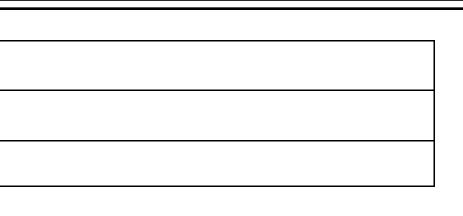
Name		
Form Teacher		
	7 Home	
X	My teacher is going to test me on all of my homework on this day every week.	MI TU W TH FR



work Booklet

Ethics



ONDAY JESDAY EDNESDAY HURSDAY RIDAY





Hinduism - The oldest religion. Scholars are not sure how old

Judaism - The Hebrew leader **Abraham** founded Judaism aro faiths (religions with one god).

Christianity - Founded by Jesus Christ, who was crucified arould lowers came to believe in him as the "son of God".

Buddhism - Founded by Siddhartha Gautama, called the Bud

Islam - Founded in Arabia by Muhammad between A.D. 610

Sikhism - Founded by Guru Nanak Dev Ji in India between 14

equally.

Christianity: 2.1 billion

Islam: 1.3 billion.

Hinduism: 900 million

Buddhism: 376 million

Sikhism: 23 million

Judaism: 14 million

Which religion is to Which religion has Where was Islam Who founded Sikl What did Jesus' for Which is oldest mow what was the Buck How many follow What is main beligible.

Which of the 6 ma

lit really is! It could be as old as 6000 years.

und 2000 B.C. Judaism is the oldest of the monotheistic

ınd A.D. 30 in Jerusalem. It was after his death when his fol-

dha, in the 4th or 5th century B.C. in India.

and A.D. 632

69-1539. The main belief is that all people should be treated

the oldest religion? ______s the most followers? ______

founded? _____

ollowers call him? _____

onotheistic faith?

ddha's real name? _____

ers does Hinduism have? ______ef of Sikhism? _____

ain religions has the least followers? _____

- 1. Who was the founder of Sikhism?
- 2. How many Gurus Followed him?
- 3. What are stories about Nanak called?
- 4. Where was Guru Nanak born?
- 5. When was Guru Nanak born?
- 6. What do Sikhs teach about his birth and early life?
- 7. How many God's did Guru Nanak believe in?
- 8. What is Guru Nanak's most famous teaching?
- 9. When did Guru Nanak die?
- 10. Who else mourned the death of Guru Nanak?

Answers



and th Little is a mucl about his im from L birth a that G keepin Nanak beings als or wome by the

Guru

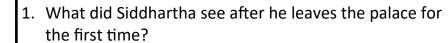
of oth

mourr

Sikhism Week 2

Sikhism was founded by a wise man called **Guru Nanak**. Guru Nanak is considered the first **Sikh Guru**.

Sikhism is still based on his teachings ose of the nine Sikh Gurus who followed him. s known about the life of Nanak, but Sikh tradition has n-loved set of stories or *janam sakhis* which talk important moments from his life, and include many of portant teachings. Nanak was born about 40 miles ahore (now in Pakistan) in 1469. Sikhs teach that his nd early years had many events that showed od had marked him out for something special and was g an eye on him. The most famous teachings of Guru are that there is only **one God**, and that all human can have direct access to God with no need of ritupriests. His most famous teaching is that all men and n are treated equally and that people should judged ir actions and not their gender, skin colour or wealth. Nanak died on 22nd September 1539. Even members er religions (Hindus and Muslims) ed his death. /10



- 2. What did he decide to search for while living with Holy men?
- 3. How long did his search take?
- 4. What was sitting under when he became enlightened?
- 5. What was he known as from that point on?
- 6. Where did he live and teach?
- 7. How many noble truths are there for Buddhists?
- 8. What do Buddhists believe is the way to avoid suffering?
- 9. What do Buddhists monks often wear?
- 10. What do Buddhists do when entering a temple?

