

Eastern Religions: (Dis)orientations

Prof. Katherine Ulrich – UNM – 8/23/16



The point of today: the whole premise of the course is problematic; both “Eastern” and “Religion” are made-up categories that don’t match reality in straightforward ways.

And: let’s look at maps, so everyone knows where the places are that we will be talking about for the next few months. (And so everyone gets 100% on the map questions on the exam.)

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Japan-centered map

[The World 1914](#) from

http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/historical/history_world.html

[Saikin Sekai Zu / Latest World Map], published by Shou Hisou, 1914

(3rd year, Taisho Era). Map of the progress of the war with detailed map of Tsingtao. Our thanks go to Juan Ysidro Tineo Alvarado for providing this map scan and translation.

世界地图

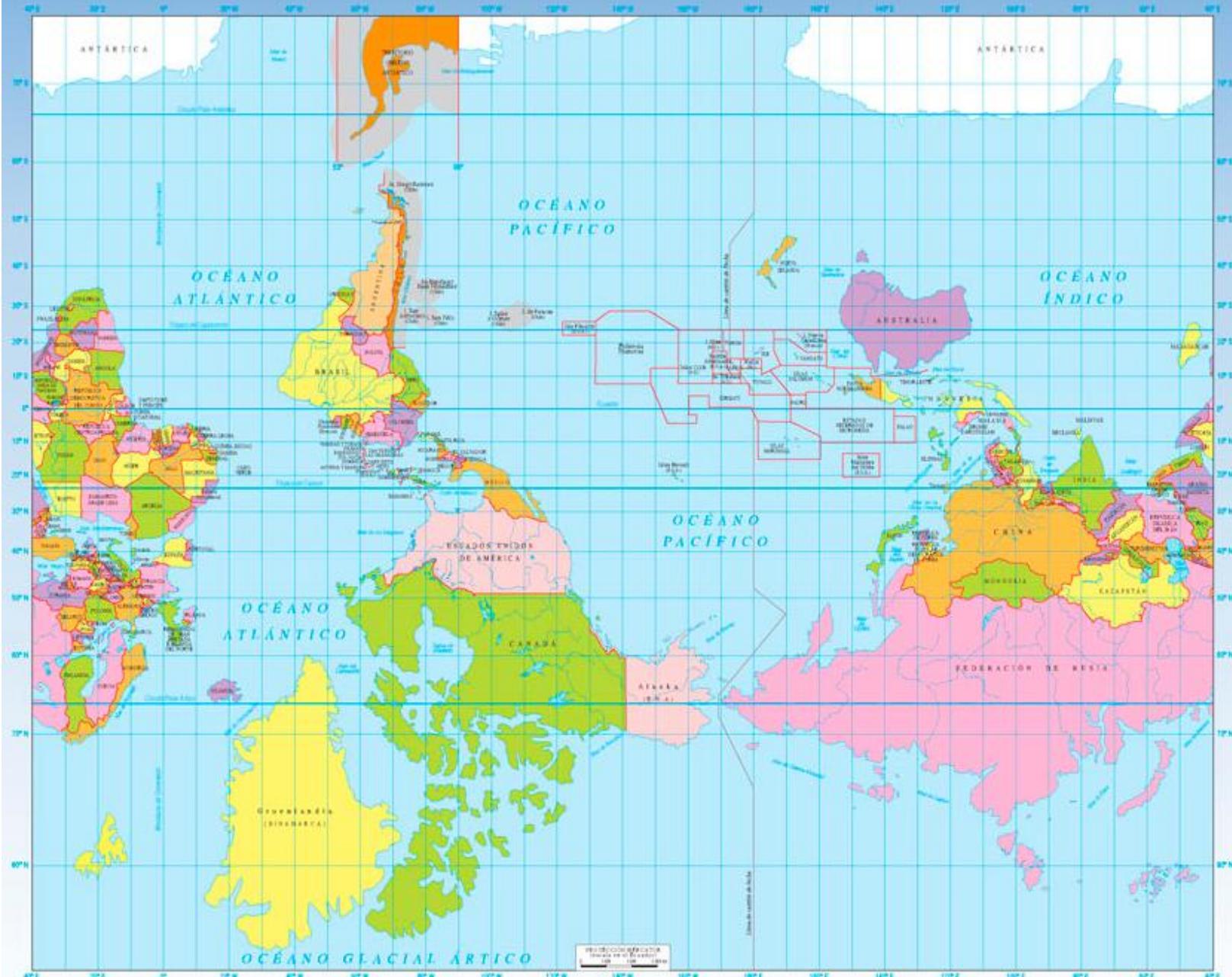
WORLD MAP



http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_voTwI4y6Nc/TNmLc1A3qNI/AAAAAAAFAw/ghO6SfLWROk/s1600/20070628184800155+%25282%2529.jpg



Europe-centered map, Mercator projection; also from
<http://geografiainfinita.com/2014/08/15/visiones-del-mundo-el-mapamundi-segun-cada-cultura/>



[Chile-centered map: "Mapa del mundo de Chile diseñado por el senador Carlos Cantero"](http://geografiainfinity.com/2014/08/15/visiones-del-mundo-el-mapamundi-segun-cada-cultura/) from
<http://geografiainfinity.com/2014/08/15/visiones-del-mundo-el-mapamundi-segun-cada-cultura/>



Upside down World Map

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LEGEND

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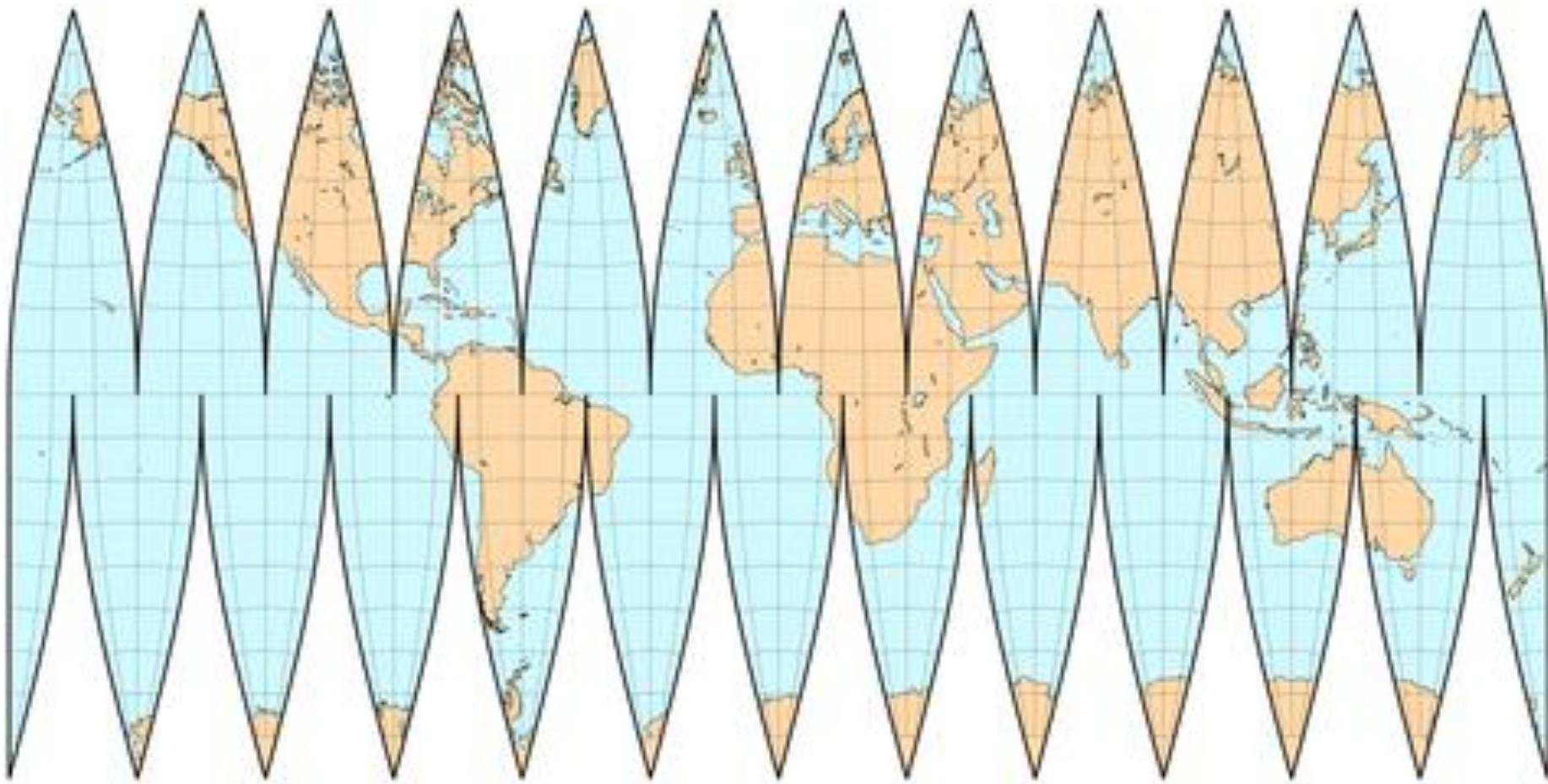
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<http://www.progonos.com/furuti/MapProj/Normal/ProjInt/projInt.html>



