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### CHRONOLOGY OF SELECT SIGNIFICANT PERSONS AND SEMINAL TEXTS

#### Conventions:

\**Circa* (Latin for “around” or “about”) here abbreviated as *c.*, is used to indicate approximate dates.

\*Books are given with their original date of publication (where known) and their title in English (on its own or following the original) even for cases where an English translation was not published until later.

#### Before the Common/Christian Era (BCE)

<b>c. 1100s</b>	Zarathustra	Also Zoroaster; Iranian prophet considered the founder of Zoroastrianism, to whom the composition of ancient hymns ( <i>gatha</i> ) are attributed.
<b>c. 700s</b>	Homer	Mythic Greek poet to whom the major Western epics, the <i>Odyssey</i> and the <i>Illiad</i> are attributed.
<b>c. 700s</b>	Hesiod	Greek poet to whom the authorship of <i>Works and Days</i> and the <i>Theogony</i> are attributed.
<b>c. 610-546</b>	Anaximander	Pre-Socratic Greek philosopher known for his contributions in science and geometry.
<b>c. 580-490</b>	Xenophanes	Greek philosopher and poet known for his critique of polytheism.
<b>c. 500s</b>	Laozi	Also Lao-tzu; Mythic Chinese philosopher; credited with the formulation of Daoist (Taoist) teachings; attributed with the authorship of the <i>Daodejing (Tao Te Ching)</i>
<b>551-479</b>	Kongzi	Also K’ung Fu-tzu or Confucius; enormously influential Chinese teacher of social and ethical values; teachings contained in the <i>Analects</i> .
<b>c. 549-477</b>	Vardhamana	Indian teacher; known as Mahavira; associated with conveying the teachings of the Jains.
<b>c. 490-410</b>	Siddhartha Gautama	Indian teacher; known as the Buddha (Awakened One); associated with teachings for the ending of suffering and the attainment of spiritual liberation ( <i>nirvana</i> ).
<b>c. 400s</b>	Valmiki	Indian poet to whom the composition of the Indian epic, the <i>Ramayana</i> , is attributed.
<b>c. 469-399</b>	Socrates	Greek philosopher known for his teaching method of questioning students; teacher of Plato.

<b>c. 427-347</b>	Plato	Tremendously influential Greek philosopher; student of Socrates; thought contained in various texts known as dialogues, such as the <i>Republic</i> and the <i>Timaeus</i> .
<b>c. 365-290</b>	Zhuangzi	Also Chuang-tzu; Chinese Daoist (Taoist) philosopher whose unique genius accounts for the “inner chapters” of the text that bears his name.
<b>384-322</b>	Aristotle	Enormously influential Greek philosopher; student of Plato and teacher of Alexander the Great; made contributions in numerous areas, particularly logic, psychology, natural science, ethics, and poetics.
<b>c. 300s</b>	Euclid	Greek mathematician, whose influential work <i>Elements</i> forms the basis of classical (Euclidean) geometry.
<b><u>Common/Christian Era (CE)</u></b>		
<b>20BCE-50CE</b>	Philo Judeaus	Hellenic Jewish philosopher known for promoting the notion of interpreting scriptural accounts as allegories.
<b>c. 7BCE-26CE</b>	Jesus of Nazareth	Jewish teacher ( <i>rabbi</i> ), designated by his followers as the Messiah or Christ; pivotal figure in Christian beliefs.
<b>c. 150-250</b>	Nagariuna	Indian-born philosopher; founder of the Madhvamaka school of Mahayana Buddhism; author of the <i>Mulamadhyamakakarika (Fundamental Verses on the Middle Way)</i> .
<b>354-430</b>	Augustine of Hippo	Influential Christian Church father; known for his doctrine of original sin; author of <i>City of God</i> , <i>On Christian Doctrine</i> , and the <i>Confessions</i> .
<b>538-597</b>	Zhiyi (Chih-i)	Chinese founder of Tiantai (T'ien-T'ai) School of Buddhism; known for harmonizing and systematizing the vast corpus of Indian Buddhist literature into a unified vehicle with the <i>Lotus Sutra</i> as the dominant text.
<b>570-632</b>	Muhammad	Arabian prophet and founder of Islam; believed by Muslims to have received the instructions of Allah (God), contained in the <i>Qur'an</i> .
<b>774-835</b>	Kūkai	Towering figure in Japanese religion and culture, also known as Kōbō Daishi; founded the Shingon school of Vajrayana Buddhism; as a young man, wrote an early work of comparative religion, <i>Ten Stages of Religious Consciousness</i> , which describes and ranks various Asian religious traditions.