Answers



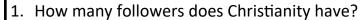
enligh Siddh 'awak life to arour twee the a **Truth** these lowin and b way t know are m and fe

> robes shoes Budd

Buddhism Week 3

Siddhattha Gotama was a prince who lived a life of luxury. When he was 29, Siddhattha went outside his palace and saw people suffering for the first time. He decided to leave his palace and live among holy men in search of truth. His search took him six years, but he became

ntened while meditating under a fig tree. Following this, attha became known as the Buddha, which means the kened' or 'enlightened' one. From then on, he dedicated his spreading his teachings. He lived and taught in the region nd the border of modern-day Nepal and India sometime ben the 6th to 4th century B.C. The Buddha discovered that nswer lay in what have become known as the Four Noble s. Buddhists try to achieve enlightenment by understanding important principles. Buddhists try to live a good life by folg the Buddha's teachings, helping them to avoid suffering ad feelings. They believe nothing in life is perfect and the o avoid suffering is to follow a set of important guidelines n as the Noble Eightfold Path. In Buddhist countries there any temples. People bring flowers and incense for the shrine ood for the monks. Monks are often seen in orange and red . When entering a temple, Buddhists will take off their s, put their hands together and bow to the image of the ha.



- 2. Whose teachings is Christianity based on?
- 3. Where was Jesus born?
- 4. Who was Jesus' mother?
- 5. Where was Jesus' birth predicted?
- 6. When did Jesus start teaching religion? (how old was he?)
- 7. How many disciples did he have?
- 8. How was Jesus sentenced to die?
- 9. What happened to Jesus after he died?
- 10. What is the day of his resurrection known as now?

Answers



action of predictors in predic

raised J Christia

Week 4

Christianity



Christianity is the world's largest religion, with about 2.1 billion followers worldwide. It is based on the teachings of Jesus Christ who lived in the Holy Land 2,000 years ago. The traditional story of Jesus tells of his birth in a stable in Bethlehem in the Holy Land, to a young virgin called Mary who had become pregnant with the son of God through the

of the Holy Spirit. Jesus' birth is believed by Christians to be ed in the Jewish Old Testament. After the story of his birth, known about Jesus until he began teaching religion at the about 30. He then spent three years teaching, healing and g miracles. He taught in parables - everyday stories which ine messages for those who would hear it. He had disciples whom he called to follow him and help him in his esus stated publicly that he spoke with the authority of ie to his views he was sentenced to death crucifixion to a cross). This is referred to, by Christians as Good Friday. Sunday following his death, some of his women followers red that the tomb into which his body had been placed pty. Jesus then appeared to them, alive, as the Jesus they own prior to his death. His followers realised that God had esus from the dead. This is referred to, by ns as Easter Sunday/ Resurrection Sunday.

- 1. Judaism starts with a promise . Who was the promise between?
- 2. What year did Judaism begin?
- 3. What is Abraham recognised as?
- 4. What did God ask Abraham to do?
- 5. What was Abraham's first son called?
- 6. What does Abraham's story teach Jewish people?
- 7. How many Jewish people are in the world?
- 8. What does God ask Abraham to do to his son?
- 9. How does Abraham respond to God asking this?
- 10. God stops Abraham at the last minute. What is the message of this story?

<u>Answers</u>

Jewish covena betwe 1812 B Abraha (thoug of Gen him to your fo new la (mode mand a would blesse promis didn't as time and ha (about promis people proces promis lieved his wif rah ind Isaacscenda ham is minute was te

> above and sh Great I

history starts with the ant (promise) established en God and Abraham around

Judaism w

Week 5

CE, in the Middle East.

am is recognised as a Father of the Faith to Jews, Christians and Muslims h in Islam he is the Prophet *Ibrahim*). In the Torah (and also in the book esis in the Bible) Abraham left Ur in Mesopotamia because God called found a new nation in a new land. 'Leave your country, your people and ather's household and go to the land I will show you'. (Genesis 12) The nd he was sent to is Canaan which was a large and prosperous country rn day Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and Israel.) Abraham obeyed God's comand he was given a repeated promise that his offspring (descendants) inherit the land and that he would be the Father of a Great Nation and be d by God. Abraham was asked to do certain things and in return God ed to take special care of his family and descendants. At this point he have any children and the promise of a great nation seemed impossible e went by because both Abraham and his wife were getting extremely old d never had children. It was only in old age many, many years later 25 years after he was promised) that he finally had children to fulfil this e given by God. Sarah (at 90) finally became pregnant with Isaac. Jewish believe that Abraham's story teaches that God is in control of even the ses of nature—such as having children and also that he keeps his ses. In Judaism the descendants who were promised to Abraham are beto be the Jewish people, descended from Abraham's son Isaac, born to e Sarah. There are now 14.6 million Jewish people in the world. **The To**ludes the story of when Abraham was asked by God to sacrifice his son - Isaac he believes, is the son in whom the promise of having lots of deints will come true—so this doesn't seem to make any sense—but Abraobedient to God and prepares to sacrifice Isaac. God stops him at the last e and gives him a ram to sacrifice instead. Jewish people believe that God sting Abraham to see whether he would put God first anything else and trust him. Abraham passed the test owed that he was worthy of being the Father of the /10 Nation God had promised him.

