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Anthropology Questions #3 Also known as the hajj, the pilgrimage to Mecca takes place every year. The pilgrimage can be said to be a rite of passage since most Muslims consider it as a crucial part of their religious beliefs. The reason for taking this pilgrimage is to ensure that a person finds him or herself. It also serves to fulfill a longing desire that a person may be having. In the Islamic religion, the hajj is considered to be of significant importance to both the person undertaking it and their religion. The hajj is the fifth pillar of Islamic religion and every Muslim who can afford the trip to Mecca ought to go there at least once in their lifetime. As a rite of passage, hajj represents a change in faith as Muslims who attend this annual pilgrimage are considered to have attained great faith in their religious beliefs. Hajj is also a rite of passage because it is a ritual worship that members of the Islamic faith are expected to fulfill (Tagliacozzo 4).
#4
The concept of the “ one-and-the-many” can be said to relate to the notions of whether Hinduism is a monotheistic or polytheistic religion. Based on this concept, one understands how the multiplicity of Gods is an issue of concern in the Hindu religion. Among the Hindus, there is a tendency to worship many Gods as opposed to worshiping a certain religious deity. The various deities in the Hindu religion are a representation of a single supreme being known as Brahman. Hindus do not worship many gods; rather, they have only one god and different deities (Morgan 53).
Works Cited
Morgan, Kenneth. The Religion of the Hindus. Delhi: M. Banarsidass, 1987. Print.
Tagliacozzo, Eric. The Longest Journey: Southeast Asians and the Pilgrimage to Mecca. New York: Oxford University Press, 2013. Print.