

忠義
禮誠
義勇
名譽
氣仁

武士道



RELIGION IN CHINA

FROM 1949 TO PRESENT DAY

RELIGION AND POLITICS IN MODERN ASIA

CONFERENCE, 26 NOV 2016

PÁZMÁNY PÉTER CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

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Religions recognised by the CCP

- ▶ **Buddhism,**
- ▶ **Taoism,**
- ▶ **Islam**
- ▶ **Catholicism** (enforcing a separation from the RCC)
- ▶ **Protestantism**
- ▶ An increasing institutional recognition of Confucianism and Chinese folk religion.



Article No. 36 of the Chinese Constitution (passed: 1982)

Citizens of the People's Republic of China enjoy freedom of religious belief. No state organ, public organization or individual may compel citizens to believe in, or not to believe in, any religion; nor may they discriminate against citizens who believe in, or do not believe in, any religion. The state protects normal religious activities. No one may make use of religion to engage in activities that disrupt public order, impair the health of citizens or interfere with the educational system of the state. Religious bodies and religious affairs are not subject to any foreign domination.

中华人民共和国公民有宗教信仰自由。任何国家机关、社会团体和个人不得强制公民信仰宗教或者不信仰宗教，不得歧视信仰宗教的公民和不信仰宗教的公民。国家保护正常的宗教活动。任何人不得利用宗教进行破坏社会秩序、损害公民身体健康、妨碍国家教育制度的活动。宗教团体和宗教事务不受外国势力的支配。

State Administration for Religious Affairs 国家宗教事务局 (SARA)

is a functioning department under the State Council which oversees religious affairs and issues. It is closely connected with the United Front Work Department, and is charged with overseeing the operations of China's five officially sanctioned religious organizations:

- **the Buddhist Association of China** 中国佛教协会
- **Chinese Taoist Association** 中国道教协会
- **Islamic Association of China** 中国伊斯兰教协会
- **Three-Self Patriotic Movement** 三自爱国运动
- **Chinese Patriotic Catholic Association** 中国天主教爱国会

State Administration for Religious Affairs 国家宗教事务局 (SARA)

- control over religious appointments, the selection of clergy, and the interpretation of religious doctrine
- ensure that the registered religious organizations support and carry out the policy priorities Ye Xiaowen 叶小文 directed the SARA from 1995 to 2009. During his tenure, he issued the **State Religious Affairs Bureau Order No. 5**, which furthered state control over reincarnations in Tibetan Buddhism
- attempted to suppress Chinese Catholicism loyal to Rome (considered "colonial")
- After Ye was promoted current Director Wang Zuoran 王作安 not expected to effect changes in policy

