Fertile Question: **What does it mean to be a religious citizen in a multi-faith world?**

Core Content Area 2: Religious citizenship in Asia and beyond

**TOPIC 2.2: Active State religions**

**Depthing Understanding: Religious citizenship and national symbolism**

In this lesson students will investigate how religion is depicted in national symbols, and how these symbols signify the type of nation-state (secular, religious).

**For students to investigate how religion is depicted in national symbols, complete the following activity:**

1. Examine three major national symbols of different countries to identify the ways in which religion is or is not depicted.
   a. Locate the national flags from the following countries: Pakistan, Thailand, Greece, Bahrain, Israel, India, Ireland, Iraq, South Korea, Malaysia.
      i. Create a data chart indicating: the name of the country, a jpeg of the national flag, which religion the symbol/s point to, what the religious symbol means, why that religious symbol has been incorporated in the national flag.
   b. Use the links below to locate the words of the National Anthems of the following countries: Canada *O Canada*, Lebanon *National Anthem*, Cambodia *Nokor Reach*, Fiji *Meda Dau Doka (God Bless Fiji)*, Israel *Hatikvah*.
      i. To which religion does each National Anthem refer? What do the words of each Anthem say about religious citizenship generally, and the specific faith in particular?
   c. Locate the national motto of these countries: United States, Canada, Pakistan, Poland, Cambodia, Nigeria and the Philippines and answer the following questions:
      (a) How is religion defined or specified in each motto? Which mottos refer to a specific religion?
      (b) What presumptions does each motto make about the religious diversity of each country?
      (c) Create a word document that includes as many national mottos as you can, that make reference to religion. Now create a visual summary using either *Wordle* or *Tagxedo*. Which words seem to be most commonly used?
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