Christianity:

The Bible is not just one book, but a library, with different kinds of writing such as stories, songs, poetry, letters and history. There are 66 Books in the Bible.

The Christian Bible has two main sections, the Testament (0T) and Old the New Testament (NT). The OT is the original Hebrew Bible, the sacred scriptures of the Jewish faith, written between about 1200 and 165 BC. The NT books were written by Christians in the first century AD. Within the NT in the Bible there are 4 Gospels—the word Gospel means 'Good news' and were written to present the life and teachings of Jesus in different ways to different readers.



Islam

The Qur'an is the holy book for Muslims, revealed in stages to the Prophet Muhammad over 23 years in Arabic starting in 610 CE. Muslims believe the Qur'an is the sacred word of God. There are 114 chapters in the Qur'an, which is written in the old Arabic dialect. All the chapters except one begin with the sentence Bismillahir rahmanir raheem, 'In the name of Allah the most merciful and the most kind'. This is the thought with which Muslims should start every action. Translations of the Qur'an exist in over 40 languages but Muslims are still taught to learn and learn it in Arabic, so that the Qur'an isn't changed or altered.



Sikhi<u>sm</u>

Sikhs believe th God is containe Guru Granth Sa fore it is treated same respect as rus but it is not The Guru Grant contains writing founders of the well as writings from other faith lection of devot and poetry which God, stresses m the true Guru gives moral and rules.

The Guru Grant completed in 16 Guru Granth Sa 1,430 pages and is identical and in Germukhi—t script of the Purguage.



Holy Books Informatio



e word of
d in the
hib thereI with the
the Ten Guworshipped.
h Sahib
s from the
Sikh faith as
of people
is. It is a colional hymns
ch proclaims
editation on

h Sahib was 604. Every hib has d every copy it is written his is the njabi lan-

God—and

ethical

Judaism

The Torah is the first part of the Jewish bible. It is the central and most important document of Judaism and has been used by Jews through the ages.

Torah refers to the five books of Moses. Jews believe that God dictated the Torah to Moses on Mount Sinai 50 days after their exodus from Egyptian slavery. They believe that the Torah shows how God wants Jews to live. It contains 613 commandments and Jews refer to the ten best known of these as the ten 10 statements.

The Torah is a scroll rather than a book is written in Hebrew, the oldest of Jewish languages. It is also known as Torat Moshe, the Law of Moses. The Torah is the first section or first five books of the Jewish bible.



<u>Hinduism</u>

The Vedas are the most ancient (oldest) religious texts which define truth for Hindus. They got their present form between 1200-200 BCE and were introduced to India by the Aryans.

Hindus believe that the texts were received by scholars direct from God and passed on to the next generations by word of mouth. Vedic texts are sometimes called *shruti*, which means hearing.

The Vedas are made up of four writings, and each veda in turn has four parts which are arranged chronologically. (time order)

- The Samhitas
- The Brahmanas
- The Aranyakas
- The Upanishads

Rig-Veda Samhita (c. 1200 BCE) is the oldest of the four vedas and consists of 1028 hymns praising the ancient gods.

Holy Books

The Bible Which religion?	
L. How many books make up the Bible?	
2. What does the word Gospel mean?	
	/ H
	\ Bo
The Qur'an Which religion? 5. Who was given the words of the Qur'an?	
6. Why is it always learnt in Arabic?	
	The Veda: Which relig 9. How wer
	10. How ma
	writing got

gion?. re the

any v

1	William Feligion,		
	7. What is the Torah ?		
	8. Who was to Torah given to ?		
Vedas first passed down to people?			
itings are the Vedas made up of and how many parts has each			
85 a. 5 a	parto made of or an arrow man, parto mode of or		

- 1. When is Christmas celebrated in the UK?
- 2. What doe Christmas remember?
- 3. What does incarnation mean?
- 4. Why did Mary and Joseph have to travel to Bethlehem?
- 5. Is Christmas the most important day of the year for Christians?
- 6. What does Easter remember?
- 7. Who sentenced Jesus to Death?
- 8. What day did Jesus rise from the dead?
- 9. What are the two thing that Easter proves for Christians?
- 10. What do Christians believe became possible after Jesus' death and resurrection?

