

## Yr 8: Keywords and definitions.

### What is the meaning of life?

**Torah** – The most important Holy book in Judaism. The Torah is the first five books of the Tenakh (the Old Testament). The Torah contains the basis of all the Jewish teachings and guidance on how to live a good Jewish life.

**Talmud** - The Talmud contains rabbinic teachings which interpret and expand Torah law to make it relevant to the daily life of Jews in the first five centuries CE.

**Rabbi** - a person qualified by academic studies of the Hebrew Bible and the Talmud to act as spiritual leader and religious teacher of a Jewish community or congregation.

**Tikkun olam** - For Orthodox Jews it is the prospect of overcoming all forms of idolatry. Other Jews see it as an aspiration to behave and act constructively and beneficially.

**Bal tashit** - ("do not destroy") is a basic ethical principle in Jewish law.

**Guru Nanak** – the founder of the religion of Sikhism (1469-1539)

**Sewa** - 'selfless service'. It involves acting selflessly and helping others in a variety of ways, without any reward or personal gain. It is a way of life for many Sikhs and is part of their daily routine.

**Waheguru** –The name most widely used for God by Sikhs is Waheguru, which means 'wondrous enlightener'.

**Kirat karna** – earning a living responsibly / honestly in Sikhi.

**vand chakna** – to share everything in charity with people who are less fortunate (Sikhi)

**Rehat Maryada** – the Sikhi code of conduct.

**Hukam** – everything was created according to God's will (Sikhi). Hukam is also the word used for the verse that is chosen randomly from the Guru Granth Sahib every day.

**Universal Declaration of Human Rights** – laws put in place by the United Nations in 1948 to defend the rights of all people regardless of race, gender, nationality, political or religious views etc.

**Atheist** - Someone who can make a reasoned argument that God does not exist.

**Agnostic** – someone who is undecided about the existence of God.

**Tolerant** – accepting someone else's flaws or differences to you.

**Secularism** - A description of how things such as governments, law courts or schools can be run without reference to any religion or god.

**Piety** - being religious or showing a deep and solemn respect.

**Dogma** - a set of principles that have been given by an authority. Viewed as completely true.

**Morality** - ability to distinguish between what is right and wrong.

## **Why does God have so many names?**

**Allah** – Islamic word for God

**Shirk** – Sin of putting something above Allah

**Shahadah** - a statement of faith made by Muslims

**Submission** - accept and obey God

**Tawhid** – Muslim belief in one God

**Calligraphy** – Islamic writing used to describe God's qualities.

**Inshallah** – Arabic phrase means 'God willing'

**JHWH** – Hebrew word for God which is too holy for Orthodox Jews to write or read aloud.

**Adonai** - The Lord. The name for God used by many Jews in place of JHWH.

**HaShem** - The name (Orthodox) Use by Orthodox Jews instead of JHWH and Adonai.

**Trinity** – The Christian belief in one God as three persons – Father, Son, Holy Spirit

**Holy Spirit** – God all around us active and present on earth.

**Jesus** – God the Son – the incarnation of God in Christianity (ie in human flesh).

**Just**- behaving/acting in a way which is morally right and fair

**Merciful** - being compassionate, understanding and forgiveness to others

**Monotheistic** – belief in one God

**Polytheistic** – belief in multiple Gods

**Transcendent**- beyond the range of normal or physical human experience.

**Brahman** – Supreme spirit in Hinduism.

**Brahma** – the creator (Hinduism)

**Vishnu** – the preserver (Hinduism)

**Shiva** – the destroyer (Hinduism)

**Avatars** – representatives of the Supreme spirit Brahman.