



Montgomery Academy

R.E. Dept.



Y7 Knowledge Organiser - Beliefs

Key Vocabulary

- Allah** - Islamic name for God
- Aum** - Hindu Symbol
- Belief** - Something you think is true but cannot prove
- Bible** - Christian holy book
- Dharma Wheel** - Buddhism symbol
- Faith** - To have trust and confidence in someone or something
- Five Pillars** - A guide to living in Islam
- Guru Granth Sahib** - Sikh holy book
- Jesus** - Son of God. His teachings form Christianity
- Karma** - The result of a persons actions
- Khanda** - Sikh symbol
- Kosher** - Food or drink acceptable by Jewish law
- Meditate** - A practice to calm the mind
- Muhammad** - Islamic prophet. His teachings form Islam
- Noble Eightfold Path** - A set of eight guidelines for how Buddhists live their lives
- Quran** - Islamic holy book
- Sins** - Disobeying God's command
- Star of David** - Jewish symbol
- Torah** - Jewish holy book
- Vedas** - Hindu holy book

Christianity



- Follower:** Christian
- Holy Book:** Bible
- Symbol:** Cross
- Place of Worship:** Church
- Main Festivals:** Christmas, Easter
- Beliefs:**
 - Began with the death and resurrection of **Jesus** - broke away from Judaism
 - God created the universe and everything in it
 - There is one God - split into 3 parts
 - Follows the teachings of Jesus
 - Love people and show justice
 - Everybody is equal
 - We are to look after the world God has given us
 - We shouldn't judge others
 - After death, you are judged on your **sins** and can go to heaven with God
 - Have different branches of Christianity with different practices e.g. Roman Catholic, Church of England, Methodist etc. but all have roughly the same beliefs

Buddhism



- Follower:** Buddhist
- Holy Book:** Many
- Symbol:** Dharma Wheel
- Place of Worship:** Temple/ Vihara
- Main Festivals:** Buddha Day
- Beliefs:**
 - Started by Siddhartha in India - became known as the Buddha
 - They aren't taught that there is a God
 - They follow the **Noble Eightfold Path** of right view, thought, speech, conduct, livelihood, effort, mindfulness, and concentration
 - No violence
 - No harm to animals - all vegetarian
 - No stealing
 - To **meditate** to become more aware/kind
 - Shave heads to keep life simple and not be vain
 - After death, your consciousness can take rebirth into a new body
 - Your actions in this life lead to a better next life

Islam



- Follower:** Muslim
- Holy Book:** Quran
- Symbol:** Crescent Moon & Star
- Place of Worship:** Mosque
- Main Festivals:** Eid ul-Fitr
- Beliefs:**
 - Began with the Prophet **Muhammad** in Makkah
 - There is one God known as **Allah**
 - Allah controls everything in our lives and have a good relationship with him
 - Leading a good life
 - Being kind and caring to others
 - Following the **Five Pillars**
 - Professing your faith (**Shahada**)
 - Pray 5 times a day (**Salat**)
 - Giving to charity (**Zakat**)
 - Go on a pilgrimage (**Hajj**) once in your lifetime
 - Fasting during **Ramadan** (**Sawm**)
 - Must dress modestly
 - Must look after the world
 - After death we will be judged on our actions. Good people go to heaven, bad to hell

Humanism

There are **non-religious** people who believe that this life is the only life we have and we can live ethical and fulfilling lives on the basis of reason and humanity. These people have trusted science, evidence and reason to discover truths about the universe and have placed human welfare and happiness at the centre of their ethical decision making.

Sikhism



- Follower:** Sikh
- Holy Book:** Guru Granth Sahib
- Symbol:** Khanda
- Place of Worship:** Gurdwara
- Main Festivals:** Vaisakhi
- Beliefs:** - One God created the world
 - Believe in reincarnation due to your **Karma**
 - No cheating/lying
 - Everyone is equal

Hinduism



- Follower:** Hindu
- Holy Book:** Vedas
- Symbol:** Aum
- Place of Worship:** Mandir
- Main Festivals:** Divali
- Beliefs:**
 - One supreme God - has many forms
 - Believe in reincarnation
 - No violence

Judaism



- Follower:** Jew
- Holy Book:** Torah
- Symbol:** Star of David
- Place of Worship:** Synagogue
- Main Festivals:** Rosh Hashanah
- Beliefs:** - One God
 - Began when God spoke to Abraham
 - Food must be **Kosher**



Key Vocabulary

Atman - An individual's inner self, spirit or soul

Aztec - Group of people from what is now Mexico prior to the 16th century

Challah - A round loaf eaten during Rosh Hashanah

Day of the Dead - Mexican festival celebrating the lives of the dead

Diva - Oil lamps lit during Divali

Divali - Hindu festival of light

Eid ul-Fitr - Muslim celebration of the end of Ramadan

Eidi - Gift of money given to children during Eid

Fasting - A period where people do not eat or drink

Ramadan - Month-long period of fasting

Rangoli - Bright colourful patterns drawn on the floor during Divali

Rosh Hashanah - Jewish new year festival

Tzimmes - A sweet carrot stew eaten during Rosh Hashanah

Zakat - Giving money to charity (one of the Five Pillars of Islam)

Divali - The Hindu Festival of Light

What are its origins?

1. Rama & Sita were banished from their kingdom by his step mother
2. Sita was kidnapped by Ravana and held hostage
3. Rama defeated him and returned home
4. The people guided Rama & Sita to the palace with thousands of oil lamps (**divas**)

Why is it celebrated?

- Celebrates the triumph of good over evil, knowledge over ignorance and light over darkness
- Raises awareness of a Hindu's inner light (soul or **atman**)
- Lights the way for the Goddess Lakshmi into people's homes



How is it celebrated?

- Houses & shops etc. Lit with **diva** lamps through the night
- **Rangoli** patterns on the floor to ward off evil spirits
- Spring-clean the house and wear new clothes
- Fireworks are let off and children eat sweets



Rosh Hashanah

Why is it celebrated?

- Celebrates the beginning of the Jewish new year
- Seen as a judgement day - when God balances the good and bad deeds done in the previous year
- A time to ask for forgiveness for your wrongdoings
- A time to think about their priorities in life

How is it celebrated?

- A lot of time is spent in the synagogue
- Special meal is eaten at home, including:
 - Apples dipped in honey (for a 'sweet' new year)
 - A sweet carrot stew (**tzimmes**)
 - A round loaf (**challah**) - for a circle of life and of the year
 - A pomegranate - as they have 613 seeds, one for each of the commandments in Judaism
- Giving of cards



Eid ul-Fitr

Why is it celebrated?

- When a new crescent moon is sighted at the end of **Ramadan**
- It celebrates the end of a period of **fasting** during **Ramadan**
- To remember that Islam is a religion of peace and purity
- To remember those less fortunate than yourself

How is it celebrated?

- Go to the mosque to pray in the morning
- Have a family celebration with lots of food and sweets
- Dress up nicely
- Children given gifts of money from their relatives (**Eidi**)
- Give money to the homeless/charities (**Zakat**) so they can have food during Eid

Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)

Why is it celebrated?

- Celebrated in Mexico (a Christian country) but is founded in **Aztec** festivals
- They believed that the dead temporarily returned to Earth
- It is now seen as a celebration of the lives of friends and family who have died

How is it celebrated?

- Dress up as skeletons and the traditional La Catrina figure
- Parade decorated floats
- Up to 300,000 people attend every year

