com)

### **My Test**

This computerized software allows instructors to create their own personalized exams, to edit any or all of the existing test questions, and to add new questions. Other special features of this program include random generation of test questions, creation of alternate version of the same test, scrambling question sequence, and test preview before printing. For easy access, this software is available within the instructor section of MyReligionLab for *Many Peoples, Many Faiths, Tenth Edition*, or at [www.pearsonhighered.com](http://www.pearsonhighered.com)

### **PowerPoint Slides**

These PowerPoint slides combine text and graphics for each chapter to help instructors convey material in a clear and engaging way. In addition, Classroom Response System (CRS) In-Class Questions allow for instant, class-wide student responses to chapter-specific questions during lectures for teachers to gauge student comprehension. For easy access, they are available within the instructor section of MyReligionLibrary for *Many Peoples, Many Faiths, Tenth Edition*, or at [www.pearsonhighered.com](http://www.pearsonhighered.com)

### **The Prentice Hall Atlas of World Religions**

Through the use of over 50 visually arresting maps, this atlas shows the origins, historical development, and present state of all the world's religions.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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