



Highsted Knowledge Organiser

Religious Education

Year 7 Terms 3 & 4: Sikhism

| What I need to know | Key Vocabulary |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Origins of Sikhism - Core beliefs regarding God - Who the 10 human Gurus were - The nature of the 11th and final Guru, the Guru Granth Sahib - The formulation of the Khalsa - The 5Ks of Sikhism - The features of a Gurdwara - The importance of pilgrimage and the significance of the Golden Temple as a pilgrimage site for Sikhs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sikhism/Sikh Monotheistic/Monotheists Pilgrimage Gurus Guru Granth Sahib Gurdwara Seva Langar Khalsa 5Ks – Kesh, Kara, Kanga, Kaccha, Kirpan |
| <p>Origins of Sikhism: Founded approximately 500 years ago in a place called the Punjab, which covers parts of India and Pakistan in South Asia</p> | |
| <p>Core Beliefs regarding God: Sikhs are monotheists, meaning that they believe in one god. Everyone is equal in God's eyes. Your actions are important, but there is not the belief in heaven/hell or reincarnation as seen in many other religions</p> | |
| <p>10 Human Gurus: Guru means 'teacher'. Guru Nanak was the founder of Sikhism and the first of ten human Gurus.</p> | |
| <p>The Guru Granth Sahib: There were 10 human Gurus, but the Guru Granth Sahib is a book that was given the status of the 11th and final Guru by Guru Gobind Singh in 1708. It is a collection of hymns, poems and other writings and is treated with great respect, in the same manner of the previous Gurus.</p> | |
| <p>The formation of the Khalsa: The Khalsa was formed by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699. It is a group into which committed Sikhs can be initiated to show their devotion to their faith.</p> | |
| <p>The 5ks of Sikhism: These are worn by members of the Khalsa. They consist of Kara (steel bracelet), Kesh (uncut hair), Kanga (comb), Kaccha (long cotton shorts) and kirpan (steel sword/dagger)</p> | |
| <p>The features of a Gurdwara: Gurdwara means 'home of the Guru' or 'door to the Guru'. All people are welcome and equality is always expressed in relation to gender, wealth and age. Every Gurdwara has a kitchen – the 'Langar' – where anyone can eat. Sikhs will volunteer to help with the preparation and serving of food there.</p> | |
| <p>Pilgrimage: A pilgrimage is a journey to a place of particular significance to people of a religion. For Sikhs, the Golden Temple at Amritsar is the main pilgrimage site.</p> | |
| <p>Challenge question To what extent is gender equality evident in Sikhism? How does the treatment of men and women compare/contrast to the other main world religions?</p> | |
| <p>Suggested reading: The British Sikh Report 2020: An insight into the British Sikh Community British.sikhreport.org</p> | |