



Overview and Prior Learning

Hindus are people who follow Hinduism. Hindus believe in Karma and reincarnation—that when you die you are reborn in to something else. **Sanskaras** in **Hinduism** are **rites of passage**. They begin with one's birth, celebrate specific early steps in a baby's growth and his or her welcome into the world in the presence of friends and family, then various stages of life (Ashrama (stage)) such as the first day at school, graduation, wedding and honeymoon and raising a family. There are final rites associated with death and cremation. These rites of passage are not uniform, and vary within the diverse traditions of Hinduism.

Prior Learning: *Comparing images of birth ceremonies, identifying similarities and differences. Discussing why belonging is important. Thinking about ways in which non-religious people show they belong in a community.*

Hindu Rites of Passage—What should we know?

Sanskara—Rites of Passage

Sanskaras, or Hindu rites of passage, mark the important stages of one's life and enable one to live a fulfilling life complete with happiness and contentment. They pave the way for one's physical and spiritual journey through this life. It is believed that the various Hindu sanskaras lead to a purification of one's sins, vices and faults.

The **Upanishads** mention sanskaras as a means to grow and prosper in all four aspects of human pursuit -

Dharma (righteousness), **Artha** (wealth), **Karma** and **Kama** (work and pleasure), and **Moksha** (salvation).

Namkarna—(Naming ceremony) This is one of the most important Hindu Sanskaras that celebrate the rights of passage.

- Sanskrit , Nam = name and Karna = create, hence creating the child's name. The formal naming ceremony that is performed using traditional methods and astrological rules of naming. celebrated by all the family.
- Usually the naming ceremony happens 11 days after the babies birth in the family home.

Jatakarma—(welcoming the baby in to the family)

-The parents say prayers to the Gods in the presence of the family priest. Rice grains are spread on to a bronze dish "thal" and the father writes the name in the rice with a golden stick. He whispers the name four times in the baby's right ear.

- The name is selected based on the baby's birth star. Each star has a specific letter that the name must start with.
- Traditionally boys' names have even numbers of letters and girls' have odd numbers.

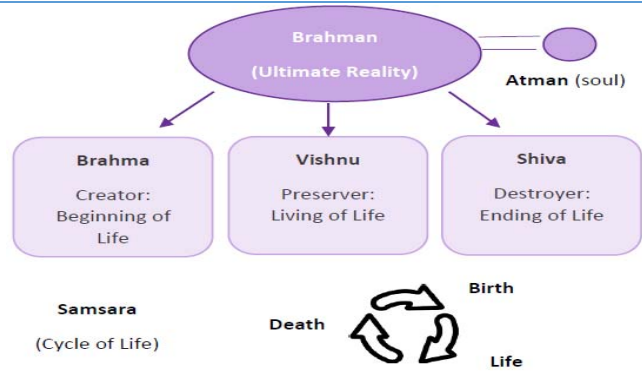
Karavedha—(Ear piercing ceremony)

- Performed on males and females.
- Intended to open the inner ear to receive sacred sounds.
- Sacred sounds cleanse and nurture the spirit.

Mundan—(First haircut)

Upananyana—(Sacred Thread ceremony)

- Confirms boys are of an age to take on religious responsibilities.
- The head is shaved (sometimes), they bathe and have new clothes to cleanse themselves ready for duty.
- Janoi is made up of three strands, symbolising purity of thoughts, word and actions.
- Cotton strands go over the left shoulder and under the right arm.
- A special mantra is said when taking the janoi on and off.
- Vows are made to obey all aspects of the ashrama.



What should we be able to do?

- Explain why Hindus believe that fulfilling their dharma (duty) is important.
- Know that for Hindus, life is like a sacred journey and that every important step is marked by a traditional ceremony called a sanskara.
- Explain that a sanskara is an everlasting impression etched in to their mind at an important part of their life.
- Know that during Hindu rites of passage , a temple or home ceremony, directs life along the path of dharma.
- Know that religious sanskaras mark an important life transition and give special blessings from the deities, society, family and friends. These blessings generate a feeling of well being and love that impact positively on ones life.

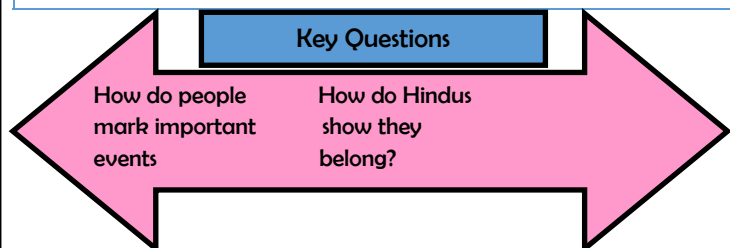
What words should we be able to understand and use?

Sanskara A Hindu rite of passage.	Namkarna Naming ceremony	Karavedha Ear piercing ceremony
Karma Actions. Good actions fulfil dharma.	Samsara The cycle of birth, life ,death and	Mundan Hair cutting ceremony
Upananyana Sacred thread ceremony.	Belonging An affinity for a place or a situation.	Initiation The action of in to a group, typically

Key Questions

How do people mark important events

How do Hindus show they belong?





