



### Vocabulary

Hindu	Someone who follows Hinduism
Vishnu	Hindu god who protects the universe
Brahma	Hindu god of creation
Trimurti	The three aspects of the universal supreme God
Trivedi	The three great goddesses of Hinduism
Brahman	Hindus recognise one God, Brahman.

### What is Hinduism?

Hinduism is the oldest of the world's religions. It is now practised all over the world but originated in South East Asia. It is a mix of different beliefs, cultures and traditions dating back over 4000 years.

Hinduism is recognised by the religious symbol 'OM', which represents most of the Gods and Goddesses of Hinduism.

# Hinduism



### FUN FACT!

Hinduism is the oldest known religion in the world. In fact, it goes back as far as 5,000-10,000 B.C.

### Hindu Beliefs

<b>Truth is Eternal</b>  Hindus are encouraged to learn	<b>Dharma</b>  Dharma means to do the right thing with good behaviour	<b>Reincarnation</b>  Hindus believe a soul cannot be destroyed, so when a Hindu dies, their soul enters a new living being.	<b>Moksha</b>  Moksha is the ultimate goal. It happens when a soul stops being reincarnated and is reunited with Brahman.
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### Key Vocabulary

<b>mandir</b>	A special place for <b>Hindus</b> to worship.
<b>puja</b>	Act of worship for <b>Hindus</b> .
<b>murtis</b>	Special statues or images of <b>Hindu</b> gods and goddesses.
<b>shrine</b>	A holy place to pray.
<b>Shruti</b>	<b>Hindu</b> holy scriptures which contain the four <b>Vedas</b> .
<b>Smriti</b>	<b>Hindu</b> holy scriptures which contain legends, myths and history.
<b>Vedas</b>	Ancient <b>Hindu</b> text.



### Special Places for Hindus

**Hindus** can worship at home or in a **mandir**.  
In a **mandir**, **Hindus** can perform **puja**.

Some **mandirs** are very tall buildings. **Hindus** believe it brings them closer to heaven.

In a **mandir**, there are **shrines** and lots of **murtis** for different gods. Offerings of flowers are brought to the **murtis**.



There are holy scriptures in Hinduism. The scriptures support **Hindus** in their life and guide prayer.

**Shruti** texts are knowledge from gods. **Smriti** were written by **Hindu** spiritual leaders.

# Hinduism

### Special Festivals

Holi is the 'festival of colours' and marks the beginning of spring with bonfires and lots of singing and dancing. Old rubbish is burnt to mark a fresh start and colour is thrown on people.



Diwali is the 'festival of lights' and is celebrated in late autumn. Diwali celebrates good's victory over evil with lots of lights around homes. Fireworks, presents and new clothes are used to celebrate.