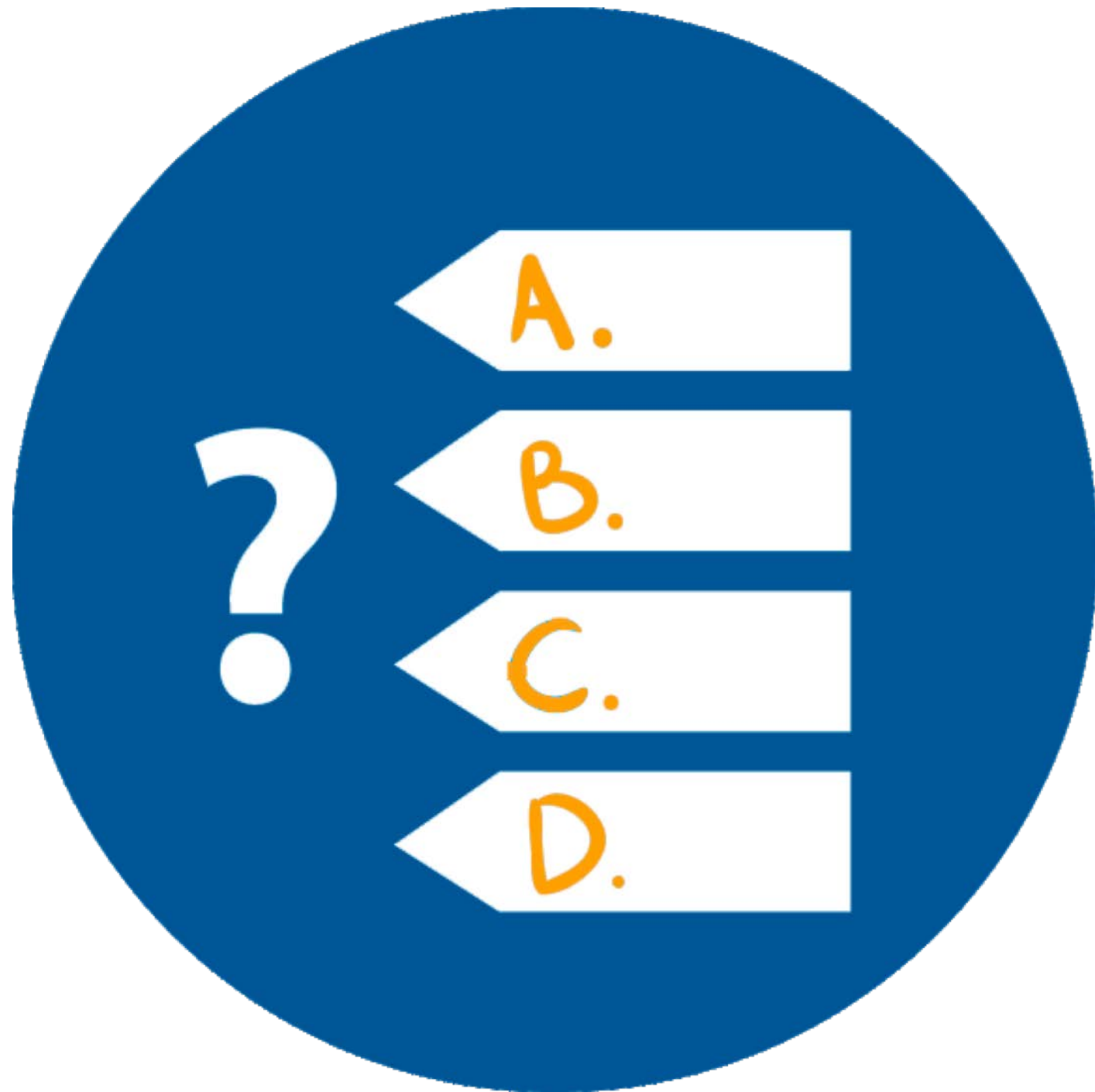


WHO ARE THE SIKHS?



QUICK QUIZ



- a) Sikhism is a sect of Islam
- b) Sikhism is a sect of Hinduism
- c) Sikhism is a blend of Hinduism and Islam
- d) Sikhism is an independent religion

CAN YOU GUESS?