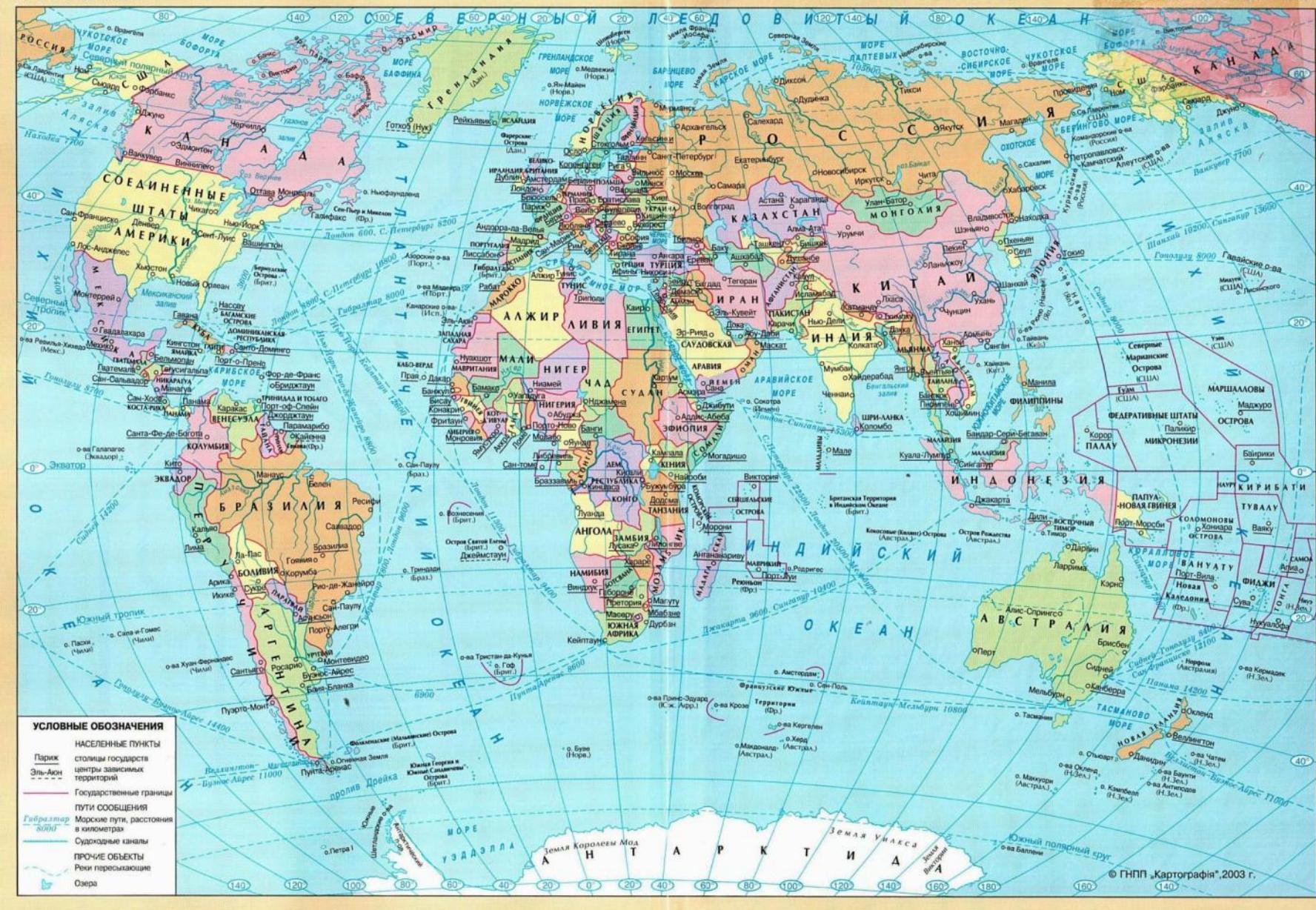
U.S. ARMY IN WORLD WAR II

MAP 1

USA-centered map, Rand McNally, from
<http://geografiainfinita.com/2014/08/15/visiones-del-mundo-el-mapamundi-segun-cada-cultura/>

КАРТА МИРА

Масштаб 1:115 000 000



Russian map; also from <http://geografiainfinita.com/2014/08/15/visiones-del-mundo-el-mapamundi-segun-cada-cultura/>



2nd Edition

World Population Cartogram 2015

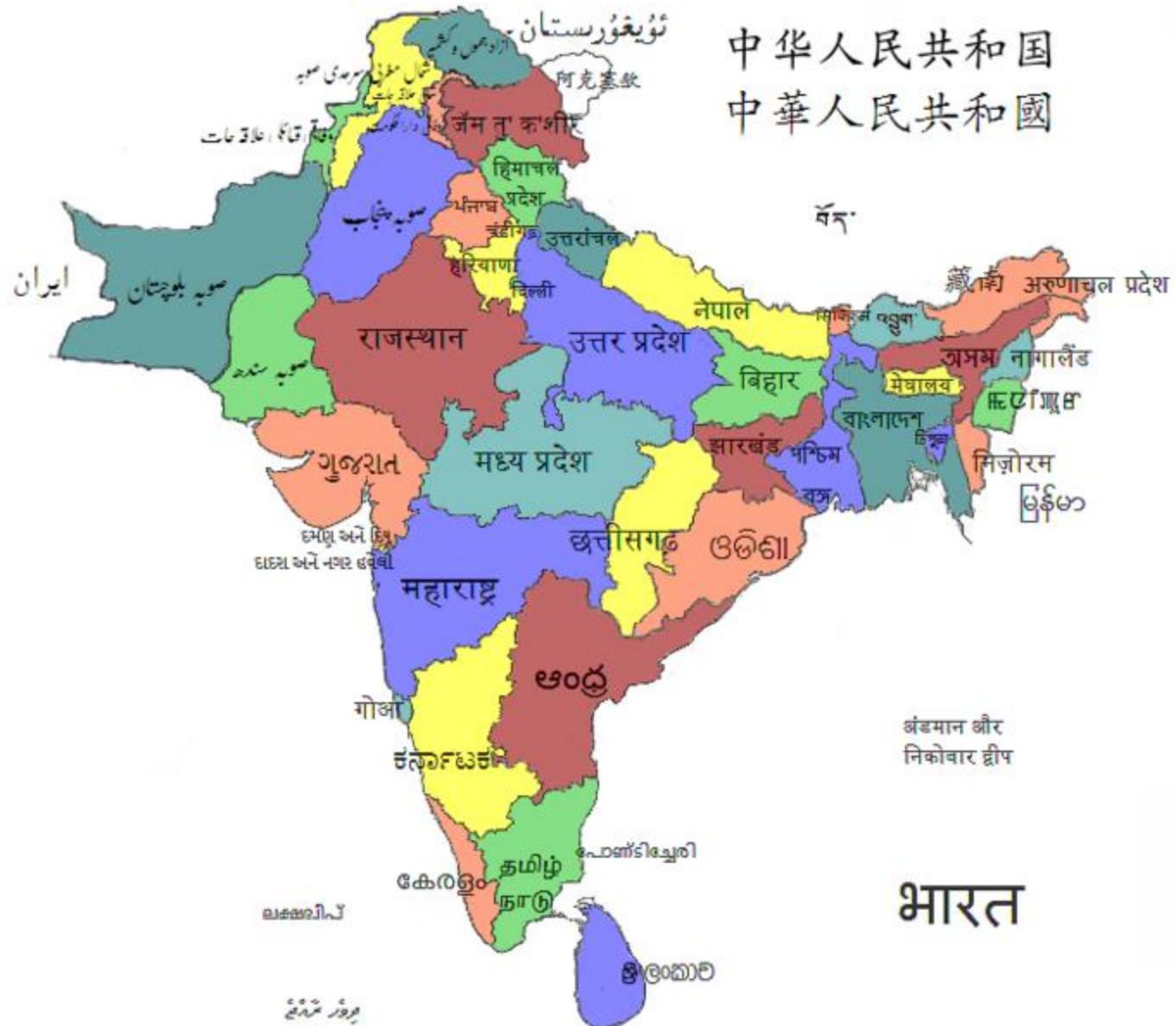
each square = 500,000 people

1. Libya - 2m
2. India - 2.9 m
3. China - 10.5 m
4. Austria - 0.5 m
5. Slovakia - 0.4 m
6. Moldova - 0.3 m
7. Slovenia - 0.2 m
8. Croatia - 0.2 m
9. Russia and Herzegovina - 0.6 m
10. Montenegro - 0.2 m
11. Iceland - 0.1 m
12. Macedonia - 0.2 m
13. Albania - 0.2 m
14. Belarus - 0.2 m
15. Cyprus - 0.05 m
16. Bahrain - 0.3 m
17. Kuwait - 0.2 m
18. Costa Rica - 0.2 m
19. Eritrea - 0.2 m
20. Djibouti - 0.005 m