Answers

Ch

Christope Christ

Beth

the I

(a su Jesu

is no

East

for C back by th on G Sund year

deat deat

two

mad

to.

nristian Festivals ristmas

stmas is a Christian festival celebrated in the UK on the 25th ember. It remembers and celebrates the birth of Jesus. Christians eve that God turned himself into a human and came down to Earth ach people about the afterlife and how to treat each other. They d this belief that God became a human - the Incarnation and they eve that Jesus is God in human form. Around the world Christians mon-Christians celebrate Christmas and remember the story as it is in the Bible. In the Bible, Jesus is born in a manger in a stable in lehem. Mary and Joseph (Jesus' father and mother) were told by Romans that they must travel back to their home town for a census rivey of people in a place). They travel back to Bethlehem and there is is born. While Christmas is an important festival for Christians it the most important day of the year.

ster

christians. Easter remembers to death and resurrection (coming to life) of Jesus as told in the Bible. Jesus was sentenced to death ne Romans and was executed by Crucifixion (being nailed to a cross) wood Friday and Christians believe that two days later (Easter day) Jesus rose form the dead. This is the most important day of the for Christians because they believe that Jesus' resurrection proves things: 1. That Jesus was truly God in human form and defeated h by coming back to life and 2. That there is some sort of life after h. Christians believe that after Jesus' death and resurrection it e it possible for anyone to get to Heaven if they choose

- 1. When is Diwali usually? 2. What does word Diwali mean? 3. Give 2 things that people do on Diwali. 4. What story does the festival of Diwali remember? 5. How did people welcome Rama and Sita home? 6. What are the two names for Holi? E.g. the festival of...
- 7. How long does Holi last? 8. Why is it sometimes called the festival of love?
- 9. When is the Holi Bonfire lit?
- 10. How do Hindus use colour during the festival? <u>Answers</u>

Di

The 1 the c com lamp lamp reall Hind exile Sita i help

Ho

Holi

Sita' The

is ce calle forge The even brigh lives Holi

with bonf triun

with thro

indu Festivals

wali

festival is usually some time between October and November, with date changing each year. The festival lasts for 5 days. The word **Diwali** es from the **Sanskrit** word **deepavali**, meaning "rows of lighted os". Houses, shops and public places are decorated with small oil os called **diyas**. People also enjoy **fireworks** and sweets too, so it's y popular with children. The **festival** of Diwali remembers a vey old u story called the **Ramayana**. It is the story of Lord **Rama** who is d (kicked out) of his home and forced to live in the forest. His wife s kidnapped by the evil demon **Ravana** and Rama saves her with the of his brother **Lakshman** and his friend **Hanuman**. Upon **Rama** and s return the whole kingdom lit small lamps to guide them home.

oli

is considered as one of the most important festivals of **India** and it lebrated in almost every part of the country. It is also sometimes d as the "**festival of love**" as on this day people get to unite together etting all resentments and all types of bad feeling towards each other. Great Indian festival lasts for a day and a night, which starts in the ing of **Purnima** or the Full Moon Day in the month of Falgun. The interest of colours is something that brings in a lot of positivity in our and Holi being the **festival of colours** is actually a day worth rejoicing. It is a famous Hindu festival that is celebrated in every part of India utmost joy and enthusiasm. The **ritual** starts by lighting up the ire one day before the day of **Holi** and this process symbolizes the light of good over the bad. On the day of Holi people play colours with their friends by decorating the streets and wing coloured powder at each other.

Eid Ul-Fitr

- 1. What is Eid Ul-Fitr also known as?
- 2. What does the festival mark the end of?
- 3. What can Muslims not do during Ramadan?
- 4. Why do Muslims celebrate Ramadan?
- 5. How is Eid Ul-Fitr celebrated?

Eid Ul-Adha

- 6. What does Eid Ul-Adha translate as?
- 7. What story does the festival remember?
- 8. What does God ask Ibrahim to do?
- 9. When God stops Abraham what he explain to him?
- 10. Give 2 things a Muslim will do on Eid Ul-Adha.