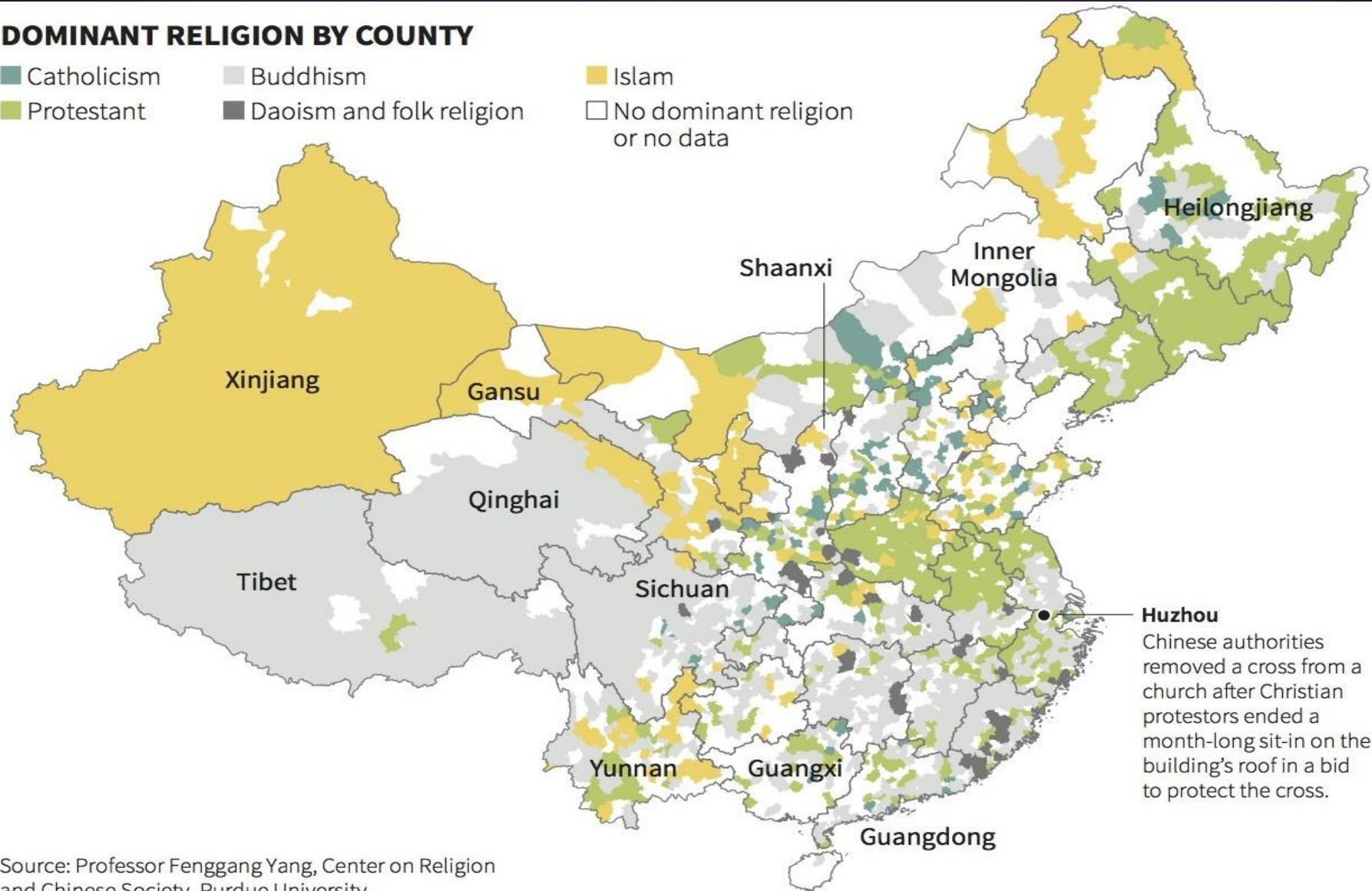


Religious Spokesperson 新闻发言人

- ▶ 9 press spokespersons
- ▶ press conferences, exchanges of information, giving interviews, writing news articles, on-line exchanges, and other methods, are to be available to the media and to the public
“authoritative” news as well as documents – also in the event of “sudden large-scale incidents in the religious realm”
- ▶ specially trained for this task by SARA



