

RE SUMMER 1 KNOWLEDGE ORGANISERS



Sacred writings – Hindu Dharma

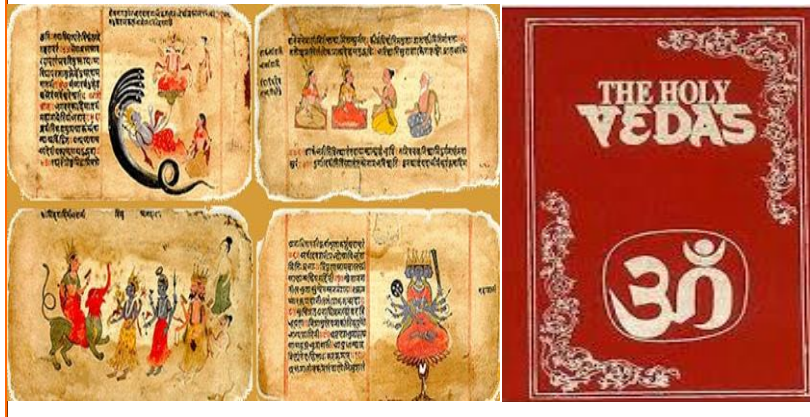
Hindu holy texts include:

The Vedas - a collection of hymns praising the Vedic gods. Veda means 'knowledge'.

The Ramayana - long epic poems about Rama and Sita.

The Mahabharata - which includes the Bhagavad Gita.

The Puranas - a collection of stories about the different incarnations and the lives of **saints**.



Hinduism

Central to Hinduism is the belief in a supreme God **Brahman**. Brahman is present everywhere and there is a part of Brahman in everyone.

Hinduism is one of the oldest religions in the world. It began about 5000 years ago, linked to the people who lived near to the Indus River in about 2500 BC.

Hinduism has no single founder or prophet. The Hindu faith draws on a number of sacred texts and there is no standard set of beliefs, so it is **a religion, which is followed in different ways by different groups of people.**

Vedas	Vedas means Knowledge. This forms one of the main parts of the Hindu's holy texts. The Vedas is a collection of hymns praising the Vedic gods. Veda means 'knowledge'.
The Ramayana	This is the story of Rama and Sita (which is celebrated during Diwali). It was also written as a poem. Rama is seen as an example of dharma - the 'right way to live one's life'.
The Mahabharata	The Mahabharata - which includes the Bhagavad Gita. This is the longest known poem ever written. It is an epic story about the Kurekshetra War for the throne of the Hastinapura Kingdom.
The Puranas	The Puranas - a collection of stories about the different incarnations and the lives of saints.
The Samhutas	The Samhitas are the most ancient part of the Vedas, consisting of hymns of praise to God.
The Upanishads	The Upanishads consist of the mystical and philosophical teachings of Hinduism.
Dharmashastras	These texts are about the duties, rights, laws, behaviour and how to live life in the right way for Hindus.
Puranas	These texts contain myths and legends relating to the major Hindu deities.
Krishna	Krishna is a major deity in Hinduism. He is worshipped as the eighth avatar of the God Vishnu and also as the supreme God in his own right. He is the God of compassion, tenderness, and love in Hinduism, and is one of the most popular and widely worshipped among Indian divinities.
Rama and Sita	Rama and Sita is one of the main stories from Hinduism. It is about Rama rescuing Sita from a demon King Ravana with the help of Hanuman and his monkey army.
Dharmic religion	In a Dharmic religion, believers have a number of holy texts that they find sacred (special). These religions come from Indian origin (started life in India).

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Taking Part

How do religions and charities encourage us to take part and support those that are in need?

Many religions have charity and helping others at their very heart. A number of religions make donations to the church and charities. Some even donate a percentage of their earnings (if they can afford to) to those that are less fortunate than themselves. People of faith are encouraged to promote a positive community ethos, support others and take part in selfless acts.



Think about it... How has religion encouraged us to take part as a school?

- We have donated for harvest collections.
- We have held special days to raise money for charity.
- We have visited and sang for local care homes at the church.
- We have donated to the Christian run shoebox appeal at Christmas.
- Can you think of any more?

Think about it... How have you taken part to support others?

- Donated for non-uniform days.
- Purchased cakes for, cake sales.
- Dressed up for awareness.
- Donated food.
- Donated toys.
- Spent time supporting others.
- Can you think of any more?

Church	A church building or church house, often simply called a church , is a building used for Christian religious activities, particularly for Christian worship services.
Buddhist temple	A Buddhist temple, or Buddhist monastery is the place of worship for Buddhists, the followers of Buddhism. They include the structures called vihara, chaitya, stupa, wat, and pagoda in different regions and languages.
Mandir	A Hindu temple is a symbolic house, seat and body of divinity. It is a structure designed to bring human beings and gods together, using symbolism to express the ideas and beliefs of Hinduism.
Gurdwara	A Gurdwara is a place of assembly and worship for Sikhs. Sikhs also refer to Gurdwaras as Gurdwara Sahib.
Mosque	A mosque is a place of worship for Muslims. Any act of worship that follows the Islamic rules of prayer can be said to create a mosque, whether or not it takes place in a special building.
Christian aid	Christian Aid is the official relief and development agency of 41 Christian churches in the UK and Ireland, and works to support sustainable development, eradicate poverty, support civil society and provide disaster relief.
Oxfam	Oxfam is a global movement of millions of people who share the belief that, in a world rich in resources, poverty isn't inevitable. This is just some of what they do.
World vision charity	World Vision believes that by working together with children, their communities, and our supporters and partners, the lives of the world's most vulnerable children can be transformed.
The good Samaritan	A Christian story, is a story of a good Samaritan from the Bible.

