

# Year 7 RS—What do different people believe?

## Christianity

Followers are called: Christians

Place of worship: Church

Important person: Jesus

Important place: Jerusalem, Israel

Holy book: Bible

Original language of holy book: Hebrew, Aramic & Greek



### What do Christians believe?

Christians believe that Jesus Christ was the Son of God and that:

- God sent his Son to earth to save humanity from the consequences of its sins
- Jesus was fully human, and experienced this world in the same way as other human beings of his time
- Jesus was tortured and gave his life on the Cross (At the Crucifixion)
- Jesus rose from the dead on the third day after his Crucifixion (the Resurrection)

Christians believe that Jesus was the Messiah promised in the Old Testament

Christians believe that there is only one God, but that this one God consists of 3 "persons"

## Islam

Followers are called: Muslims

Place of worship: Mosque

Important person: Prophet Mohammed

Important place: Mecca, Saudi Arabia

Holy book: Qur'an

Original language of holy book: Arabic



### What do Muslims believe?

The basic belief of Islam is that there is only one God, whose name in the Arabic language is Allah, and who is the sole and sovereign ruler of the universe.

#### Muslims have 6 main beliefs

1. Belief in Allah as the one and only God.
2. Belief in angels.
3. Belief in the holy books.
4. Belief in the Prophets (special messengers).  
e.g. Adam, Ibrahim (Abraham), Musa (Moses), Dawud (David), Isa (Jesus). Muhammad (peace be upon him) is the final prophet.
5. Belief in the Day of Judgement...  
The day when the life of every human being will be assessed to decide whether they go to heaven or hell.
6. Belief in Predestination...  
That Allah has already decided what will happen.  
Muslims believe that this doesn't stop human beings making free choices

## Hinduism

Followers are called: Hindus

Place of worship: Mandir

Important person: Rama and Sita

Important place: Haridwar, India

Holy book: Ramayana

Original language of holy book: Sanskrit



**Hinduism is the world's third most popular religion, with around 750 million followers.** The religion of Hinduism originated in Northern India, near the river Indus, about 4000 years ago and is the world's oldest existing religion.

Hinduism is practised by more than 80% of India's population.

<b>Place of Origin</b>	India
<b>Founder</b>	Developed out of Brahminism
<b>Sacred Text</b>	Vedas, Upanishads
<b>Sacred Building</b>	Mandir
<b>Major Festivals</b>	Diwali
<b>Holy Place</b>	River Ganges is one of many holy places



## Humanism

Followers are called: Humanists

Humanism is an approach to life based on reason and our common humanity, recognising that moral values are properly founded on human nature and experience alone.  
*Robert Ashby*

### Humanist ideas

Most humanists would agree with the ideas below:

- There are no supernatural beings.
- The material universe is the only thing that exists.
- Science provides the only reliable source of knowledge about this universe.
- We only live this life - there is no after-life, and no such thing as reincarnation.
- Human beings can live ethical and fulfilling lives without religious beliefs.
- Human beings derive their moral code from the lessons of history, personal experience, and thought.



## Judaism

Followers are called: Jews

Place of worship: Synagogue

Important person: Moses

Important place: Jerusalem, Israel

Holy book: Torah

Original language of holy book: Hebrew



### Where did Judaism originate from?

Judaism originated in Israel around 4000 years ago.

### What do Jews believe?

Jews believe that there is a single God who not only created the universe, but with whom every Jew can have an individual and personal relationship.

### Who is the founder of Judaism?

Jewish history begins with the covenant established between God and **Abraham** around 1812 BC, during the Bronze Age, in the Middle East. Abraham is considered as the father of the family of Jews.

Moses, is also an important figure as he gave the Jews the Torah around 1250 B.C. The Torah contains the laws of God.

## Buddhism

Followers are called: Buddhists

Place of worship: Vihara

Important person: Prince Siddhartha

Important place: Bodh Gaya, Bihar, India

Holy book: Pali Canon



### What do Buddhist believe?

Buddhist believe that the Buddha saw the truth about what the world is like. They believe that nothing in the world is perfect, and that the Buddha found the answer to why it is like this. They do not believe that the Buddha was a god. He was a human being just like them. They believe that he was important because he gained Enlightenment, and he chose to teach other people how to reach it too.

#### The Three Jewels

There are three Buddhist central beliefs. These are known as the three jewels as they are felt to be so precious.

1. Belief in Buddha
2. Dharma - The teaching of Buddha
3. The Sangha - the Buddhist community made up of ordinary people as well as the monks and nuns. The purpose is to help others and by doing so to cease to become selfish and to move on the way towards enlightenment.

One important belief involves reincarnation: the concept that one must go through many cycles of birth, living, and death. After many such cycles, if a person releases their attachment to desire and the self, they can attain **Nirvana** - a state of liberation and freedom from suffering.

At the heart of the Buddha's teaching lie **The Four Noble Truths** and **The Eightfold Path** which lead the Buddhist towards the path of Enlightenment.