DOMINANT RELIGION BY COUNTY



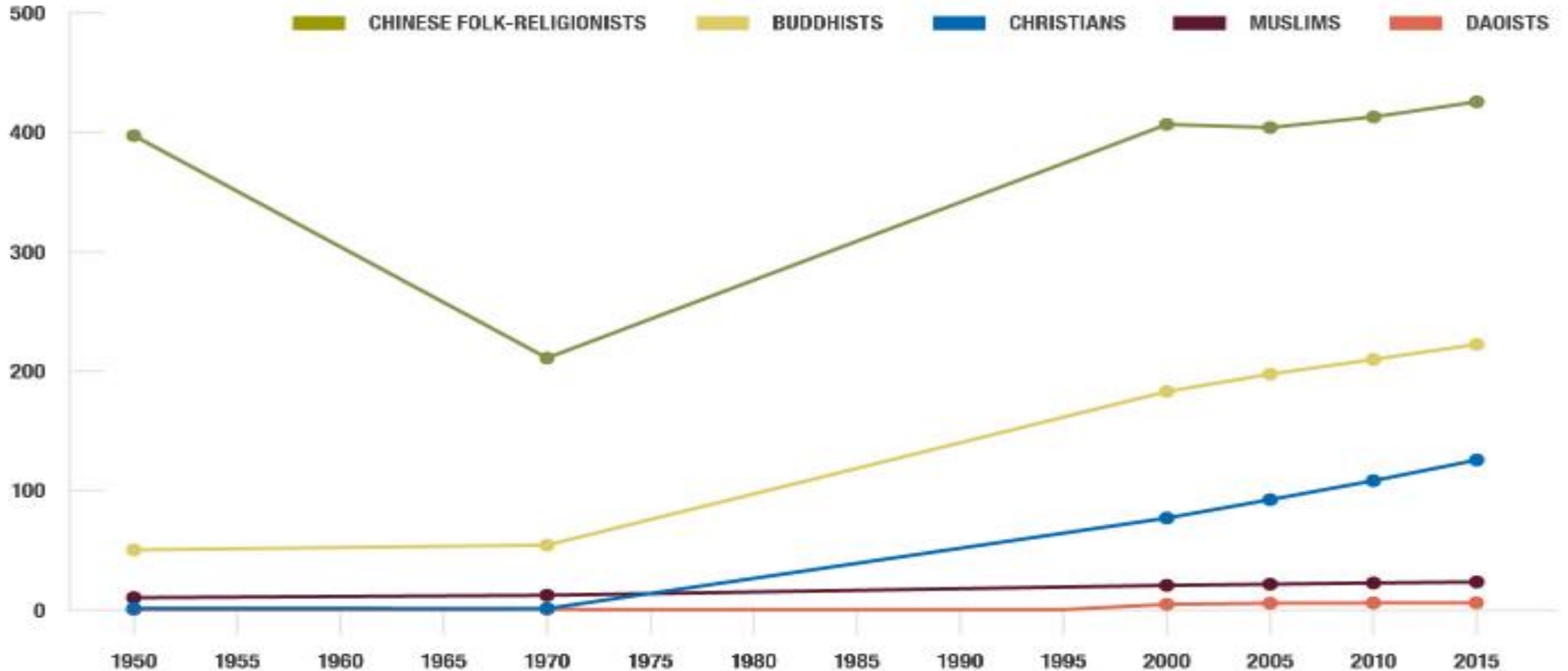
Huzhou

Chinese authorities removed a cross from a church after Christian protestors ended a month-long sit-in on the building's roof in a bid to protect the cross.

Source: Professor Fenggang Yang, Center on Religion and Chinese Society, Purdue University.

Religions in China Over Time

MILLIONS OF PEOPLE



Religious adults in selected provinces (2012)

	Shanghai	Liaoning	Henan	Gansu	Guangdong
Buddhism	10.4%	5.5%	6.4%	8.2%	6.2%
Daoism	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	1.0%	0.2%
Islam	0.0%	0.8%	1.3%	3.4%	0.0%
Protestantism	1.9%	2.1%	5.6%	0.4%	0.8%
Catholicism	0.7%	0.1%	0.5%	0.1%	0.2%
No religion	86.7%	91.3%	86.0%	87.0%	92.5%
Other	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Number of questionnaires	2,362	2,939	3,874	3,873	2,869

Data: CFPS 2012. Table taken from CFPS/SZW 2014, p. 13.

Degree of organisation in certain religions by province (% , 2010)

Religious affiliation	Shanghai	Liaoning	Henan	Gansu	Guangdong	Nationwide
Buddhism	1.2	4.3	5.7	2.2	2.2	2.97
Daoism	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	0.0	5.36
Islam	0.0	8.3	24.5	9.0	0.0	17.71
Protestantism	20.5	39.3	33.2	35.7	21.7	31.06
Catholicism	0.0	0.0	44.4	0.0	33.3	18.82
No religion	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.02
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.41

Data: CFPS 2012. Table taken from CFPS/SZW 2014, p. 22.

Participation in religious activities by frequency

Religious affiliation	Frequency of participation in religious activities [%]							Number of questionnaires
	Never	Once a year	Several times a year	Once a month	2-3 times a month	Once a week	Several times a week	
Buddhism	40.2	21.0	23.8	3.1	10.3	0.1	1.5	1,412
Daoism	60.7	11.6	17.9	0.0	8.9	0.9	0.0	112
Islam	21.9	16.7	29.2	1.0	1.0	16.7	13.5	96
Protestantism	16.7	10.4	9.1	3.8	5.8	41.7	12.6	396
Catholicism	24.7	11.8	27.1	3.5	9.4	17.6	5.9	85
Other	79.5	4.8	6.0	1.2	2.4	4.8	1.2	83

Data: CFPS 2012. Table taken from CFPS/SZW 2014, p. 23.