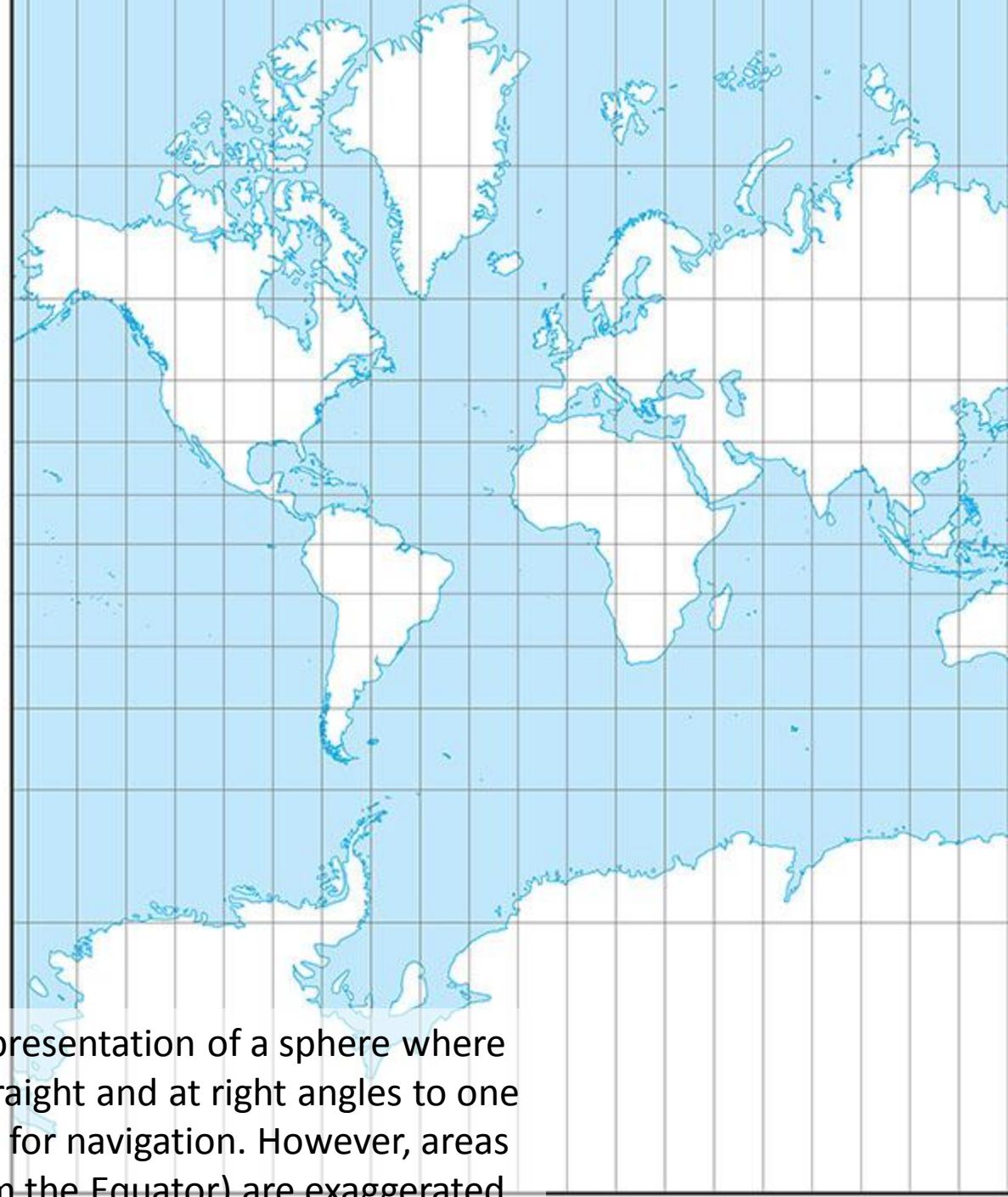


- <http://i.imgur.com/HhqlkMK.png>

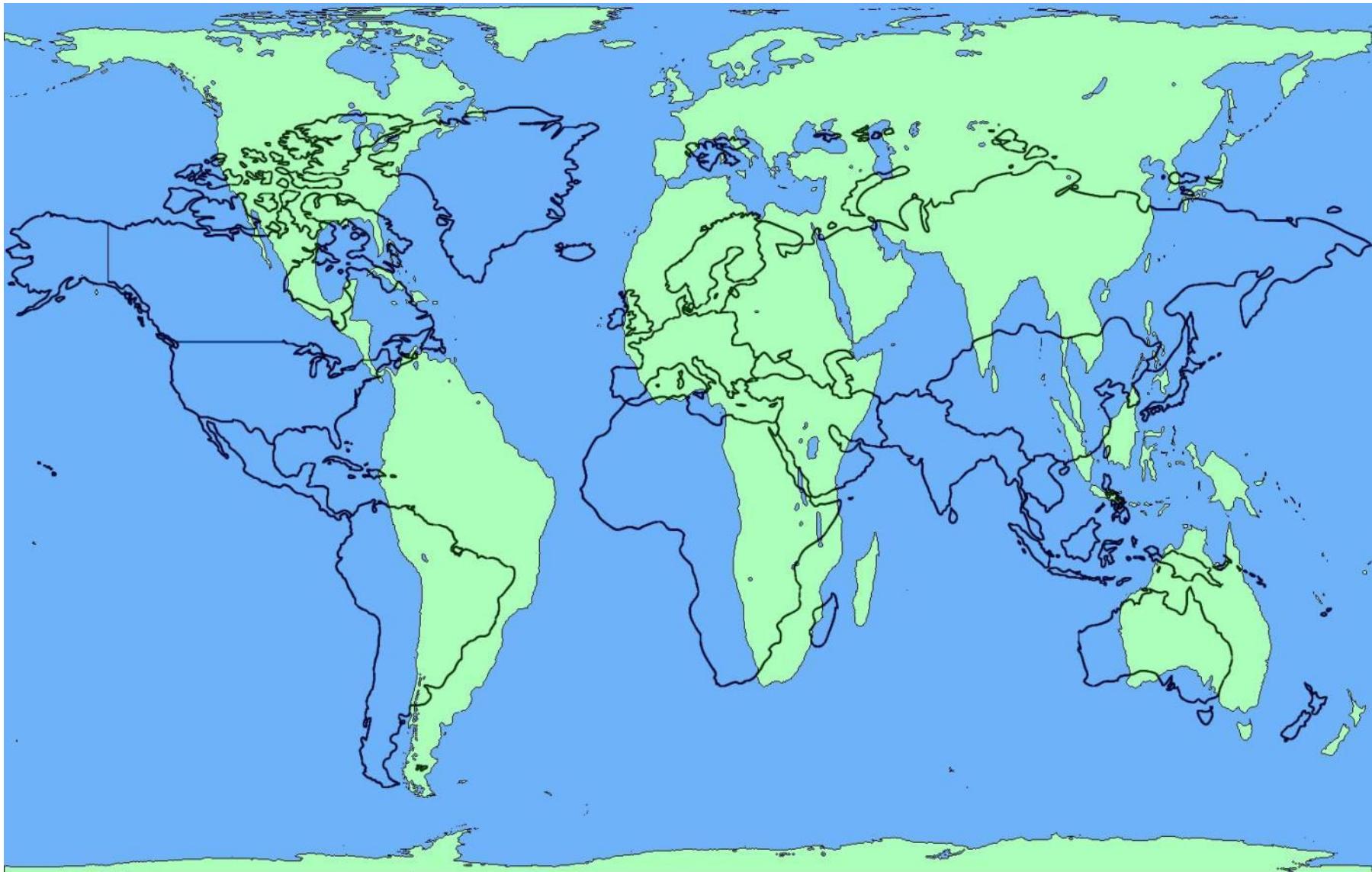
中华人民共和国 中華人民共和國



[http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/
File:South_asia_local_lang.PNG](http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/File:South_asia_local_lang.PNG)



The Mercator map projection is a representation of a sphere where lines of latitude and longitude are straight and at right angles to one another, making this projection ideal for navigation. However, areas at higher latitudes (farther away from the Equator) are exaggerated.