<b>c. 788-820</b>	Shankara	Hindu philosopher, known for his doctrine of extreme non-dualism; wrote influential commentaries on the Upanishads, and the <i>Bhagavad Gita</i> .
<b>980-1037</b> 1014-1020	Ibn Sina (Avicenna) <i>Kitab al-Shifa (Book of Healing)</i>	Influential Muslim philosopher and physician from Persia.
<b>1033-1109</b>	Anselm of Canterbury	Italian theologian; influential early Scholastic known for his ontological argument for the existence of God.
<b>1058-1111</b>	Al-Ghazali (Algazel)	Persian Muslim theologian known for his contributions to the legitimacy of Islamic mysticism (Sufism); author of <i>Tahafut al-Falasifa (Incoherence of the Philosophers)</i> .
<b>c. 1100-1160</b> c. 1150	Peter Lombard <i>Four Books of Sentences</i>	French-Italian Scholastic theologian.
<b>1126-1198</b>	Ibn Rushd(Averroes)	Spanish-born, influential Muslim philosopher/theologian, whose commentaries on Aristotle's works contributed to the revival of secular thought in Christian Europe; author of <i>Tahafut al-Tahafut (Incoherence of the Incoherence)</i> , a critique of a work by Al-Ghazali.
<b>1135-1204</b>	Moses Maimonides	Jewish theologian and philosopher; known for his formulation of a creed for Jews and for authoring the <i>Mishneh Torah</i> , a comprehensive study of Jewish law, as well as the more philosophical <i>Guide for the Perplexed</i> , which harmonized faith with reason and marked the apex of Medieval Jewish theology and philosophy.
<b>1222-1282</b>	Nichiren	Japanese Buddhist monk; known for advocating reverence of the <i>Lotus Sutra</i> with exceptional polemical and proselytizing zeal.
<b>1225-1274</b> 1265-1274	Thomas Aquinas <i>Summa Theologica</i>	Italian Dominican friar; exponent of Aristotelian philosophy; possibly the most influential of Catholic theologians.
<b>1266-1308</b>	John Duns Scotus	Influential Scottish theologian, known for his support of the Catholic doctrine of the immaculate conception of Mary, mother of Jesus, and for divorcing faith from reason.
<b>c. 1288-1347</b>	William of Ockham	English scholastic philosopher, known for the doctrine of parsimony in the formulation of explanations and theories (Occam's Razor).
<b>1357-1419</b>	Tsong Khapa	Tibetan Buddhist systematizer, reformer, and theologian who instituted rigorous standards of virtue, practice, textual study, interpretation, and debate. His <i>Great Exposition of the Path</i> integrated diverse teachings and offering guidance for Buddhists' daily life, philosophical perspective, and

ultimate religious aims.

<b>1596-1650</b>	René Descartes	French thinker; regarded as the father of modern Western philosophy.
1637	<i>Discourse on the Method</i>	
1641	<i>Meditations on First Philosophy</i>	
<b>1643-1727</b>	Isaac Newton	English physicist; known for his laws of motion and gravitation.
1687	<i>Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica</i>	
1704	<i>Opticks</i>	
<b>1711-1776</b>	David Hume	Scottish philosopher; known for his criticism of the argument for the existence of God based on the notion of intelligent design.
1779	<i>Dialogues concerning Natural Religion</i>	
<b>1724-1804</b>	Immanuel Kant	German philosopher; known for contributions in metaphysics and epistemology.
1781	<i>Critique of Pure Reason</i>	
<b>1749-1832</b>	J. W. von Goethe	German intellectual who made major contributions to many fields including philosophy and literature.
1806	<i>Faust</i> (Part I)	
1832	<i>Faust</i> (Part II)	
<b>1809-1882</b>	Charles Darwin	English naturalist known for his theory of biological evolution.
1859	<i>On the Origin of Species</i>	
<b>1813-1855</b>	Søren Kierkegaard	Danish philosopher/theologian; known for his contributions to the notion of faith and to the philosophy of existentialism.
<b>1818-1883</b>	Karl Marx	Prussian-born, influential social, political, and economic theorist; considered the father of communist political philosophy.
1848	<i>Communist Manifesto</i> (coauthored with Friedrich Engels)	
1867-1894	<i>Das Capital</i> ( <i>Capital</i> ) in three volumes.	
<b>1820-1903</b>	Herbert Spencer	English philosopher; coined the term “survival of the fittest,” to explain Charles Darwin’s theory of evolution; promoted the notion of the evolution of societies.
<b>1823-1900</b>	F. Max Müller	German-born philologist, comparativist, and “father of the scientific study of religion ( <i>Religionswissenschaft</i> )”; specialized in Sanskrit; theorized on the origins of myths.
1879	<i>Sacred Books of the East</i> (beginning of this massive, multi-volume project)	
<b>1832-1917</b>	E. B. Tylor	English anthropologist; pioneer in the anthropological study of religion.