Religion by age (% , 2012)

Religious affiliation	Over 60	50–60	40–50	30–40	Under 30	All age levels
Buddhism	6.0	6.0	5.8	7.9	6.6	6.4
Daoism	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3
Islam	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.5
Protestantism	2.6	2.0	1.9	1.1	1.2	1.7
Catholicism	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.1	0.3	0.4
No religion	89.6	90.2	90.3	89.1	91.0	90.1
Other	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of questionnaires	3,972	3,325	4,142	2,646	2,783	16,868

Data: CFPS 2012. Table taken from CFPS/SZW 2014, p. 17.

Religion by level of education

(%, 2012)

Religious affiliation	Illiterate / semi-literate	Elementary school	Junior middle school	Senior middle school / technical middle school / vocational school	Technical college [and higher]	All educational levels
Buddhism	6.6	6.0	6.9	6.6	5.1	6.4
Daoism	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Islam	0.4	0.3	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.5
Protestantism	2.4	2.0	1.5	1.1	1.7	1.7
Catholicism	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.4
No religion	89.2	90.2	89.4	90.9	92.2	90.1
Other	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.0	0.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of questionnaires	4,096	3,478	5,282	2,648	1,359	16,863

Data: CFPS 2012. Table taken from CFPS/SZW 2014, p. 18.

Self-assessment of social status according to religious affiliation

	Very low	Rather low	Normal	Rather high	Very high	Total	Number of questionnaires
Buddhism	16.6	22.2	46.5	10.1	4.7	100.0	1,082
Daoism	25.6	27.8	38.9	3.2	4.5	100.0	73
Islam	15.8	12.1	62.3	6.3	3.5	100.0	86
Protestantism	19.1	18.4	45.2	11.5	5.7	100.0	324
Catholicism	12.6	22.0	51.8	10.6	3.0	100.0	61
No religion	14.9	21.3	48.8	10.6	4.4	100.0	14,968
Other	5.1	5.9	39.6	43.6	5.8	100.0	67
Total	15.1	21.2	48.6	10.7	4.4	100.0	16,661

Data: CFPS 2012. Table taken from CFPS/SZW 2014, p. 21.

Christianity in China (2011)

