Assassin's Creed and Religion (self.assassinscreed)

submitted 3 years ago by[deleted]

Now, i'm not usually one to bring religion into things but I think we can all agree that all of the Assassin's Creed games hint on religions left and right and were never really given a straight answer (that I know of) of what religion the assassin's are. Do they each believe in whatever religion they want, are they all atheists, or do they all believe in the same thing? Or perhaps it's none of those things. So I guess my question is, What are the Assassin's religious beliefs? Please no biased answers. Thanks!

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[–] **WTFcabbage** **7 points** 3 years ago

i read up on the hashashins (real life assassins) that were based in syria in the 11th century, and they were muslims

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[–] **[deleted]** **2 points** 3 years ago

Yeah i've read up on them as well but i was wondering about the Assassin's in the game not the non-fictional assassins.

permalink **parent**

[–] **WTFcabbage** **3 points** 3 years ago

well, judging by the fact that ubisoft likes to be as coinciding with history as possible they probably were muslims too, well atleast at the time of altair, but by ezio's time i dont really think so, he said in the da vinci disappearance DLC "my church is not of god" to leo's assistant when he first met him. also, the way the assassins speak about the world is really similar to the teaching of the qur'an. The qur'an mentions quite a few times "beings that came before" that god punished because of their disobedience.

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[–] **[deleted]** **1 point** 3 years ago

That makes me wonder. Why would the secrets of "Those who came before" be hidden under the home base of the Muslims religious rival? (The Vatican, Assassins Creed 2)

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[–] **WTFcabbage** **8 points** 3 years ago

Muslims don't believe that Christians are their "rivals" they actually believe that muslims, christians, and jews should live together as brothers and sisters, and the 3 groups are called "those of the book" (the book being the quran, the bible, and the torah, since they all carried the same message at one point)

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[–] **[deleted]** **1 point** 3 years ago

Oh yeah sorry, I was thinking of AC1 when they actually*were* rivals and accidentally seeped that into AC2. But anyway that still leaves my question.

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[–] **WTFcabbage** **2 points** 3 years ago

i dont think i really understand the question

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[–] **questionthis** Guerriero **1 point** 3 years ago

> Why would the secrets of "Those who came before" be hidden under the home base of the Muslims religious rival? (The Vatican, Assassins Creed 2)\

For the record, the Vatican was built on top of the tomb; it wasn't around when the tomb was built.

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[–] **[deleted]** **1 point** 3 years ago

*Seductively approaching*Those who do not worship at the church of god worship at the church of men...

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[–] **WTFcabbage** **1 point** 3 years ago

and then ezio was like "follow me and find out" and i was all like 0.0 btw it's "but outside the kingdom of god lies the realm of men, is that where you worship messere?"

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[–] **RodgersLuke** **2 points** 3 years ago

John Milton, Paradise Lost, paraphrased: Do not ponder the mind of God, the proper study of mankind is Man.

That is what the Assassins believe. Mankind is in charge of its own salvation, whether from a predicted solar flare or the petty struggles of hairless apes on an organic ship hurtling through space.

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[–] **WTFcabbage** **1 point** 3 years ago

you talking about the real assassin's or the video game ones??

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[–] **questionthis** Guerriero **1 point** 3 years ago

There are no real Assassins. There was 700 years ago but not anymore.

And hairless apes = humans

organic ship (which is a terribly inaccurate description) = earth

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[–] **handsomemofo** Requiescat in pace **3 points**3 years ago

Oh there are real assassins, but not like the video game ones.

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[–] **WTFcabbage** **1 point**3 years ago

Those assassins that lived 700 years ago are the ones i was talking about, they were disbanded when the mongols attacked there castle, Alamut.

permalink parent

[–] **thenewAltair** **1 point**3 years ago

Masyaf was also an actual hashishin stronghold.

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[–] **Roastings** EPiC_xRoasted **1 point**3 years ago

I dont really think Altair was a Muslim in game, I though he had a couple of anti-religious quotes.

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[–] **Citadel_97E** **1 point**3 years ago

Yeah. He mentions it. His parents were Muslim and Christian but he says, "I have no great love for either religion" I wouldn't say he's an atheist but that his attitude at that point of the game is one where he is unable to put anything above himself, even the creed, I assume submitting to god would be anathema to his personality at that point, it isn't until later that he gets a little more wise.

