# Majapahit

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# 1.3 - How the various belief systems and practices of Southeast Asia affected society over time.



### 1.3 SPICE

S: Religion brought people together in the Majapahit kingdom and created social cohesion through the integration of hinduism and buddhism to create hindu-buddhism in the predecessor kingdom which lasted until the populus converted to muslims to welcome increased trade. This conversion to islam also created great social cohesion by uniting territories under a unified religion which we can see has lasted even into modern times.

P: Kings of the Majapahit and their desired religions shaped the way the populus felt. They established dominate religions and justified their rule through the religion by gaining the ameration of the religiously diverse population. This is seen by how it wasn't uncommon for Indonesian Kings to have Indian Brahman as advisors or a group of buddhist monks. They were given the authority by god to rule and the populus was required to

### 1.3 SPICE

I: Interaction with the environment is perhaps the largest way the various belief systems and practices of Southeast Asia affected society over time. The Majapahit kingdom was at an ideal place to intercept spice traders and with them their religions from far away places which created unified peoples with strong values and social cohesion as seen by islam still persisting in today's Indonesia and their wealth through commerce via sea.

C: Large religious structures were created in the name of Buddhism and Hinduism which helped convert and welcome many new religious people who came and worshiped in the great structures like the Hindu temple of Prambanan and the buddhist Borobudur. Grand works of art that the populus could look upon and drew many religious scholars to the empire, breeding new ideas and creating functioning, integrated society.

#### 1.3 - **SPICE**

E: The economic prosperity of the Majapahit kingdom through internal and trade over sea as well as control over the primary sea route to the spice islands created an environment for great religious interactions and conversions that were able to making lasting impacts through their grand religious constructions as result of their wealth, and their welcoming of Islam as spread by trade throughout the indian ocean.

# 1.3B

Homeland of the Majapahit Empire



# Basic ways power was maintained overview

S: Buddhism and Hinduism were both used as ways to create societal cohesiveness in an otherwise disconnected conglomeration of islands.

P: Political Power was monarchical, with one king in a central kingdom, and various Vassal states were established to maintain control over the archepelago. The empire Based its power on military might and fueled its needs by expanding its holdings

I: The empire was mostly coastal, And thrived on trade. The archipelago based empire

C: Large religious monuments such as Borobudur, and other religious structures attracted people from all over the region, spurring economic and cultural diffusion. Religions combined over time, until the diffusion of Islam

E: Large Amounts of trade Through their territory, the thalassocracy is a large source of government revenue. Seasonal trade also played a large role in the economy. Merchants would trade with China, levy taxes from merchants who needed to pass through their territory to trade with muslim kingdoms. Agricultural based economy.

## Architecture

#### Borobudur



#### Prambanan



Great architectural constructions; religious monuments. The majapahits great wealth allowed for them to construct these and they took generations to complete.

## Art

Art was often religious in nature and carved from stone to depict events and ceremonies



# Literature

