

Pilgrimages

Key Vocabulary:

pilgrimage	A journey to a special place that is important for religious reasons. A person who goes on a pilgrimage is called a pilgrim.
Buddhism	The religion followed by Buddhists.
Hinduism	The religion followed by Hindus.
holy	Something or somewhere that is dedicated to or associated with God or a religious purpose.
miracle	Something extraordinary and positive that is believed to happen because of another power, such as a god.
sacred	Something that is connected to God or a god.
Islam	Islam is the second most popular religion in the world. Muslims are followers of Islam.
Judaism	The religion followed by Jews.
Sikhism	The religion followed by Sikhs.
guru	A religious teacher or leader in the Hindu or Sikh religions.

What is a pilgrimage?

A pilgrimage is a special journey to a place that is important for religious reasons. Different religions have different special places that pilgrimages are made to. All places of pilgrimage are considered to be sacred and holy and they can be places where miracles have taken place.



Learning Questions

- What is the role of pilgrimage in Buddhism?
- What is the role of pilgrimage in Hinduism?
- What is the role of pilgrimage in Islam?
- What is the role of pilgrimage in Judaism?
- What special journey have I undertaken?

Are pilgrimages important to all religions?

Although going on a pilgrimage is important to many different religions, this is not true with every religion. Some Sikhs go on pilgrimages but many do not as it is not seen as a compulsory part of Sikhism.

Buddhist Pilgrimages

Pilgrimages are very important in Buddhism. The most important Buddhist pilgrimage sites are called the 'Eight Great Places'. Four of these places are believed to be where miracles took

place.



Hindu Pilgrimages

Pilgrimage is an important part of Hinduism. Hindus go on pilgrimages to several places, including temples and mountains. The River Ganges is the holiest river for Hindus.



Muslim Pilgrimages

All Muslims believe in a special pilgrimage called Hajj. All Muslims try to go once in their life as it is the fifth pillar of Islam.

