

Religions in Conflict



Your 'hotspot': _____

The origins of conflicts that are occurring around the world are often missed in the media's portrayal of civil unrest. Although often described as ethnic in origin, religion plays a part in many of these conflicts.

Your task today is to research a current "hot spot" in which religion factors into the conflict. Your research should address the following:

- What religions are involved? [Note: if you are researching Tibet, you are looking at one religion versus the communist state].
- Find a map in order to indicate where the conflict is occurring. You should copy this map with your research.
- What are some of the basic fundamental principles of the religions involved? www.religioustolerance.org/var_rel.htm provides some background on the types of religions (and comparison charts if you're lucky!)
- Provide detailed information about the factors/events that led to the conflict (history) in your area of research. Make sure you include the role religion played.
- Try to find information about the numbers of people involved on each side.
- What is going on right now? Look for as much information as you can in order to describe the current situation. Is there an end in sight?
- Is religion the main factor in the conflict? If not, make sure you include other groups/sides of the issue.

To get you started, check out the following two websites:

- www.center2000.org
- www.religioustolerance.org/curr_war.htm
- After that.....Google it!

You are going to present your findings to the class tomorrow, so be prepared! If you don't get all the information you need during our lab time, you will need to do more research tonight.

- Religious Conflicts Around the World
 - Nigeria
 - Tibet
 - Sri Lanka
 - Philippines
 - Kosovo
 - Northern Ireland