

Key Question

Does joining the Khalsa make a person a better Sikh?

Key Concepts

- The Guru Granth Sahib: is a collection of teachings and writings by Guru Nanak and other Gurus as well as Sikh, Hindu and Muslim saints.
- The 5 K's: anyone who belongs to the Khalsa must wear 5 symbols which show that they are Sikhs which are usually known as the 5K's. This is because, in Punjabi their names all begin with the letter 'K'.
- Vaisakhi: is the festival which celebrates the founding of the Sikh community, the Khalsa, in 1699. It is celebrated by attending a service at the Gurdwara in the morning followed by a colourful procession through the streets with lots of singing. In the evening, Sikhs have a special meal with family and friends.
- Amrit Sanskar: The ceremony of initiation that Sikhs go through to join the Khalsa and show commitment to their faith. Baptised Sikhs, take new names, and wear the 5 Ks.

Interesting facts

The most Holy place for the Sikh religion is the Golden Temple in the Punjab Amritsar India.

Sikhs have their own flag called the Nishan Sahib and it flies outside of the Gurdwaras.

Key Vocabulary

Sikhism	The world's fifth largest religion
Sikh	A follower of the religion of Sikhism
Gudwara	A Sikh place of worship
Guru	A spiritual teacher
Guru Nanak	The founder of Sikhism
Guru Granth Sahib	The Sikh Holy Text
The Khanda	The Sikh symbol
The Khalsa	A sign of commitment in Sikhism. Sikhs show their commitment by taking part in the Amrit Sanskar ceremony .
Sargun	The belief that God is everywhere and in everything.
Nirgun	The belief that God is above and beyond everything

Key People

Guru Nanak	The founder of the Sikh faith. Guru Nanak is considered the first Sikh Guru. Sikhism is still based on his teachings and those of the nine Sikh Gurus who followed him.
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The Main Beliefs

1	There is only one God.
2	God cannot be described as either male nor female.
3	God is both sargun and nirgun.
4	God created the world and created people to know the difference between right and wrong.
5	Give to the needy.
6	All people are equal.



Sessions and Key Learning

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Sessions	Key Learning
1.	What is Sikhism?
2.	What do Sikhs believe and what is their holy book?
3.	What places are special to Sikhs?
4.	In what ways do Sikhs show commitment to God?
5/6.	What are some of the festivals that Sikhs celebrate?
7.	Review Lesson