1871		<i>Primitive Culture</i>	
<b>1842-1910</b>	William James	American psychologist and philosopher who emphasized the value of immediate, personal, religious experience.	
	1891	<i>The Principles of Psychology</i>	
	1902	<i>The Varieties of Religious Experience</i>	
<b>1844-1900</b>	Friedrich Nietzsche	German philosopher known for his critique of religious morality.	
	1883-1885	<i>Thus Spoke Zarathustra</i>	
	1886	<i>Beyond Good and Evil</i>	
	1887	<i>On the Genealogy of Morals</i>	
<b>1844-1912</b>	Andrew Lang	Scottish folklorist who contributed to the development of the anthropology of religion.	
<b>1854-1941</b>	J. G. Frazer	Scottish mythologist; known for his contributions to the study of magic in various cultures.	
	1890	<i>The Golden Bough</i>	
<b>1856-1939</b>	Sigmund Freud	Founding father of psychoanalysis; indicated that religion provided benefits to civilization but ultimately is illusory, is akin to a childhood neurosis, and lacks scientific rigor.	
	1912-13	<i>Totem and Taboo</i>	
	1927	<i>The Future of an Illusion</i>	
	1939	<i>Moses and Monotheism</i>	
<b>1858-1917</b>	Émile Durkheim	French founder of the modern discipline of sociology; theorized on totemism as the earliest form of religion.	
	1912	<i>The Elementary Forms of the Religious Life</i>	
<b>1858-1942</b>	Franz Boas	German-born American; considered the father of American cultural anthropology.	
<b>1859-1919</b>	Shaku Sōen	Japanese Zen monk and abbot; known for his reforms, lay students, and influence at the 1893 World's Parliament of Religions in Chicago.	
<b>1861-1947</b>	Alfred N. Whitehead	English mathematician and philosopher; associated with the development of process philosophy.	
	1929	<i>Process and Reality</i>	
<b>1864-1920</b>	Max Weber	German sociologist and political theorist on religion; especially well-known for <i>The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism</i> , which emerged from publications in 1904-1905; also wrote <i>The Religion of China</i> and <i>The Religion of India</i> .	
<b>1868-1954</b>	Wilhelm Schmidt	Catholic priest and anthropologist; known for his theory of original monotheism.	

