

YEAR 5 SIKHISM KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

KEY VOCABULARY AND SPELLINGS

Guru – a religious leader or teacher

Guru Nanak – the man who started Sikhism

Gurdwara – Sikh place of worship

Guru Granth Sahib – The Sikh holy book, Sikhs think of it as a living Guru

Langar – a special meal shared after services in the Gurdwara

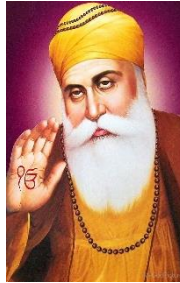
Guru Gobind – The final human Guru, he created the Khalsa

Khalsa – The community of Sikhs who committed to their beliefs

The 5 Ks – Items that the Khalsa Sikhs wear to show their commitment

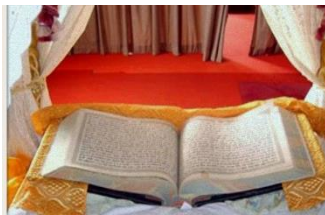
GURUS

Sikhism began in India in the 15th Century by Guru Nanak. Nanak thought it was wrong to treat people differently because of their race, gender or social status. He believed that everyone should work hard, be honest, help those in need and remember God at all times.



After Guru Nanak died other men were chosen one at a time to be the Guru. Altogether there were 10 human Gurus, the last one was Guru Gobind. He decided that there was no need for another human Guru and so the holy book would be the Guru. It contains prayers and hymns and important teachings and is called Guru Granth Sahib.

GURU GRANTH SAHIB



The Sikh holy book and their current Guru. A passage is chosen at random each day and read aloud.

The Guru Granth Sahib is always treated with respect: Sikhs bow to it and never turn their back on it; carry it above their heads; when it is being used it rests on a throne, under and canopy; and when it is not being used it is covered with special cloths.

GURDWARA – the Sikh place of worship. Every Gurdwara has: a flag outside, a copy of the Guru Granth Sahib, a diwan hall (or worship room) a langar (kitchen/dining room).

In the gurdwara visitors must remove shoes, wash hands and cover their heads. Worshippers sit on the floor, women and men usually on different sides. After the service a meal is cooked and served by members of the congregation. This is called langar, anyone is welcome to share and the food is vegetarian as Sikhs believe everyone is equal. Cooking or washing up is a way of giving service to others which is important to Sikhs.

KHALSA – a community of Sikhs who are committed to their religion. It started when Guru Gobind asked ‘who is willing to die for their beliefs?’ Today Sikhs usually join the Khalsa when they are teenagers. They wear 5 special items to show their commitment.

The Five Ks:

Kanga – comb

Kesh – uncut hair

Kara – bangle

Kirpan – dagger

Kachera - shorts