Mercator map projection (blue) & Peters map projection (green).
This & following from <http://www.outsidethebeltway.com/africas-size/>

FRONT

Take the quiz! Compare country size.

Which of the images on both sides of this map are "area accurate"? Hint: the answer is not the same on the front and back sides.

Dreyer's projection is very different from the one on the reverse side? Answers and details about all the images are at www.odt.org/hdp. To the right:

(5) Van Sant's Geosphere,

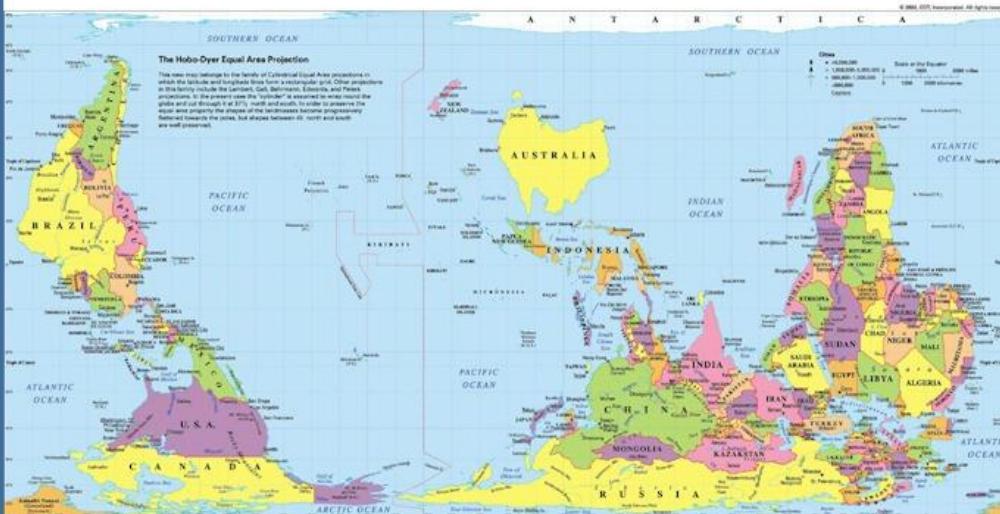
(6) Guelke's Toronto-centered projection,

(7) the Oxford Globe, and

(8) Good's Hemispheres



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BACK



The Hobo-Dyer Equal Area projection

above shows each country's area at true proportion.

This makes it fair to all countries.

Other ways of seeing the world include:

(1) Buckminster Fuller's Dymaxion Map,

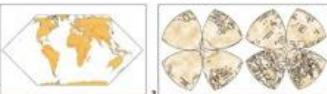
(2) Mollweide's projection,

(3) Leonardo da Vinci's mappemonde, and

(4) a population cartogram.

For more information on these images

visit www.odt.org/hdp



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Summary:

