

R.E. Knowledge Organiser Sikhism



The Ten Gurus

There were ten Gurus who spread God's message: Guru Nanak, Guru Angad, Guru Amar Das, Guru Ram Das, Guru Arjan, Guru Hargobind, Guru Har Rai, Guru Harkrishan, Guru Tegh Behadur and Guru Gohind Singh.

Symbols








The Khanda is the main symbol of Sikhism.



The IK Onkar means 'there is only one God'.

The 5 Ks

Kirpan		The Kirpan is a sword. Sikhs carry it to remind them to defend their rights.
Kachera		Kachera are shorts. Sikhs wear them under their clothes.
Kara		Kara means bangle. Sikhs believe it represents God – never ending or beginning.
Kangha		Kangha means comb. Sikhs use it to keep their hair in place.
Kesh		Kesh means hair. Sikhs make a promise not to cut their hair.

Key Vocabulary

Sikhism	One of the world's main religions.
Sikh	Someone who follows Sikhism.
Guru	Spiritual teacher.
Guru Nanak	The founder of Sikhism.
Gurdwara	A Sikh place of worship. It means 'door to the Guru'.
Guru Granth Sahib	The Sikh holy text.
Sargun	The belief that God is everywhere and everything.
Nirgun	The belief that God is above and beyond everything.
Nam Japna	The duty of keeping God in mind at all times.
Vand Chhakna	The duty of giving to charity and caring for others.
Shabads	Sacred hymns in the Guru Granth Sahib.

Scripture

The Guru Granth Sahib is the Sikh holy book. It contains the messages of all the Gurus. It is covered by a rumala when not in use. The chaur is made from yak's hair. It is waved over the Guru Granth Sahib as a sign of respect.

The Guru Granth Sahib contains 5867 shabads, which were written by six of the ten Gurus. They are known as Gurbani (the word of the Gurus). The introduction includes the 'Mool Mantar', which contains all the important Sikh beliefs.

Key Places



Sikhs worship together in the gurdwara. Shoes must be removed and hair covered before entering the main prayer hall. Men and Women sit crossed legged on opposite sides facing the Guru Granth Sahib.