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[–] **cgshaq** **1 point**3 years ago

can u recall where in the quran "beings that came before" is mentioned?

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[–] **PutridMoldyman** Marathon Team Member **4 points** 3 years ago*

I don't think there is an official religion for the (fictional) Assassins, but I know that Altair was an atheist. He talked about his disbelief around the end of AC1 and wrote about it in the codex. IIRC, a Templar directly told him (if not him, it was to Desmond or Ezio) that Templars made religion for the sole purpose of controlling people.

I don't think it was ever directly mentioned, but I'm pretty sure Ezio and Desmond were/are atheists because they knew *of* ~~there were never gods, only~~ Those Who Came Before.

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[–] **[deleted]** **1 point** 3 years ago

I don't know about Ezio, he never really understood the "The ones who came before"'s origin story (and I don't think the players really do either). And didn't at the end of Assassins creed 2 Rodrigo Borgia believe that God lived beneath The Vatican? And in that same fight it seemed that Ezio had a belief in God as well? Do you know what thats about?

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[–] **PutridMoldyman** Marathon Team Member **4 points** 3 years ago*

I feel Ezio spoke of God to Rodrigo the way he did because Rodrigo was the Pope, believing in God, but not the Bible.

As for Those Who Came Before, Ezio didn't understand much of it, but he was at least able to know that they created humans in their image. He lived almost his whole life with great respect to Altair, who wrote of his disbelief. Ezio never seemed to say what his belief was, but I think he was an atheist (*maybe* agnostic) because of these things.

At the same time, Minerva didn't completely dismiss the possibility of gods existing, so he could have reshaped the faith he may have had before around what he discovered. He may have also disagreed with Altair's atheistic writings. ~~I think~~ it's all up to interpretation.

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[–] **RodgersLuke** **5 points** 3 years ago

At the time of his death, Altair was an atheist. Ezio never really discusses religion that I can think of. Connor will hopefully share some Mohawk religious beliefs, which I know next to nothing about, so I'm not even going to comment on that. Desmond is probably an atheist, but that's based on conjecture - i.e. I like to assume he is, because he's my avatar in the game, and I am IRL.

As far as the Assassin Brotherhood, I don't think they would have a common religion. I feel like Assassins can be religious, and use the 'good parts' of it to bring peace, while the Templars can also be religious or atheistic, but use the controlling elements. Mother Theresa and Ghandi? Assassins. Jerry Falwell and the members of Westboro Baptist protesters? Templars.

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[–] **chronobeard** **4 points** 3 years ago

I remember one of the commentaries for the AC3 gampelay saying that

Connor says a prayer for the animals he kills. Presumably, that means he is somewhat religious.

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[–] **UZUMATI-JAMESON** **3 points** 3 years ago

Yeah you can hear it in some of the trailers. I'm pretty sure it's a prayer of thanks for the animal.

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[–] **[deleted]** **2 points** 3 years ago

Connor is part English so perhaps that had some influence because a lot of Englishmen left England for religious rights (wow I said "English" a lot in that sentence). Or perhaps Achilles taught him something religious, we can never know until the game comes out and probably not even then. And I see what you mean about the peaceful part of religion surrounding the assassins and the chaotic parts surrounding Templar's, that's clever.

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[–] **ToasterHuman** May the Father of Understanding guide us **1 point** 3 years ago

The WB church are probably *not* templars. The Templars are not stupid, and they can see how the WB spreads hate and divides the people. The Templars want peace, and they used to try religion to achieve that, but their ultimate goal is to remove religion, so that peace can be made.

The assassins also want religion gone for the same reason, however they want the people to realise it for themselves and give it up on their own. The Templars don't care if the people understand why they give up religion, and they are willing to force them to it, if necessary.

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[–] **Sharkictus** **1 point** 3 years ago

Templars want to control to have peace. The Assassins believe people must be completely free to have peace.

The entire series is a philosophical discussion that got out of hand. :P

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[–] **ToasterHuman** May the Father of Understanding guide us **1 point** 3 years ago

The Templars would never associate themselves with the WBC. They've dumped religion as the way of gaining control. They've moved on to becoming a company that aims to rule the world of finances, and through that, the world itself.

