

RE: How is faith expressed in Sikh communities and traditions?

Autumn B

Year 4

Key questions:

What links can you make between Sikhism and your own beliefs?

Is the Guru Granth Sahib more than a book?

Why is it important to have values?

What is a Guru?

What is a Gurdwara?

What does it mean to live a good life as a Sikh?



Langar

Teachings and Praise

Explanation

Waheguru

A word used to refer to god.

Guru

Holy leader and teacher.

Guru Granth Sahib

Holy book containing stories and hymns for Sikhs to learn from.

Mool Mantar

It is found in the Guru Granth Sahib. It describes god.

sewa

it means selfless service. Involves acting selflessly and helping others in a variety of ways.

langar

Free communal kitchen where all were given food and ate together regardless of who they were.

khalsa

A part of the Sikh community that offer themselves to Waheguru. They have to wear the 5 Ks

wearing of the 5 Ks

Sikhs may wear the 5 Ks to show their devotion. Kaccha (cotton underwear), Kirpan (steel sword), Kangha (a wooden spoon), Kesh (uncut hair) and Kara (a steel bracelet)

Gurdwara Items

Explanation

Gurdwara

Place of Worship

chanani

A canopy normally made from highly decorated cloth. It is attached high above the Guru's seat attached to four posts or the ceiling.

chaur

It is used to fan the Guru granth Sahib as a sign of respect for the books contents.

nishan sahib

Triangular flag. The word Nishan means symbol and is found outside most Gurdwaras. Sahib is a word used for respect.

palki sahib

The main structure that houses th Guru Granth Sahib.

Examples of Gurdwaras



Gurus	Explanation
Guru Nanak	Founder of Sikhism. He taught that there was only one god. To obey god , you need to follow a path of honesty and hard wok.
Guru Angad	He pushed for children's education and promoted teaching of reading and writing.
Guru Amar Das	He created langar. He taught all people were equal in the eyes of god, including women. He created a community of Sikhs Amritsar). He also collected all the previous Gurus work and made the first holy book the sri Guru Granth Sahib.
Guru Ram Das	he continued to teach equality. He told Sikh's engaging in joys and sorrows of others was equally important as meditation and spiritual growth.He promoted kirtan (hymn singing) as part of worship.
Guru Arjan	He wrote the prayer for Peace called Sukhmani Sahib Bani. He built the Golden Temple (Harmandir Sahib) in Amritsar, the cultural centre of Sikhism. This is considered the holiest Sikh temple in the world.
Guru Hargobind	He introduced Sikh martial arts so that Siks could defend themselves.
Guru Har Rai	He taught and gave lectures on Sikhism.
Guru Harkrishan	The youngest Guru (aged 5) He helped heal people with smallpox but died from it at the age of 8.
Guru Tegh Bahadur	He believed and protected 'right to freedom' for all - not just Sikhs. He promoted honest work and charity.
Guru Gobind Singh	He created Khalsa which consisted of Sikhs of had been baptized and dedicated to Sikhism. He finalised the Guru Granth Sahib and said it would be the only Guru after him.