<b>1869-1937</b>	Rudolf Otto	German scholar of religion; used “numinous” to designate religious dimensions—including feelings of awe and terror—beyond the grasp of reason and scientific explanation.
1923	<i>The Idea of the Holy</i>	
<b>1870-1966</b>	D. T. Suzuki	Japanese scholar, and lay student of Shaku Sōen, who most influentially introduced Zen and related religious and artistic traditions from Japan to the West; wrote more than 100 books and lectured extensively in North America and Europe.
1938	<i>Zen Buddhism and Its Influence on Japanese Culture</i>	
<b>1872-1970</b>	Bertrand Russell	British mathematician and philosopher; major contributor to the development of analytic philosophy.
1910-1913	<i>Principia Mathematica</i> (in 3 vols). Coauthored with A. N. Whitehead.	
<b>1875-1961</b>	Carl Gustav Jung	Swiss founder of analytic (Jungian) psychology; evaluated religion more positively than Freud; notion of universal archetypes that emerge from a collective unconscious and the importance of individuation.
1938	<i>Psychology of Religion</i>	
1956	<i>Answer to Job</i>	
1958	<i>Psychology and Religion: West and East</i>	
<b>1878-1965</b>	Martin Buber	Austrian-born, Jewish philosopher.
1923	<i>Ich und Du (I and Thou)</i>	
<b>1881-1955</b>	A.R. Radcliffe-Brown	British social anthropologist, associated with structural functionalism as an approach to the study of societies and culture.
1952	<i>Structure and Function in Primitive Society</i>	
<b>1884-1942</b>	B. Malinowski	Polish-born anthropologist; known for his emphasis on fieldwork in the study of societies and their cultures.
1922	<i>Argonauts of the Western Pacific</i>	
1948	<i>Magic, Science, and Religion</i>	
<b>1884-1976</b>	Rudolf Bultmann	German Lutheran theologian, known for his influential work in Biblical Studies.
1921	<i>History of the Synoptic Tradition.</i>	
<b>1886-1965</b>	Paul Tillich	German-American Protestant theologian, known for his emphasis on religion as that which is founded upon a human being’s ultimate concern.
1951-1963	<i>Systematic Theology</i> (in 3 volumes)	
<b>1886-1968</b>	Karl Barth	Influential Swiss-born Protestant Reformed theologian.
1932-1968	<i>Church Dogmatics</i>	
<b>1889-1951</b>	Ludwig Wittgenstein	Austrian philosopher; known for his contributions on the philosophy of language and on mind.
1921	<i>Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus</i>	

1953	<i>Philosophical Investigations</i>	
<b>1890-1950</b>	Gerardus van der Leeuw	Dutch theologian and phenomenologist who studied many religious traditions while setting aside, or bracketing, specific truth claims of a particular religion or about the sacred.
1967	<i>Religion in Essence and Manifestation: A Study in Phenomenology</i>	
<b>1901-1976</b>	Werner Heisenberg	German physicist; known for the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle; awarded the Nobel Prize in 1932.
<b>1902-1973</b>	E. E. Evans-Pritchard	British social anthropologist; contributed to functionalism linked to the interpretive approach.
1937	<i>Witchcraft, Oracles and Magic among the Azande</i>	
1956	<i>Nuer Religion</i>	
1965	<i>Theories of Primitive Religion</i>	
<b>1902-1994</b>	Erik Erikson	German psychoanalyst and developmental psychologist; applied model of eight stages of a human's life cycle to key religious figures; asserted religion could assist in adapting to each stage.
1958	<i>Young Man Luther: A Study in Psychoanalysis and History</i>	
1969	<i>Gandhi's Truth: On the Origins of Militant Nonviolence</i>	
<b>1904-1987</b>	Joseph Campbell	American intellectual; known for his work on comparative mythology.
1949	<i>The Hero with a Thousand Faces</i>	
1959-1968	<i>The Masks of the Gods</i> (in 4 volumes)	
1988	<i>The Power of Myth</i> (with Bill Moyers)	
<b>1907-1986</b>	Mircea Eliade	Romanian scholar of the "history of religion" at the University of Chicago; comparativist and phenomenologist who sought out manifestations of the sacred throughout the world's religions and myths.
1959	<i>Sacred &amp; the Profane: The Nature of Religion</i>	
1967	<i>From Primitives to Zen</i>	
1986	<i>Encyclopedia of Religion</i> (ed., 16 volumes)	
<b>1908-1970</b>	Abraham Maslow	American humanistic psychologist; argued basic needs must first be met before motivation and opportunity for higher values can be realized; religious "peak experiences" and "self-actualization" possible with development of higher needs.
1964	<i>Religions, Values, and Peak-Experiences</i>	
<b>1908-</b>	Claude Lévi-Strauss	French anthropologist; pioneer of structuralism as an approach to study human social and cultural creations, such as myth and ritual.
1958	<i>Anthropologie Structurale (Structural Anthropology)</i>	
1962	<i>Pensee Sauvage (The Savage Mind)</i>	
1964	<i>Cru et le Cuit (The Raw and the Cooked)</i>	
1979	<i>Myth and Meaning</i>	

