



Year 8 RS 100% Sheet: Hinduism

How do Hindus understand God?

Hindus believe in Polytheism. This is the belief in or worship of more than one God.

Concept of Brahman. Brahman is understood as the life giving force that is the 'origin of all that comes into being'. This power dwells within all living beings but is also beyond the universe. Brahman is often described as 'it' showing there is not gender as God is not a physical being.

Hindu understanding of God. They believe there is one supreme universal spirit, Brahman, the origin of all that comes into being. This power dwells in all living beings. God is invisible and formless, God is not material but a power or spirit and thus has not gender.

What is meant by Ahimsa? Showing respect for all living things and avoidance of violence towards others

Why Hindus follow the principle of Ahimsa? Hindus believe Ahimsa is a universal vow that is required for self-realisation. It is a necessity for anyone who aims to control their mind.

How is the principle of Ahimsa shown in practice? By being a vegetarian
By refusing to fight in war and being a pacifist
By protecting the environment e.g. not dropping litter.

What is the Trimurti? The triad of gods consisting of Brahma the creator, Vishnu the preserver, and Shiva the destroyer as the three highest manifestations of the one ultimate reality.

The symbolism of the Trimurti The Trimurti (meaning "three forms" of God), also known as the Hindu Trinity, is a representation of God in Hinduism, which depicts divinity as a three faced figure



What do Hindus believe about the afterlife? Hindus believe that after death the atman continues to exist and enters another body just 'as a man casts off old clothes and takes on other clothes'. This is because the atman is 'eternal' and 'indestructible'. This is known as reincarnation.

Samsara, Karma and Moksha Hindus believe that the soul passes through a cycle of successive lives (**samsara**) and its next incarnation is always dependent on how the previous life was lived (**karma**). **Moksha** is the end of the death and rebirth cycle and is classed as the fourth and ultimate goal.

How these beliefs affect a Hindu's everyday life
Karma literal meaning is 'action'. Hindus believe in a law that every action has an equal reaction either immediately or at some point in the future. Good or virtuous actions, will have good reactions or responses and bad actions, will have the opposite effect. So Hindus try to conduct good actions in their lives.



What is the nature of the Goddess in Hinduism? the Goddess is seen as the activating force that enables the male gods to exert their power

The different forms of the Goddess The goddess has many forms. One of them is Kali. She represents the ferocious nature of the goddess. Another form of the goddess is Parvati, she represents the kindness and gentleness of the goddess.

What is meant by the Atman? *Hindus believe the atman is the soul*

the nature of the Atman Hindus call the atman the 'deep self-hidden in all beings' This soul within all living things is part of the pervading spirit of Brahman



The concept of the Atman within Hinduism *Hindus* they believe that life has a spark of the presence of God within it. The atman is eternal and indestructible. When the body dies, the atman continues to exist and enters another body

Assessment Objectives:

AO1. Learning about religion. To be able to Describe, explain and analyse key beliefs teachings and practices.

AO2: Learning from religion Use evidence and reasoned argument to express and evaluate personal and religious responses to the issues you have studied.