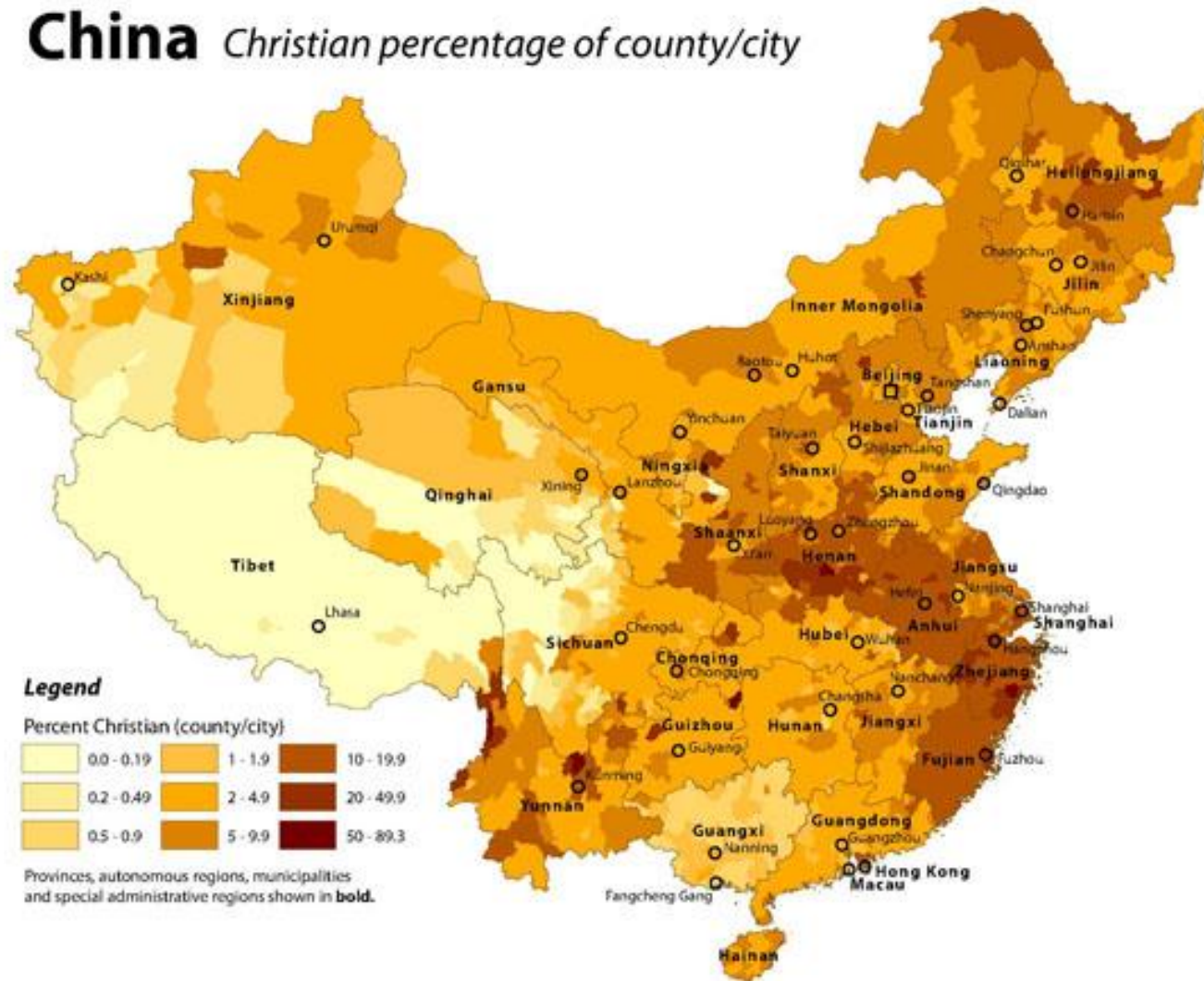
	Estimated number	Percentage of the population
Protestant	58,040,000	4.3%
– Independent	35,040,000	2.6%
– Other[*]	23,000,000	1.7%
– Anglican	< 1,000	< 0.1%
Orthodox	20,000	< 0.1%
Catholic	9,000,000	0.7%
Other Christians	< 10,000	< 0.1%
Total number of Christians	67,070,000	5.0%

Christianity in China

- 2014: 46.27 million Christians in China
- 4th largest Christian community in the world (after Mexico, Philippines, DR Congo)
- Only 3.5% of population (!)
- Top ones are: Greece, Romania, Ecuador, Armenia....



China *Christian percentage of county/city*



Islam in China

- 2014: 23.31 million Muslims in China
- 18th largest Muslim community in the world (Top: Indonesia, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Egypt...)
- Only 1.8% of population – less than certain EU countries! -> UK, Spain, Denmark, Belgium, Slovenia, Netherlands, Austria ...
- Top ones are: Morocco, Afghanistan, Tunisia, Iran, Western Sahara....



Percentage of Muslim Population by Ethnicity in China, 2010

Ethnic group	Population 2010 (persons)	Percentage of the total Muslim population (%)
Hui	10,586,000	45.74
Uyghur	10,069,000	43.51
Kazakh	1,462,600	6.32
Dongxiang	621,500	2.69
Kirghiz	186,700	Less than 1
Salar	130,600	Less than 1
Tadzhik	51,100	Less than 1
Uzbek	10,600	Less than 1
Bao'an	20,000	Less than 1
Tatar	3,556	Less than 1

Data: 2010 census. Table compiled according to Liu Xiaochun 2014, p. 71.

Buddhism in China

- 2014: 472 million Buddhists in China
- 1st largest Buddhist community (Top: Thailand, South Korea, Sri Lanka...)
- 35% of population
- Top ones: Cambodia, Thailand, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Laos



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感谢关注！

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