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Facts about China

- The Chinese State recognizes 55 minority nationalities among its population.
- Minorities constitute 8.98% of the Chinese population (1,207,780,000) or about 108.46 million of the population.
- The largest minority nationalities areas are in five autonomous regions: Inner Mongolia, Xinjiang Uygur, Guangxi Zhuang, Tibet, and Ningxia Hui.
- The PRC has set up special and preferential policies for the nationalities: They are not bound by the one-child policy; they are given special tax breaks to accelerate their economic and cultural development; They may use their own language and practice their own culture and religion.
- These 55 nationalities are called minorities because their population is small relative to the Han people who constitute over 90% of the Chinese population.
- The minority nationalities hold a variety of religious beliefs. These include:
 - Ancestor worship
 - Buddhism
 - Catholicism
 - Dongba Fetishism
 - Hinayana Buddhism
 - Islam
 - Nature worship
 - Orthodox Eastern Church
 - Polytheism
 - Protestantism
 - Shamanism
 - Taoism
 - Tibetan