-the world is round

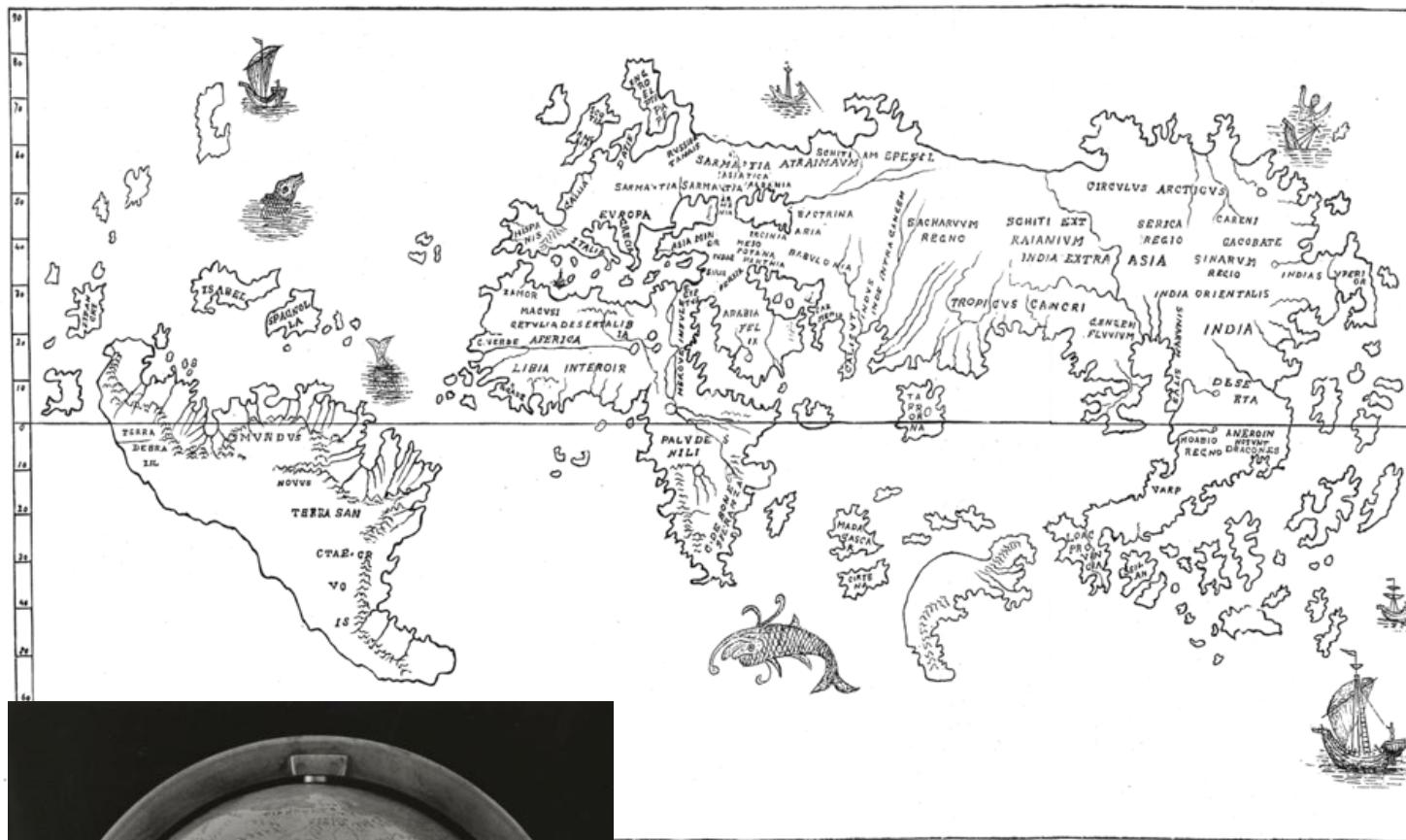
-maps are flat

-compromises are necessary

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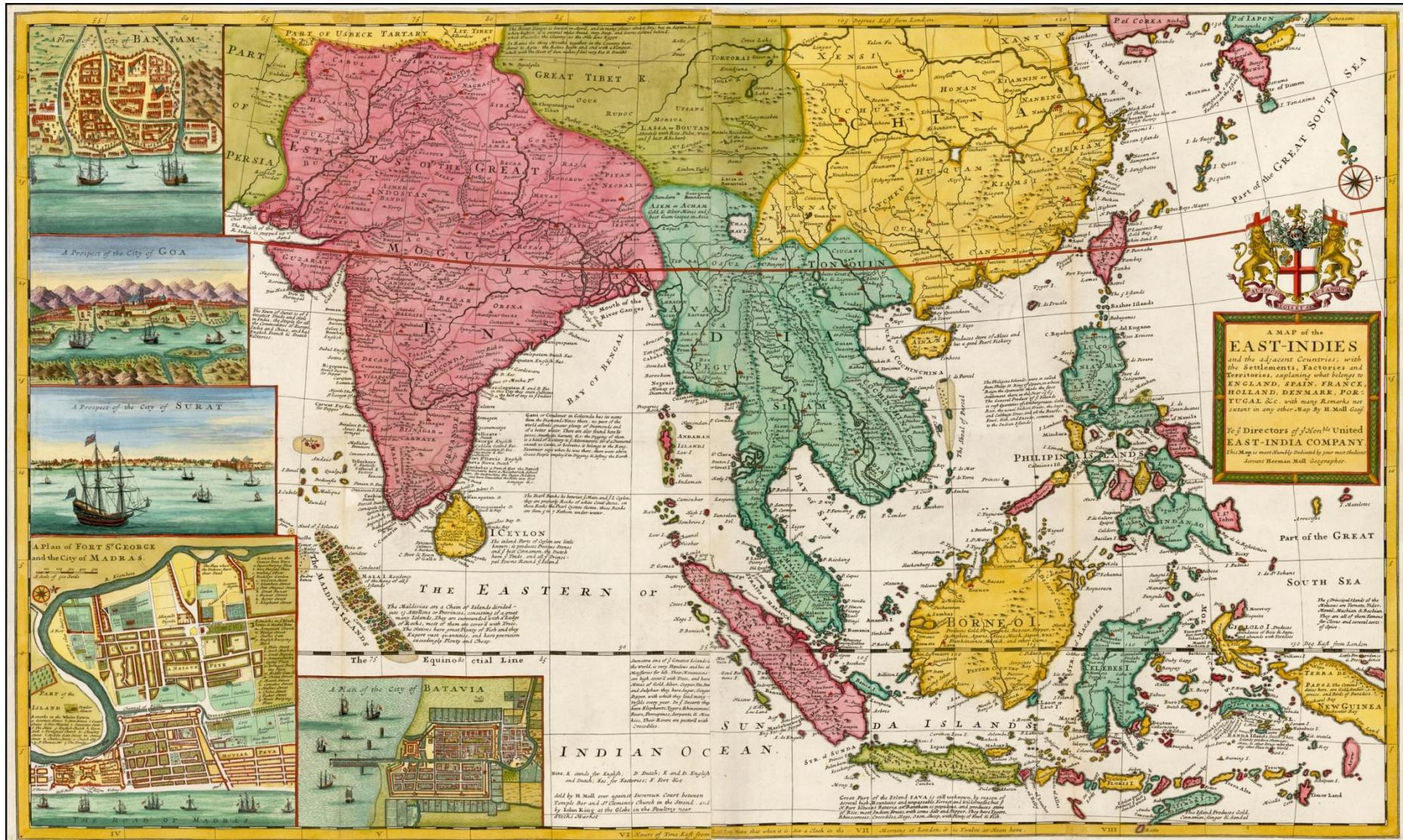
THE LENOX GLOBE

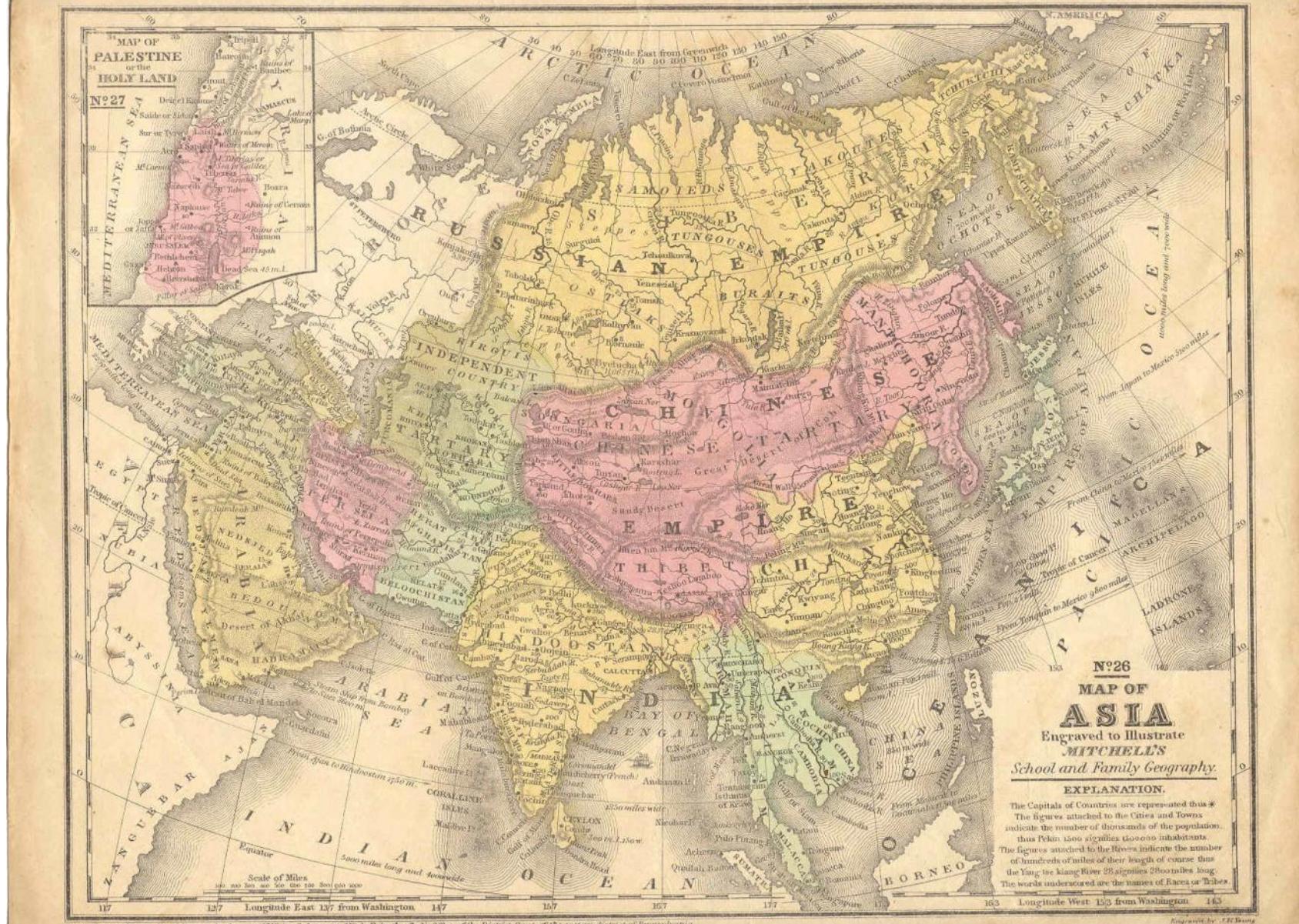


Hunt-Lenox Globe, 1510. Note that North America is just a bunch of scattered islands, and “*HIC SVNT DRACONES*” (Here be dragons) to the east of Asia
<http://exhibitions.nypl.org/treasures/items/show/163#>

