

Name of religion: Sikhism

Holy book: Guru Granth Sahib

Name of people who study religion: Sikhs

Founder of religion:

Guru Nanak

Place of worship: Gurdwara



This is our local Gurdwara,
Gurdwara Guru Maneyo Granth



Sikh
festivals

Vaisakhi

Festival that shows
gratitude and thanks
for the harvest of
food and crops.



Diwali

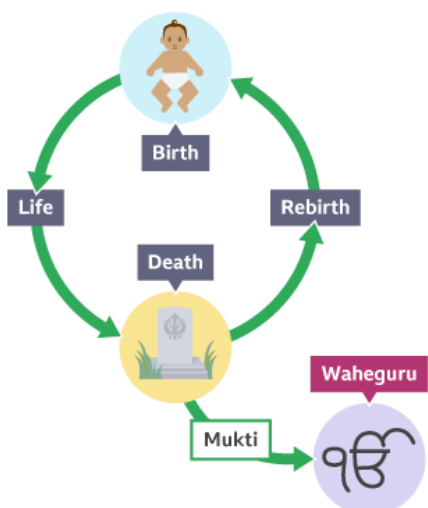
Festival of light,
symbolising good
overcoming evil.



Sikhism - goals of human life

- know that most Sikhs believe a person born human is fortunate. This belief is based on certain ideas or claims including: (1) after living thousands of earlier lives a person born human has achieved the highest state of animal life; (2) being born human is fortunate as only the soul ("atma") of a human can gain release from reincarnation; (3) gaining release from reincarnation is known in Sikhism as "mukti"; (4) Mukti means "release".
- know that most Sikhs believe in what has been called the "journey of life" which means believing in certain ideas or claims including: (1) every person's life began a long time ago when God created each person's soul or atma; (2) each atma lives thousands of lives, in many different ways, for example, before living a life as a human an atma may have lived a life as a worm, and then as a fly, and then as a fish, and then as a horse; (4) after living in many different forms of life an atma may attain the gift of living a human life; (5) when a human life ends the atma of that human will either have failed and it will remain in the cycle of reincarnation; (6) or else that human's atma will have succeed and it will be released from the cycle of reincarnation; (7) an atma that has succeeded in being released from reincarnation will return to the one God that created it long ago.
- know that most Sikhs believe an atma that has succeeded in being released from reincarnation has achieved certain things including: (1) it has achieved the goal of human life; (2) it has become eternal and will never die or perish; (3) it has become blissful, fulfilled and it has found peace.

Artefacts



Cycle of reincarnation

Vocabulary you will use:

Word	Definition
atma	soul
mukti	release
The journey of life	The journey which every atma takes. Sikhism teach that it is only as a human being that an atma may make the final step and achieve liberation from the cycle of reincarnation. If that happens "the journey of life" has been completed and the atma is never again reincarnated. Instead, it experiences true fulfilment and pure bliss.

Christianity – goals of human life

- Christians believe human life is sacred and that there is something special or holy about human life. They believe that life is valuable, with every person seen as special to God. This is because: **1) God Created Life** Christians believe that life is a gift from God. Christians believe that God created the Earth and everything that lives on it. Christians believe that choosing to follow Jesus Christ makes life immeasurably better. In doing so they develop a different perspective, realising that their time on Earth is a small part of their eternal existence. **2) Every life has a God-given purpose** They enjoy a greater sense of security, purpose and self-worth. Having a close relationship with God enables them to face the challenges of life such as loss and bereavement. They are able to move on from the things they have done wrong because they know that they are forgiven.
- The purpose of life extends beyond dealings with others: The Bible says that God made people to rule over the Earth - not to exploit it or damage it, but to bring it under control and help it to flourish. Christians believe that physical death still happens, but those who live a good life and believe in Christ will be given eternal life in Heaven. Christians believe that after death God will judge them for the deeds they have done during their lifetime. Christians believe that the death of the physical body is not the end. After their time on earth, they believe that humans will have eternal life in the afterlife. Christians believe that all humans have a soul. They believe that the soul is a non-physical part of humans, and it will live on past the death of the physical body.

Islam – goals of human life

- In Islam, belief in life after death is one of the Six Articles of Faith and is an important belief for all Muslims. Muslims believe that after death, the soul does not go to any afterlife, but enters a state of waiting until the end of the world. When this day comes (judgment day), resurrection occurs and God will judge humans based on their behaviour on Earth. God will decide whether humans will go to heaven or hell based on the life they have lived. Those who have sinned, have the chance to enter heaven if they reform. Heaven is described as a garden and hell is a place of fire.
- This belief in an afterlife encourages Muslims to take responsibility for their actions and live accordingly as they know God will hold them accountable. Muslims believe they get to Paradise by living religiously, asking God for forgiveness and showing good actions in their life. These good actions will be rewarded on the Last Day. Therefore, obeying the rules set by God is of ultimate importance.

Humanism – goals of human life

- know that humanists do not believe in life after death.
- know that most humanists believe that even though they do not believe in a religion or that humans are immortal it is nevertheless possible to find in friends and family, in the pursuit of knowledge, or art, or doing things that makes the lives of others more comfortable or less painful it is possible to enjoy a meaningful existence.

Questions we'll ask you throughout the unit to check your knowledge and understanding.

Do you find what Sikhs believe about the goal of human life to be unlikely, credible, likely or

What do you believe is the goal or purpose of human life?

What religion or worldview do you agree with? What are your reasons?

How are the religions' views similar and different on goals of human life?