

RE Knowledge Organiser: Summer 1

Year 3: What do Sikh symbols and sayings tell us about Sikh beliefs?

Big Question: How are symbols and sayings important in religion?

Vocabulary

Khanda : Is the Sikh symbol. It is made up of three weapons traditionally found in India 500 years ago. Each weapon is a symbol about God – his infinity, his power and justice and his mercy

Nishan Sahib: Is the orange and black flag that flies outside all Gurdwaras. It always has the Khanda on it

Kesh: Is uncut hair – so for all baptised Sikh men and women they cannot cut their hair anymore. It is a symbol of detachment from worldly fashions

Kangha: Is a wooden comb used to keep uncut hair in good order and clean. It shows that detachment from the world always needs to be balanced with social responsibility. If God has given us something we must look after it.

Kara: Is a steel bangle worn on the right hand. It symbolises that God is with you, he has no beginning and no end, and you should always be aware of his presence and make sure what you do is something that would please him.

Kachera: specially designed short, worn by baptised Sikhs. It is one of the five Sikh articles of faith called the Five Ks. They show modesty in dress and remind Sikhs to always be modest

Kirpan: a short sword or knife with a curved blade, worn (sometimes in miniature form) as one of the five distinguishing signs of the Sikh Khalsa

Key learning

- Investigate Sikh symbols and sayings
- Apply how Sikh and English sayings impact people's lives today
- Linking similar teachings from different religions

Symbols/Images/artefacts



Nishan Sahib

Important people/places/artefacts



5 K's – uniform for all baptised Sikh men and women

Highlights from Previous Learning

In Year 1 you were taught: about special religious clothes and symbols e.g. Topee, Diya lights and special occasions, e.g. Christening, Christmas and about special artefacts and events, e.g. Eid and prayer mats and Rakhi wrist bands.

In Year 2 you were taught: about why holy books are special, how people learn from them and why they are important to a believer and about how the world was created according to the Hindu tradition.

In Year 3 you were taught: about Diwali around the theme of light along with other religion festivals and about Christian and Muslim symbols and sayings.

Khanda