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[–] **archeantus1988** An Ausal Lann **2 points** 3 years ago

I imagine that they Assassins could be any religion they chose, provided that the religion's rules and beliefs didn't contradict the creed. I'd think that most of them just wouldn't have time for religion in their lives. Take Ezio, odds are he went to

mass with his parents. Since he became an Assassin, he probably doesn't go anymore.

Or, you could say that since a huge law in most if not all religions is "Thou Shalt Not Kill", it organized religion would be a deterrent.

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[–] **TheRedditarianist** **2 points** 3 years ago

I think one should separate the difference between being affiliated with a religion and having *faith*, and as many have said before, what binds them together is their creed (or purpose), rather than ethnic appurtenance and/or spiritual preference.

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[–] **archeantus1988** An Ausal Lann **2 points** 3 years ago

very true.

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[–] **questionthis** Guerriero **1 point** 3 years ago

Speaking as a member of a fraternity, I can say that being in a brotherhood often has less to do with the individual and more to do with the group as a whole. What unites everyone is the core goal of the organization, and an organization like the Assassins would actually be hindered by religious affiliation. So I think it's like a "don't ask don't tell" thing, because by pledging the oath to join you are basically saying that you understand what the commitment is and your religion does not get in the way of that.

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[–] **UZUMATI-JAMESON** **3 points** 3 years ago

Do you mean like a college frat or like a masonic fraternity?

permalink parent

[–] **Iheartfisebillilah** Sk8r_trevor **1 point** 3 years ago

an ishmaeli though

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[–] **Katow-joismycousin** **1 point** 3 years ago

Altair was atheist. Ezio says in one of the spin offs he is also atheist. Altairs parents, one Christian, one Muslim. Rest? Conjecture.

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[–] **[deleted]** **2 points** 3 years ago

Strange because Altairs father was an assassin.

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[–] **Katow-joismycousin** **1 point** 3 years ago

Both his parent's were I think. I can't remember where exactly but I'm sure it says somewhere about having a Muslim father and Christian

mother. The wiki would know.

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[–] **ALongNanner** **1 point** 3 years ago

If anything I see the assassins religion being something like Hinduism. There's that greater power out there and you're trying to become one with that, and that greater power in assassin's creed is the people that came before and left the Apples of Eden.

Otherwise I don't see the assassin's as particularly religious people.

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[–] **GCDFVU** **1 point** 3 years ago

It seems to me that those who are aware of those who came before are atheistic (their existence contradicts many religions), but I don't think there is any official mandated religion or mandated atheism. After all the woman who runs the brothel in AC2 claims to be a nun. I would argue that the creed would discourage religious practices in general as religion tends to try to tell you what is true and what is permitted.

(side note) One thing to that is interesting to consider is the part in Brotherhood when Juno is speaking to Desmond. She mentions that "We can distract him. We can see past him. Feint left when he strikes right. But his reach is so very long. His stamina unending. We cannot evade his grasp. Not forever." I like to think she is talking about God, just because it shows that most religions might be partially correct, even though I am not religious myself. She may have been talking about time, however.

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[–] **ZaPzxHunter** **1 point** 3 years ago

Great question and I believe they believe in only the selfs because in the games even the big religion are shown to be corrupt in the eyes of the assassins

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[–] **Jake_From_State-Farm** >InsertGamertag< **1 point** 3 years ago

Altiar was supposedly muslim

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[–] **thenewAltair** **1 point** 3 years ago

I have a picture on my iPod with Connor, Revelations Ezio, and Altair with a caption beneath it. The caption says: In a world of a million religions, everyone prays the same way. There is no god, Our Creed is but Our Own.

So i assume they are athiest.

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[–] **UnderwaterRobot** **1 point** 3 years ago

The assassins (Altair and Ezio) knew of TWCB, and the history of the world Given

what they know it contradicts religion, because the earth is proved to have been much much older than the religious teachings speak, right?

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[–] **supergreekman123** Milite **-2 points** 3 years ago

Altair was a muslim, Ezio I'm not really sure, and Connor is probably some Native American Religion

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[–] **ToasterHuman** May the Father of Understanding guide us **3 points** 3 years ago

Altaïr was atheist.

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[–] **supergreekman123** Milite **0 points** 3 years ago

o

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[–] **Iheartfisebillilah** Sk8r_trevor **-4 points** 3 years ago

Altair was a muslim

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