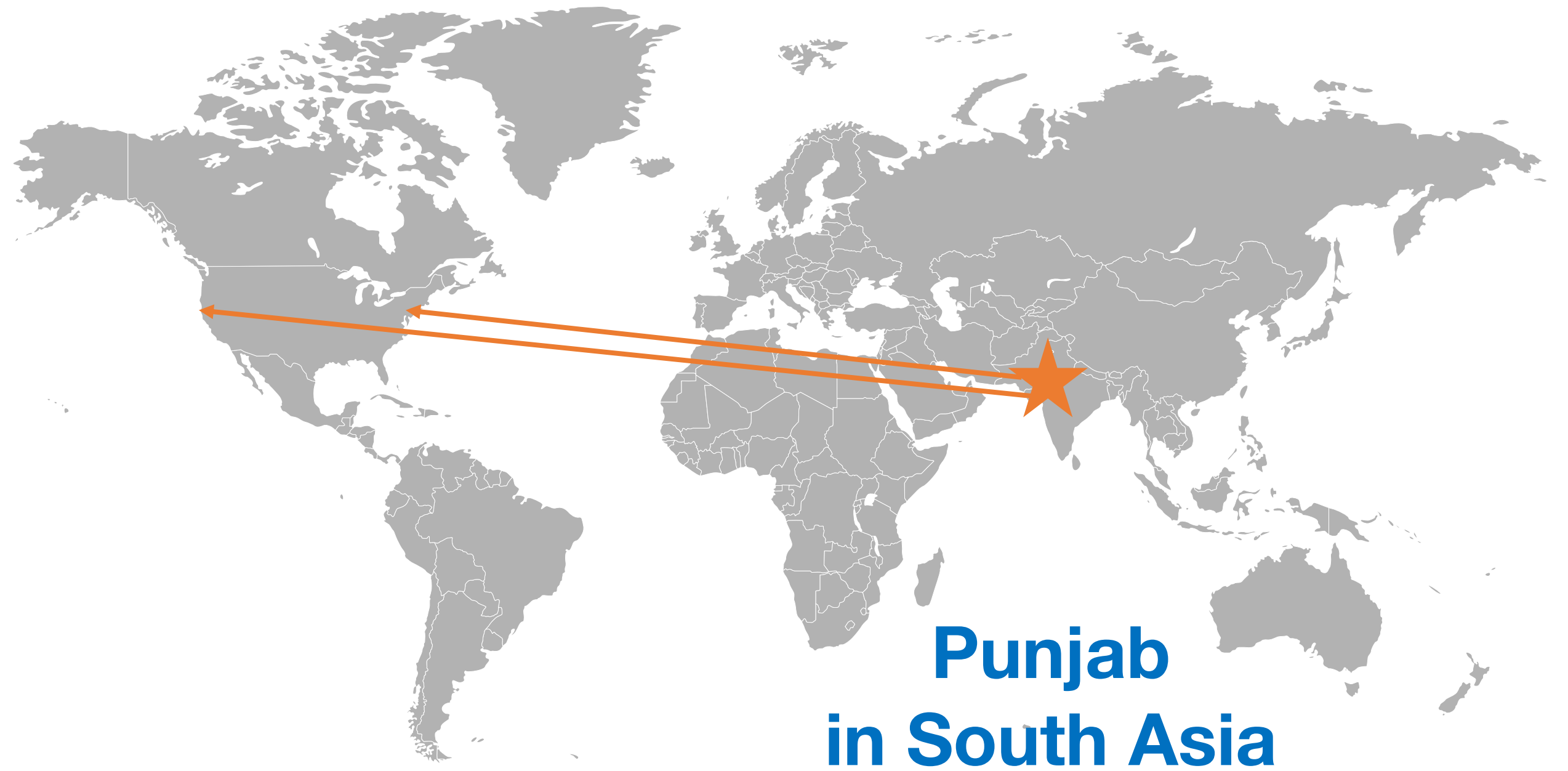
Sikhism is the ____ largest religion in the world?

- 1) Christianity – 2.2 billion
- 2) Islam – 1.4 billion
- 3) Hinduism – 900 million
- 4) Buddhism – 396 million
- 5) Sikhism – 25 million**
- 6) Judaism – 15 million

Sikhism is the 5th largest religion.



HISTORY



**Punjab
in South Asia**

SIKHS IN AMERICA

PIONEERS



SIKH VALUES

ONE GOD: *Loves and sustains all humanity*

EQUALITY: *Respect for all genders, religions, races, etc.*

LIVE & EARN HONESTLY

SERVICE TO HUMANITY

SOCIAL JUSTICE



SIKH BELIEFS



Founded on the teachings of ten Gurus (1469-1708)

The eternal living Guru of the Sikhs is the Guru Granth Sahib (the sacred scripture) which embodies the Gurus' teachings and guides Sikhs.

IDENTITY:
TO SERVE, PROTECT
AND BE HELD
ACCOUNTABLE



THE SIKH IDENTITY



Making a commitment by joining the Khalsa – community of initiated Sikhs

- Living by a code of conduct
- Having ultimate allegiance to the Sikh way of life
- Maintaining a distinct identity
- Can be done at any time in one's life

ARTICLES OF FAITH



Uncut Hair (Kesh)
Spirituality



Iron Bracelet (Kara)
Good Deeds



Comb (Kanga)
Cleanliness



Kirpan
Protection



Underpants
(Kachera)
Self Discipline

DASTAAR

THE SIKH TURBAN

- **99%** of the people wearing a turban in the U.S. are Sikhs
- Means that Sikhs can always be recognized and are duty bound to offer help
- Mandatory religious obligation for Sikhs
- Under no circumstances can the turban be forcibly removed



DASTAAR: SIKH TURBAN STYLES



GURDWARA



- Place of prayer, service and learning
- Everyone is welcome
- Services in America typically held on weekends



LANGAR



- Langar is a meal served at every Gurdwara throughout the world.
- Prepared and served by volunteers
- Everyone sits together on the floor to share the food in the spirit of equality.

LANGUAGE: PUNJABI

80+ million people
speak Punjabi
including many
Sikhs living in the
U.S.

ਗੈਲੋ



CHALLENGES SIKHS FACE IN AMERICA

- Hate Crimes
 - Victims of homicide, assaults, vandalism, etc.
- School Harassment
 - Bias-based bullying, name calling, physical attacks, etc.
- Workplace Discrimination
 - Sikhs denied jobs in law enforcement and numerous corporate settings because of turban and beard.



Everyday Sikhs



Artists



U.S. Army



Basketball Player



Actor & Model



Scientist



Police Officer

Everyday Sikhs



Politician
Politician



Lawyer



Farmer



Pilot



Doctor



Filmmaker



THANK YOU!
www.sikhcoalition.org