

Religious Education Knowledge Organiser

Year 5

Summer (i)

What are the symbols of Nishan Sahib and Khanda?

Substantive Knowledge – To know the importance of Gurdwaras, how respect is shown in the Gurdwara and the role of a Granthi. The Langer kitchen is open to all and the Guru Granth Sahib is the holiest book in the Sikh faith.

The importance of a Gurdwara



Gurdwara in Gravesend

The Gurdwara is a place for Sikhs to come together to meditate, eat and pray. It also welcomes the wider community to learn about the faith.

Showing respect in a Gurdwara

Followers show respect by washing their hands, covering their heads and removing their shoes. They then walk towards the Guru Granth Sahib, bow and touch the floor.



The role of the Granthi

A Granthi is a ceremonial reader of the Guru Granth Sahib. It is someone - a man or woman - who can read the Guru Granth Sahib. A granthi leads daily worship. Although the granthi is trained and often the only paid official, they are not considered a priest.



The symbols of Nishan Sahib and Khanda



The Nishan Sahib is a orange triangular flag with the Khanda symbol on it. The Khanda Symbolises the Sikh faith: it shows a double-edged sword, a chakram and two single-edged swords.



The Langer kitchen



Every Gurdwara has a kitchen, the Langer. Volunteers cook food which is served in the Gurdwara. The food is free for anyone who needs a meal.



Gravesend's
Langer kitchen

The Golden Temple

The Golden Temple was built as a place of worship. It has four entrances to symbolise it's welcome to all. It is considered the holiest of the Gurdwaras.



The Guru Granth Sahib

The Guru Granth Sahib is a collection of songs, prayers and hymns from previous Gurus and is the most holy book in the Sikh faith. It is treated as a living Guru.



Before Guru Gobind Singh died, he declared that there would be no more human Gurus and that the Guru Granth Sahib would be the Eternal Guru .

Portable Knowledge – What we need to remember

Gurdwaras are places for Sikhs to congregate to worship and eat. All gurdwaras have a langar (kitchen).

There are rules for entering a gurdwara. The Guru Granth Sahib is the everlasting Guru.

Core Vocabulary

Nishan Sahib – small triangular flag that is flown outside of Gurdwaras.

Khanda – Symbolises the Sikh faith: it shows a double-edged sword, a chakram and two single-edged swords.

Granthi- a priest who acts as custodian of the Guru Granth Sahib, the sacred scripture of the Sikhs.