

# HINDUISM

## **KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER**

#### **Overview**

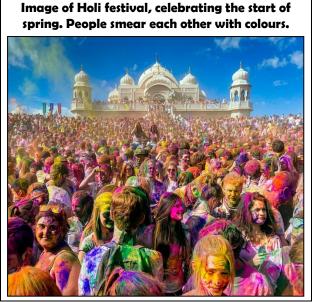
**Hinduism** is one of the world's major religions. It is the world's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest religion, with about 1.1 billion followers. It is around 5,000 years old.

Hindus are the people who follow Hinduism. It is a very complex religion that is followed by different people in different wavs.

Many gods are worshipped in Hinduism. All of these different Gods are believed to be a part of the supreme God named 'Brahman.'

Hindus believe in **karma** and **reincarnation** – that when you die you are reborn as something else.

Hinduism does not have one holy book, but several sacred texts. Mandirs are Hindu worship buildings.



## **Hindu Beliefs**

#### **Brahman and the Gods**

Hindus believe in one supreme God called Brahman. He can be found in everyone and everything, including the other Gods.

Some of the important other Gods include 'Brahma' (the creator), 'Shiva', (the destroyer) and 'Vishnu' (the protector). These three together form the 'Trimurti' (trinity).

Other gods include Ganesh (remover of obstacles), Hanuman (the monkey God), Lakshmi (the Goddess of wealth and good fortune, and Vishnu (the God who preserves life and stands up to evil).

#### Karma and Reincarnation

Hindus believe that people are born again after they die, as another living thing (reincarnation).

In each life the person is rewarded or punished for the things that they have said and done in their last life – this is called karma.

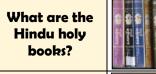
Hindus believe that if they live a perfect life, they will be freed from birth and death to join the Gods (Moksha). **Festivals** 

Hindus enjoy many festivals as a part of their religion. Holi festival marks the beginning of spring.

Diwali, or the Festival of Lights, is held in the Hindu month of Ashwin (September of October in the western calendar). This event marks the Hindu New Year. Oil lamps are lit and floated down rivers to welcome the Goddess of Wealth. Fireworks are set off in order to ward off evil spirits.

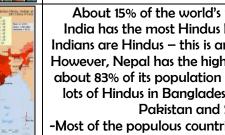
Hindu people also go on pilgrimages, for example to the River Ganges, which is sacred to Hindus.

# Where and how do Hindus worship? Why?



Where do most Hindus live in the world?





-Most of the populous countri

There are four main forms -

broken down mar Although they have small a different forms follows the

	Тор 10	Top 10 Facts!	
1.	Hindus believe that all living things have souls.	6.	H
2.	Because of this, very committed Hindus are vegetarians.	7.	Si H
З.	Cows are considered to be particularly sacred, as they give milk to the people.	8.	B (\
4.	People clean their houses, and then decorate them, to celebrate Diwali.	9.	H d
5.	Traditional Hindi clothes include a robe (dhoti) and shawl (chaddar) for men.	10.	A re

### **Answers to Important Questions**

Many Hindus worship at hor this could be anything from simply pictures

The Hindu building for comm Mandir (Hindu temple). The to different gods and are th At Mandirs, Hindu people of Gods and Goddesses. They a flowers to th

There are many different ty Hinduism. Perhaps the most Vedas. The Vedas guide peop They are written into the San

About 15% of the world's

Indians are Hindus - this is a However, Nepal has the high about 83% of its population

Pakistan and

a population of Hindu people There are many, many diffe

as different types have developed of years since it w

Shaktism and Smartism. T

R	3			
s and Key Vocabulary				
me in their own shrine – m a room, an altar, or s or statues. munal worship is called a	Key Vocabulary			
e temples are dedicated he focus of religious life.	Hindu			
often recite the names of Ilso offer water, fruit and	Brahman			
he Gods. pes of holy texts in	Karma			
sacred are called the ple in their daily lives.	Reincarnation			
nskrit language. population is Hindus.	Brahma			
by far – about 1 billion round 80% of all Indians.	Shiva			
hest proportion of Hindus is Hindus. There are also	Vishnu			
sh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka.	Holi			
ries in the world contain le.	Dewali			
erent forms of Hinduism, loped over the thousands was founded.	Dhoti			
- Vaishnavism, Shaivism, These four types can be	Sari			
ny more times! differences, each of the	<b>River Ganges</b>			
same rough principles.				

- Hindu women wear a long piece of clothing called a sari.
- Singing and dancing is an important part of Hindu worship, as is chanting.
- Big Hindu ceremonies include marriage (vivaha) and cremation (antyeshti)
- Hindu wedding celebrations last for many days. The bride and groom wear red and gold.
- After death, Hindus are cremated, and their remains are scattered in a nearby river.