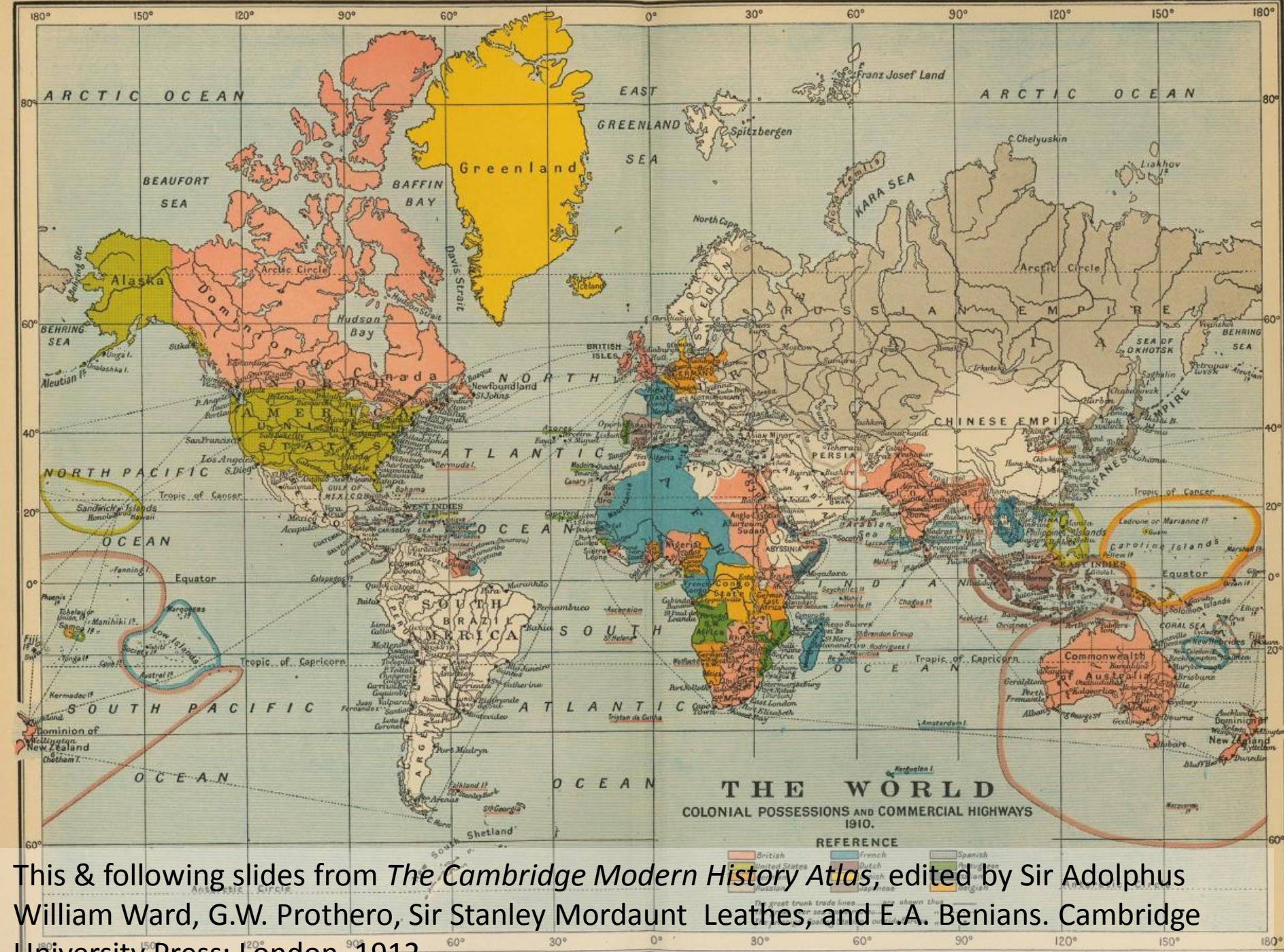


Sebastian Munster: India Extrema XXIIII Nova Tabula (1st Printed Map of Asia, Basle / 1552, from
http://www.raremaps.com/gallery/detail/39377/India_Extrema_XXIIII_Nova_Tabula_1st_Printed_Map_of_Asia/Munster.html

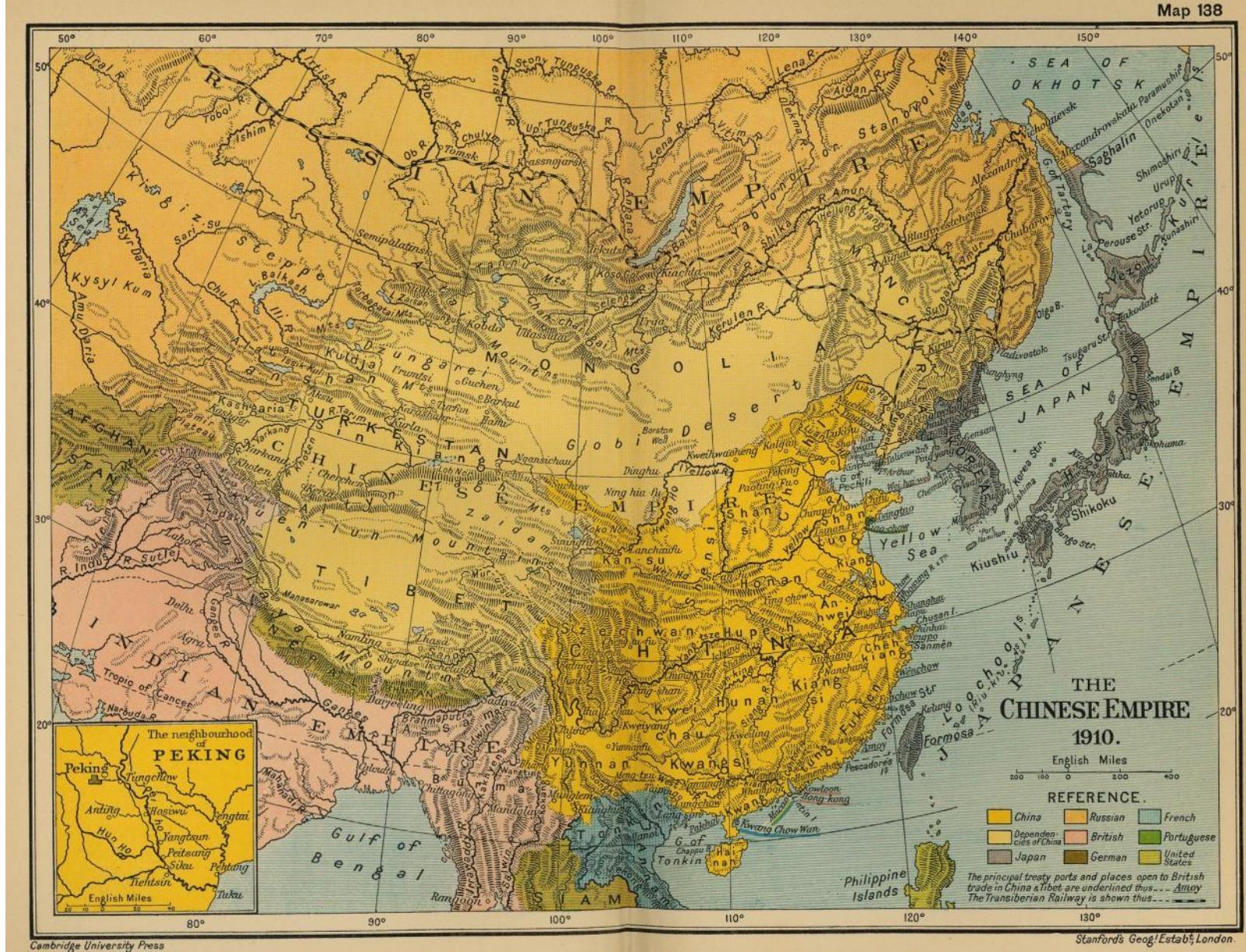




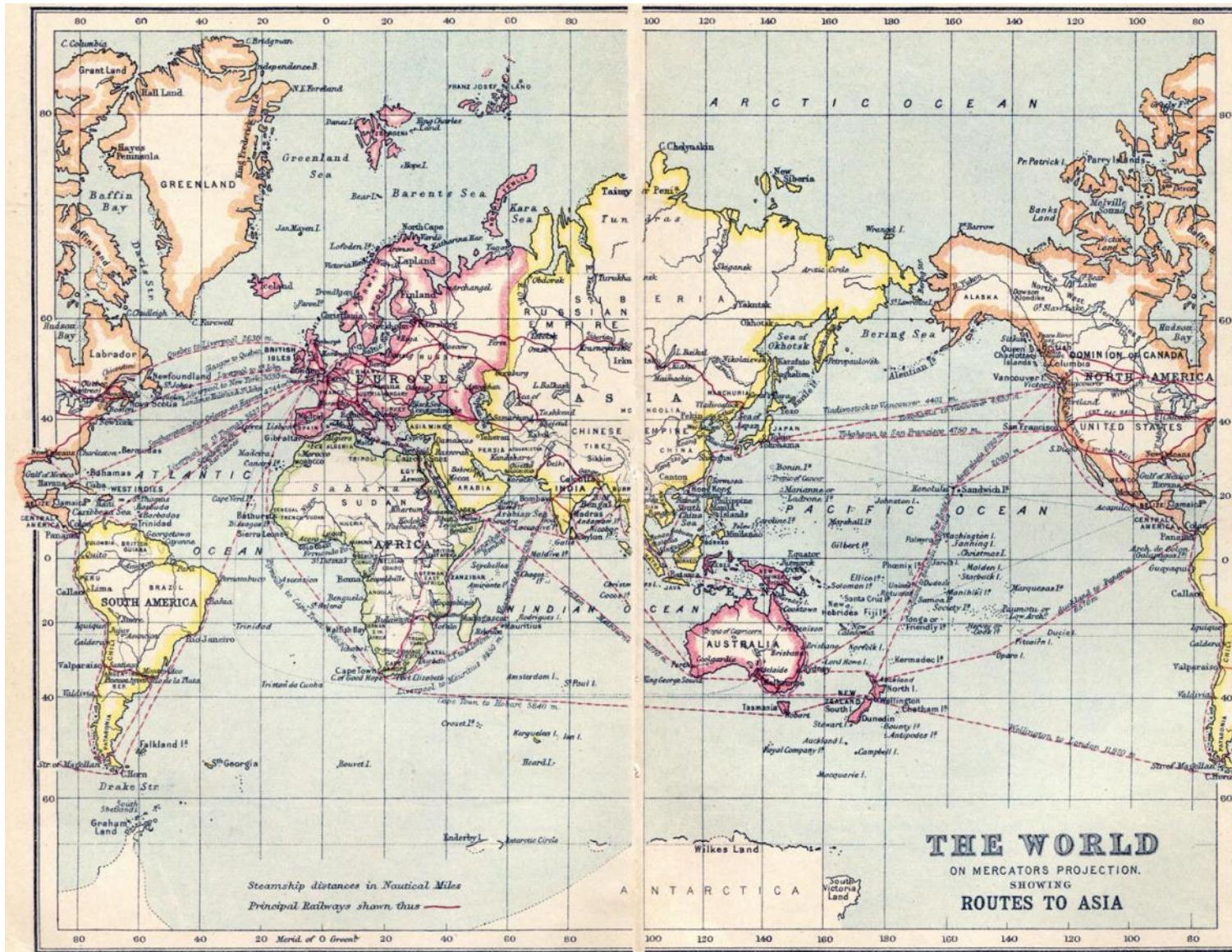
Hand-colored map of Asia, 1852, from "Mitchell's School and Family Geography"



This & following slides from *The Cambridge Modern History Atlas*, edited by Sir Adolphus William Ward, G.W. Prothero, Sir Stanley Mordaunt Leathes, and E.A. Benians. Cambridge University Press; London. 1912.