<b>1915-2006</b>	Abe Masao	Written Masao Abe in Western convention. Japanese Zen Buddhist philosopher (member of the Kyoto School of Philosophy) and influential contributor to interfaith dialogue.
1985		<i>Zen and Western Thought</i> (ed. William LaFleur)
1995		<i>Buddhism and Interfaith Dialogue</i> (ed. Steven Heine)
2003		<i>Zen and the Modern World</i> (ed. Steven Heine)
<b>1917-1992</b>	David Bohm	American physicist and philosopher associated with concepts such as the “implicate order” of reality, which is seen as a “holomovement.”
1980		<i>Wholeness and the Implicate Order</i>
1991		<i>The Undivided Universe : an Ontological Interpretation of Quantum</i>
<b>1920-1983</b>	Victor Turner	Scottish-born American anthropologist; known for his theoretical contributions on rites of passage.
1967		<i>The Forest of Symbols</i>
1969		<i>The Ritual Process: Structure and Anti-structure</i>
<b>1921-2007</b>	Mary Douglas	British social anthropologist; known for her contributions on the interpretation of symbols and values through category analysis.
1966		<i>Purity and Danger: An Analysis of Concepts of Pollution and Taboo</i>
1970		<i>Natural Symbols: Explorations in Cosmology</i>
<b>1922-</b>	John Hick	American theologian; known for his writings on the philosophy of religion.
1980		<i>God Has Many Names</i>
<b>1923-</b>	René Girard	French scholar; asserted violence and the sacred are inseparable: both originate in mimetic desire and the power and function of sacrificing a scapegoat to unite the group and stave off uncontrolled violence, which could otherwise tear society apart.
1977		<i>Violence and the Sacred</i>
<b>1926-2006</b>	Clifford Geertz	American anthropologist; regarded as the father of interpretive anthropology.
1960		<i>The Religion of Java</i>
1973		<i>The Interpretation of Cultures: Selected Essays.</i>
<b>1927-2001</b>	Ninian Smart	Scottish scholar of religion; encouraged imaginative empathy in the exploration of religion, which is identifiable through multiple dimensions: perspectives, rituals, beliefs, myths, ethics, institutions and experiences.
1969		<i>The Religious Experience of Mankind</i>
1989		<i>The World's Religions</i>
<b>1928-</b>	Mary Daly	Feminist theologian and philosopher; prefers the self-descriptive terms "radical" and "lesbian;" known for her criticism of Christianity as a religion that cannot be adequately reformed to make it suitably egalitarian and inclusive for women.
1968		<i>The Church and the Second Sex</i>
1973		<i>Beyond God the Father: Toward a Philosophy of Women's Liberation</i>



- 1976 *Gyn/Ecology: The Metaethics of Radical Feminism*  
 1998 *Quintessence: Realizing the Archaic Future*
- 1929-** Peter Berger American sociologist and theologian.  
 1967 *The Sacred Canopy: Elements of a Sociological Theory of Religion*
- 1932-** Alvin Plantinga American philosopher/theologian; Christian apologist.  
 1977 *God, Freedom, and Evil*  
 2000 *Warranted Christian Belief*
- 1935-2003** Edward W. Saïd Palestinian-American scholar; known for theory of orientalism;  
 regarded as the founding figure of postcolonial theory.  
 1978 *Orientalism*  
 1981 *Covering Islam: How the Media and the Experts Determine How We See the Rest  
 of the World*
- c. 1935-** Rodney Stark American sociologist of religion  
 1985 *The Future of Religion* (coauthored with W. Bainbridge)  
 1996 *The Rise of Christianity*
- c. 1935-** Jonathan Z. Smith American historian of religion; known for his theorizing  
 on ritual, and the discipline of religious studies.  
 1978 *Map is not Territory: Studies in the History of Religion*  
 1982 *Imagining Religion*  
 1987 *To Take Place: Toward Theory in Ritual*
- 1936-** Rosemary R. Ruether Christian feminist theologian.  
 1983 *Sexism and God-Talk: Toward a Feminist Theology*
- 1938-** E. Schüssler Fiorenza Catholic feminist theologian.  
 1984 *In Memory of Her: A Feminist Theological Reconstruction of Christian Origins*
- 1939-** Fritjof Capra Austrian-born physicist and philosopher, known for his  
 speculations on the similarities between modern physics  
 and ancient Eastern religious worldviews.  
 1975 *Tao of Physics*
- 1940-** Wendy Doniger American historian of religions; known for her work on  
 comparative mythology, particularly from Hindu Sanskrit  
 texts.  
 1973 *Asceticism and Eroticism in the Mythology of Siva*  
 1975 *Hindu Myths: A Sourcebook*  
 1980 *Women, Androgynes, and other Mythical Beasts*

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