Overview and Prior Learning

The word 'Islam' in Arabic means submission to the will of God. Followers of Islam are called Muslims. Muslims believe there is one true God Allah (the Arabic word for God). The **Five Pillars of Islam** are an important part of Muslim life. These include the declaration of faith (Shahada), praying five times a day (Salat), giving money to charity (Zakah), fasting during Ramadan (Sawm) and pilgrimage to Makkah at least once in a lifetime (Haji). Islamic rites of passage focus on key teachings and the demands of living as a good Muslim.

Prior Learning:

What do pupils remember about the Aqiqah ceremony? How do Muslims show they belong?

Islamic Rites of Passage—What should we know?

Birth

At the moment of birth, many Muslims speak the words of the **Adhan** (the call to prayer) in the ear of the baby so that the call to serve **Allah** is present from the start of the child's life.

Aqiqah ceremony

On the seventh day after birth, the child's head is shaved. This is called **Aqiqah** and is performed as part of the naming ceremony.

The baby is often named after one of the prophets or one of the great men or women of early Islam, though it is common for boys' names to follow the pattern 'servant of' plus one of the ninety-nine names of Allah, eg 'Abd Allah or 'Abd al-Rahman.

At the Aqiqah ceremony the parents give thanks to Allah for the gift of the baby.

The shaving of the head symbolises the cleansing of the baby from impurities and the start of its life afresh in the presence of Allah.

The baby is given a taste of honey to reflect the sweetness of the **Qur'an**.

The shaved hair from the baby is weighed and the equivalent weight in silver or gold is given to charity.

Once a child has been purified by Aqiqah, he or she should try to stay faithful to Allah and the teachings of the **Prophet Muhammad**.

Religious education - madrasah

A **madrasah** is an Islamic school where lessons are given on the Qur'an, the history of Islam and the Arabic language.

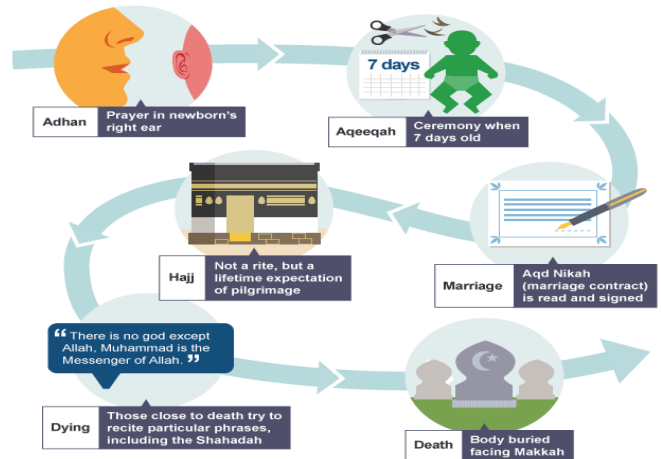
Other subjects are also taught to ensure that pupils have full access to what they need for life. Boys and girls are taught separately but in an environment where the Islamic religion is accepted as central to all aspects of life.

A child taught in a madrasah is more likely to be aware of the demands of living a full Muslim life. They will be guided in their study of the Qur'an, which will remain with them through life.

Learning 3 verses of the Qu'ran everyday will help you **become a hafiz** in 10 years. As you memorize the Qur'an, also study the meaning and tafseer (interpretation). Trainees dedicate their whole time to becoming a hafiz, only taking breaks for meals and sleeping. This can make you **Hafiz** in as less time as an year.

To Allah we belong, to Allah we return.

Qur'an 2:156

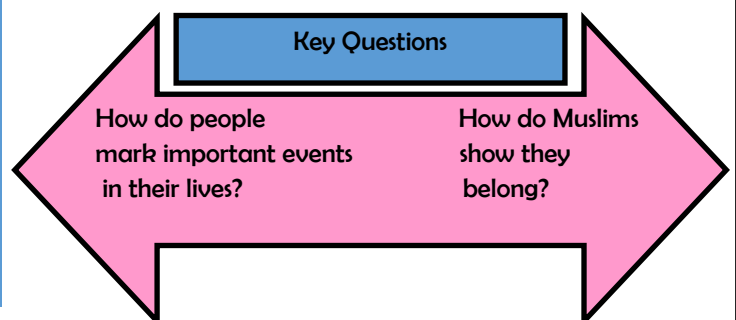


What should we be able to do?

- Know that Islamic rites of passage focus on key teachings and the demands of living as a good Muslim.
- Know that Islamic rites of passage sit alongside The Five Pillars of Islam.
- Know that these rites and ceremonies bring meaning to the most important life transitions.

What words should we be able to understand and use?