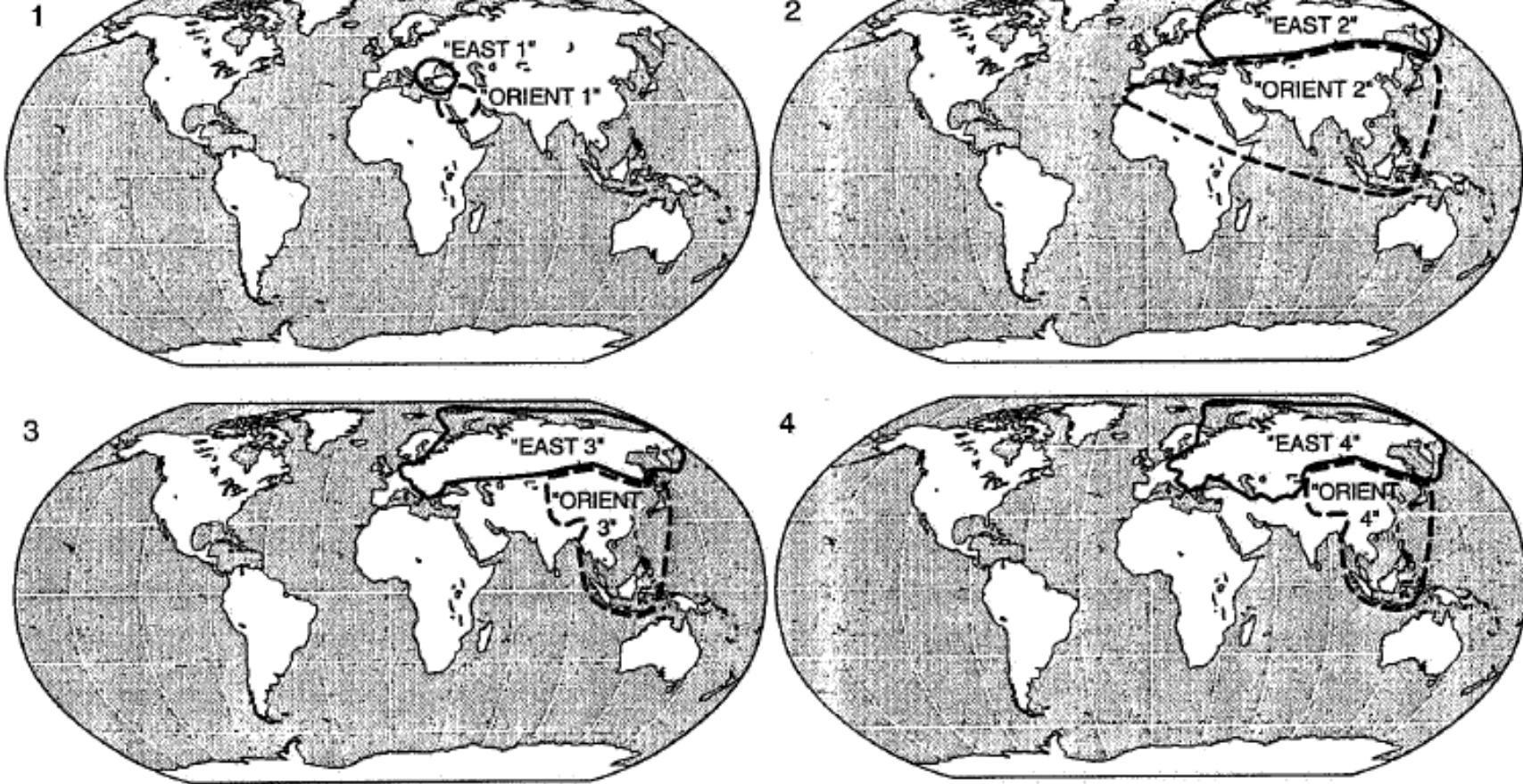
Colonial-era maps are often in terms of empires.



A Literary and Historical Atlas of Asia by J. G. Bartholomew (1912),
<http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/40900>

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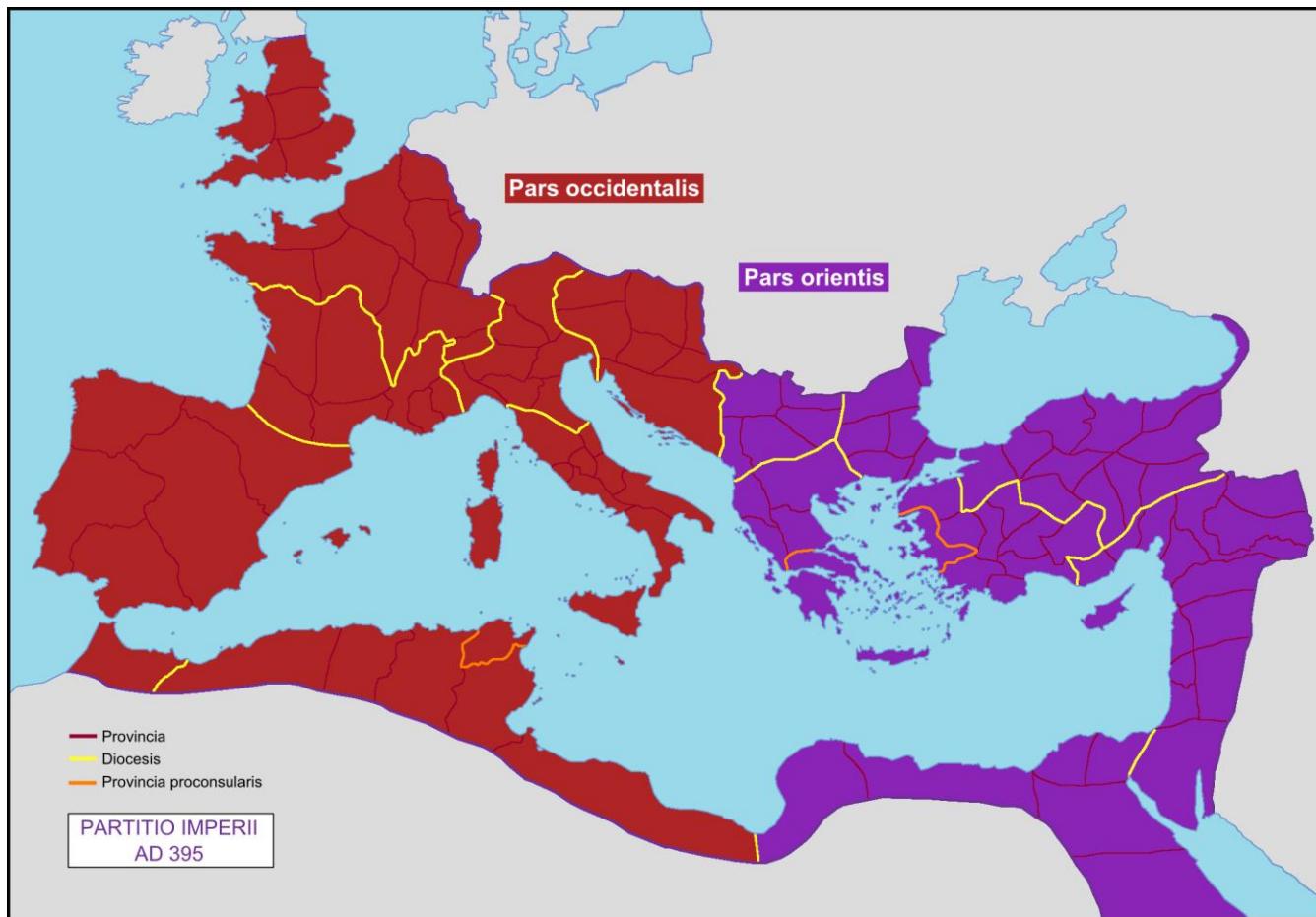