Questions we will explore:

- 1) How do places of worship encourage people to take part in supporting the community?
- 2) How do religions support and encourage others to take part?

The good Samaritan - Christianity

The story of the **Good Samaritan**, as told by Jesus in one of the gospels of the New Testament. The **moral of the Good Samaritan** is that everyone, even those normally considered an enemy, is your neighbour.

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Buddhist places of worship

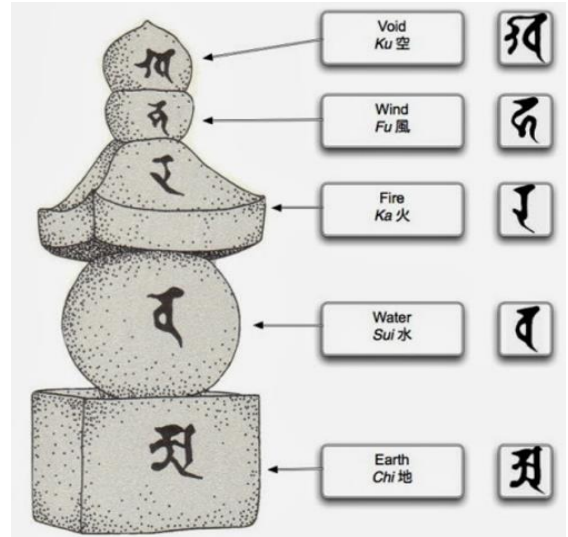
- Do you know anything about Buddhism?
- What do you know about the Buddhist place of worship?
- Can you think of any similarities between a Buddhist place of worship and a church?



Buddhism Features of a temple:

The great elements of the world are represented in the Buddhist temple.

- A square base to the temple represents the Earth.
- A pinnacle at the top of the temple represents wisdom.
- The spires represent fire.
- The crescent of the temple represents the air.
- A dome to the temple represents the water.



Wheel of Dharma (8-fold path)	Each of the 8 spokes stand for one of the Buddhist teaching of the means of attaining Nirvana through rightness of belief, resolve, speech, action, livelihood, effort, thought, and meditation.
Incense	This reminds people that, like the smell, Buddha is all around them and that something so small can make a big difference.
Nirvana Day	Celebrates the death of Buddha when he reached Nirvana. Buddhists spend Nirvana day meditating and visiting temple.
Impermanence	Not permanent or does not last forever.
Shrine	A place where people go to worship linked with their place of worship. Here they can make offerings and say prayers.
Mantra	Sacred words and phrases that are usually sung. They can be said continuously to create a chant.
Prayer Wheel	Buddhists place prayers/prayer scrolls within the wheel and then spin it whilst chanting. Doing this allows them to pray for a number of things at once.

Questions we will explore:

1. Who is Gautama Buddha?
2. What were his main teachings?
3. Can you see any similarities and differences between Buddhism and any other religions?
4. What are the 4 noble truths?
5. What is the 8-fold path?
6. Gautama Buddha would be happy with how things are in the world today – debate for and against this statement.

Wesak – an important festival.

Wesak is the most important Buddhist festival. It is celebrated on the night of the full moon in April or May, when Buddhists remember the Buddha's birthday and his Enlightenment and is also known as Buddha Day. People decorate their homes with flowers or streamers, meditate, and make offerings.



Beliefs and practices

How do the beliefs of Sikh's affect their actions?

Throughout this topic, you will be looking at the beliefs and practices of the Sikhi believers. I want you to explore how their beliefs may change how they act or treat others.



The 5 Ks taken together symbolise that the Sikh who wears them has dedicated themselves to a life of devotion and submission to the Guru.

Kesh	Uncut hair is a symbol of holiness and strength. Hair is a part of God's creation and keeping it uncut shows a willingness to accept God.
Kara	A steel bracelet symbolising the unbroken bond with God, restraint and gentleness.
Kanga	The wooden comb symbolises clean mind and body, it keeps the hair neat and tidy.
Kachha	Special underwear was worn by the Sikh warriors and were suitable for warfare – they are also a symbol of chastity.
Kirpan	A ceremonial sword, which is kept in a sheath. It symbolises a defence of their religion, a fight against injustice, defence of the good and spirituality.
Guru	A Guru is a spiritual teacher chosen to deliver the word of God to humans.
Mool Mantar	This is the opening verse of the Guru Granth Sahib Ji (the Sikh holy texts) which summarises the Sikhs main beliefs. It is taught to young children and often used in prayer.

The Mool mantar

There is One God
 Whose Name is True
 The Creator
 Without fear
 Without hate
 Immortal
 Beyond the cycle of birth and death
 Self-revealing
 As Grace

10 Gurus –

In Sikhism, there are ten Gurus. Sikhi believe that these Gurus were at one with God. They were the link between God and Humans. The Gurus were chosen to deliver God's messages. All the Gurus lived their lives as an example to all Sikhs.