Community A group of people having a particular characteristic in Common.	Qu'ran The holy book of Islam , offers guidance on how to follow the sahriah	Aqiqah Naming ceremony
Brotherhood The feeling of kinship with and closeness to a group of people.	Madrasah Islamic school that teaches lessons on the Qu'ran	Family A group of people related by blood or common interest.



RE : Life Journey in Christianity KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

Overview and Prior Learning

Life is full of big moments that mark a new beginning and change us as people. Whatever people believe, they usually celebrate the biggest moments in life's journey. These celebrations are called "rites of passage." For Christians, they include birth, deciding to become a Christian, getting married and death. Rites of passage can be described as religious or secular (not linked to religion). Christianity is a diverse religion, but Christians do have one thing in common—they believe in Jesus Christ as somebody special who has changed their life.

Prior Learning:

*What do pupils remember about birth ceremonies and the importance Christians place upon belonging to a community?
How do Christians show they belong?*

Christian Rites of Passage—What should we know?

Outward signs of belonging:

Baptism

- Prepares Christians to follow the example set by Jesus
- Jesus was baptised by John the Baptist in the River Jordan
- Saying sorry for sins
- A Christening shows that the person is a member of the Christian church family.
- Baptism/ Christening can take place at any age.
- Godparents are chosen to support the child with their Christian faith.

Believer's Baptism

- Candidates usually attend a baptism course to look at the Bible and living as a Christian.
- Close friends pray for them during the service.
- The candidate shares their testimony, explaining why they want to be baptised.
- Baptism is performed by Minister, Pastor or Elder.
- Candidate is asked two important questions:
Do you acknowledge Jesus Christ as the saviour and Lord?
Do you promise with the help of the Holy Spirit to love and serve God for the rest of your life?
- The candidate is lowered in to the water and raises them back up again.

Confirmation

- Some Christians decide to be confirmed.
- Promises made at baptism are reinforced.
- Confirmation is a symbol that they want to follow Jesus for the rest of their lives.

Marriage

- Often takes place in a church, although other venues are becoming popular.
- The bride and groom make promises, called vows, to each other and to God.
- The couple swap rings as a symbol of God's love that never ends.

Symbols and Actions

For two thousand years Christians have used them to speak about what they believe.

Water—Symbolises how people have become "clean", that is forgiven by God for the wrong things they have done.

Candle—Jesus is known as the "light of the world".

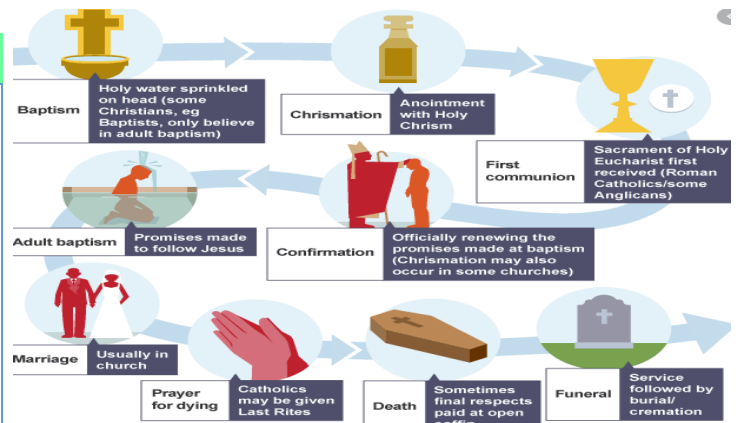
Fish / Ichthus— A very old Christian symbol used in early churches. Christians may have a fish badge or a sticker in their car.

Rainbow— Christians believe that a rainbow is a sign that God keeps his promises, like in the story of Noah.

Dove—A symbol of the Holy Spirit, seen at Jesus' baptism.

Cross—Reminds Christians that Jesus dies on the cross but came back to life again.

Bread and wine—The bread was a symbol of Jesus' body and the wine was a symbol of his blood. Christians still share bread and wine together and remember how Jesus died on the cross.



What should we be able to do?

- Explain that Christians are baptised because Jesus told his disciples to tell everyone about him, baptise them, teach them to obey the things he taught and that he would always be with them.
- Know that a baptism is a relationship with God and a commitment to living his way.
- Explain that in the believers baptism, being lowered in to the water symbolises dying to their old life and raising up symbolises the desire to live a new life with Jesus as Lord.
- Know that Christian rites of passage are about making promises to God.
- Explain some of the symbols that Christians use to speak about their beliefs.

What words should we be able to understand and use?

Baptism—the rite of admission in to Christianity.

Bible—A collection of writing and teachings that Christians follow.

Confirmation— A promise to follow Jesus throughout a Christian's life.

Marriage—The joining of two people before God.

Vow—A promise.

Symbolism—A representation.

Ichthus –fish symbol of Christian faith

Crucifix/ Cross - A representation of the faith of Christians. The

Key Questions

How do Christians' beliefs about creation and humanity relate to their understanding of human relationships?

How do symbols in Christian marriage reflect beliefs about God and humanity?

How and why might Christians differ in their understanding of relationships, marriage, gender?