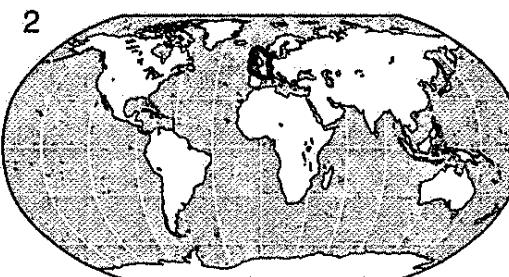
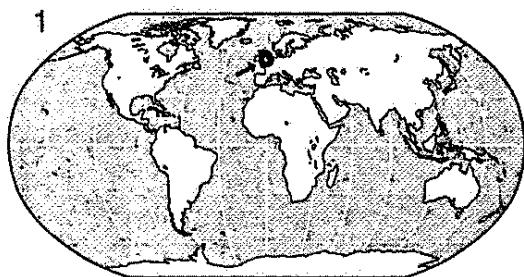
Map 4. Migrations of the “East” and the “Orient.” The two terms are often used synonymously; what we have attempted to do here is to abstract the more cultural connotations of the term *Orient* from the more geopolitical connotations of the term *East*. In European historiography, the Orient begins its career in Egypt, the Levant, and adjoining areas (“Orient 1”). Subsequently, the Orient expands eastward and westward to include all non-European areas of Eurasian civilization (“Orient 2”). Finally, the Orient is pushed eastward outside of its original range altogether to encompass only East Asia, Southeast Asia, and eastern Central Asia (the “pseudo-racial Orient,” or “Orient 3”). The postwar Orient (“Orient 4”) is virtually identical to “Orient 3,” although minor adjustments have been made to reflect Japan’s territorial losses.

The East, in a more geopolitical sense, originally referred to the heartland of the Eastern Roman Empire, centered on Constantinople and identified with the Eastern Orthodox faith (“East 1”). Eventually, Russia became its focus (“East 2”). “East 3” shows the westward expansion of this conceptual space; in the interwar period it commonly encompassed all of Germany. The Cold War “communist East” is depicted as “East 4.”

Lewis & Wigan,
*Myth of
 Continents*, pp.
 56-57

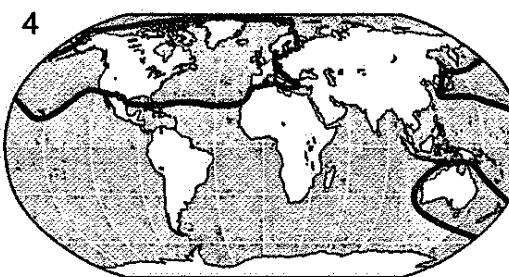
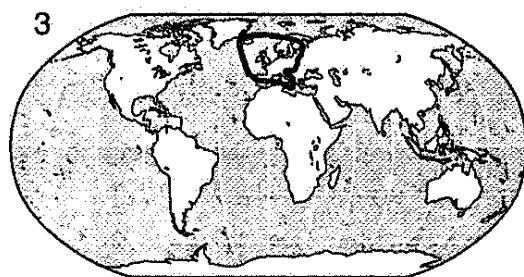
West vs. East: Roman Empire, 395



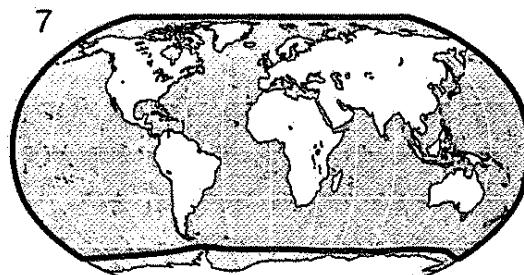
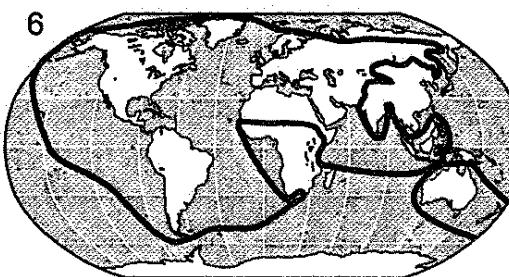
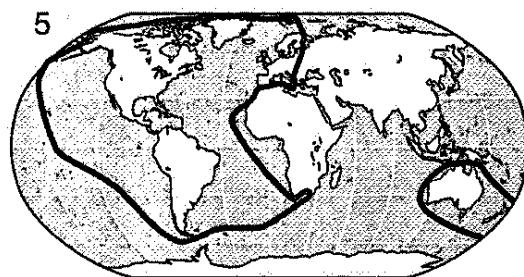


"West"

Lewis & Wigan, *Myth of Continents*,
pp. 50

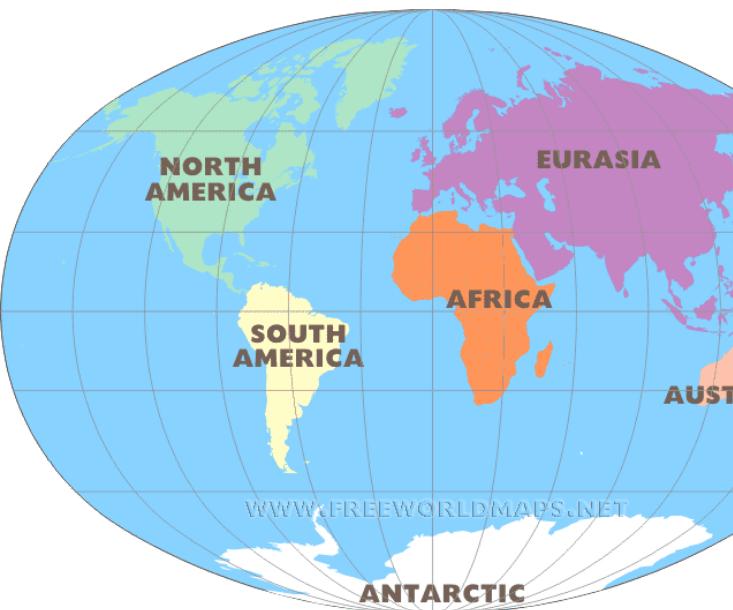


Map 3. *Seven Versions of the "West."* The portion of the earth denoted by the term *West* varies tremendously from author to author and from context to context (the area enclosed by a heavy black line is what has been called the *West*): 1) One extreme incarnation, where the *West* includes only England ("The Wogs begin at Calais," as an old racist, xenophobic refrain has it). 2) The standard minimal *West*, which is essentially Britain, France, the Low Countries, and Switzerland. As interpreted by Thomas Mann, this *West* is basically centered on France. 3) The historical *West* of medieval Christendom, circa 1250. 4) The *West* of the Cold War Atlantic alliance, or Europe and its "settler colonies" (with Japan often included as well). 5) The greater "cultural" *West*. By the criteria of language, religion, and "high culture,"⁵ Latin America and the areas of concentrated European settlement in South Africa are added to the *West*. The Philippines is sometimes included here as well. (Those more concerned with "race,"⁵ on the other hand, are inclined to add only Argentina, Uruguay, and southern Brazil.) 6) The maximum *West* of the eco-radical and New Age spiritual imagination. In this formulation, all areas of Christian and Islamic heritage are included. 7) The global (future?) *West* of modernization. See, for instance, Arnold Toynbee's cartography showing the entire globe as under Western hegemony in one form or another, whether political, "associative" (India, Iran, Ethiopia), or "in the heterodox form of Communism" (Toynbee 1934–61, volume II [1959], pages 192–93).



— "West" boundary

"myth of continents"



Left from
http://the_english_dept.tripod.com/esc.html

- I. The World Is Round! Globes and maps
- II. East vs. West, Part I:
 - A. mapping Asia, envisioning “ourselves”
 - B. How the East Has Moved
- The point: the whole premise of the course is problematic. But I’m teaching it anyway! (It helps pay the rent...plus we cover some of the religions the Western Religion class omits).
- III. Focus on Asia, esp. the parts we are covering**
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CIA map, Asia, 2008

<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/asia.html>





http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/middle_east_and_asia/asيا_ref04.jpg



See also:

http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/mapping/outline-map/?map=Asia&ar_a=1

<http://mapmaker.education.nationalgeographic.com/c9HEPQs2eV7j2KgkrQgUoK/>

<http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/geography/>



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education



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IV. “Religion”

- Religions don’t really exist; people do. Why is this fact important?
 - Saying “Hinduism believes X” erases individual agency.
 - Saying “Hinduism believes X” absolves Hindus of individual responsibility.
 - “Hinduism” does not have a brain so can’t believe anything.
- Lots of scholarly arguments about what religion is. One influential definition (Bruce Lincoln, “Conflict,” *Critical Terms for Religious Studies*, p. 65) identifies 4 components:
 - communities (people)
 - practices (incl. ethics, ritual);
 - discourses (e.g., scriptures; but “discourse” can include sermons, songs, & non-canonical works);
 - institutions (e.g., church);