<u>Answers</u>

N

Eic

Eid U holid mon lim d dayli espe

mos a big

this '

men

will o

Eic

Eid U

festive told Abra appears his shim what

son t willin (usua

and

whe Allah

luslim Festivals

Ul Fitr

JI-Fitr, also called the "Festival of Breaking the Fast", is a religious day celebrated by Muslims worldwide that marks the end of the th of Ramadan. Ramadan is the most important month of the Musalendar and during this time Muslims cannot eat or drink during ght hours. You can probably imagine that this takes real discipline cially because Muslims must also try to be a perfect Muslim during time and follow every rule of their religion. They do this to reaber the time that their Holy book was given by Allah (God) to their timportant prophet (messenger) called Muhammad. Eid UI—Fitr is gestival right at the end of this important month where Muslims celebrate their self control but eating, drinking and swapping preswith their family.

l Ul Adha

JI Adha is a very important festival for Muslims; it translates as "the val of sacrifice". It remembers one of the most important stories by Muslims; the story of Abraham and his son Isaac. In the story ham is very good, honest man who also believes in one God. God ears to Abraham and ask him to do something terrible; to sacrifice on. Abraham doers not want to and even the Devil appears to tell to ignore God. Even though he does not agree but decides to do a God has asked but right before he sacrifices his son God appears stops him. God explains that it was a test and he never wanted his co die. Every year on Eid Ul-Adha Muslims remember Abraham's nagness to sacrifice by sacrifices an animal and eating it at a feast ally a goat). More importantly, Eid Ul-Adha is a day a

n a Muslim considers their faith and their own belief in this will involve praying, usually alone on this day.

THE FONT

- 1. Where is the font usually in a Church?
- 2. What is inside the font?
- 3. What is the water used for?

THE ALTAR

- 4. What is an Altar?
- 5. What is an Altar called in the Bible?
- 6. Where it is usually inside a Church?

THE PULPIT

- 7. Where does the word pulpit come from?
- 8. What is it used for?

CANDLES

- 9. What do the candles represent?
- 10. What does the smoke represent?

ANSWERS

P

Cł

Chris ent o man houg

simil







aces of Worship ristianity: Churches

stian places of worship are known as churches. There are many differchurches here in the UK and around he world. Some Churches are Ro-Catholic some are Church of England and some are Methodist; altth there are many more than this! Inside most churches you will see ar item that all have a purpose/meaning.



THE FONT—The Font is usually located in the western part of a church (often near the entrance) and it contains blessed water that is used for baptisms. Font are usually made from stone and are a very important part of a Church.



THE ALTAR— An **Altar** is a raised area in a house of worship where people can honor God with offerings. It is talked about in the Bible as "God's table," a sacred place for sacrifices and gifts offered up to God. It is often the focal point of a church (centre stage).



THE PULPIT— A pulpit is a raised stand for preachers in a Christian church. The comes from the Latin pulpitum (platform or staging). Most pulpits have one or more bookstands for the preacher to rest his or her bible, notes or texts upon. The pulpit is generally reserved for clergy (the priests).



CANDLES—In **Christianity** the **candle** is commonly used in worship both for decoration and as a symbol that represents the light of God or, specifically, the light of Christ. The smoke symbolises prayers rising to God.

Prayer Mats

- 1. What direction will a Muslim always face their prayer mats?
- 2. Why do Muslims use prayer mats?

Mihrab Wall

- 3. What is the Mihrab wall used for?
- 4. From the UK, which direction is Mecca?

The Washroom

- 5. What is the washroom used for?
- 6. How many times a day do Muslims pray?
- 7. What is Wudu?

The Minaret

- 8. What is a minaret?
- 9. What does the call to pray remind a Muslim of?
- 10. Where is the call to prayer sang from?

<u>Answers</u>

P

Isl

A Mo tries ing a with







aces of Worship am: Mosques

osque is a place of worship from Muslims. They can be found in counall over the world. They are sometimes big beautifully decorated building sometimes can be small building in local communities. All mosques have a few things in common. For example:



PRAYER MATS— A prayer mat is something used by almost all Muslims during worship. They place the mat on the floor of the mosque making sure that they are facing in the direction of Mecca (Saudi Arabia). They use a mat because they believe that being clean during worship is very important.



MIHRAB WALL—The Mihrab wall is one of the most important feature in any mosque. It always faces towards Meca to help show the Muslim worshippers which way to face when they pray. Mecca (from the UK) is South East.



THE WASHROOM—Every mosque will be equipped with a washroom. This is more than just a normal washroom; it is a place to prepare for prayer. Muslims pray 5 times a day and they believe they must be cean before doing so. They use a washroom like this to perform WUDU (cleaning before prayer)



THE MINARET—The Minaret is tower outside of a mosque. It used to call Muslims to prayer. Because Muslims must pray so often (5 times a day) the Mosque will remind them of their duty by singing the call to prayer from the top of this tower. If you have been to a Muslim country you will probably have heard this!

1. Who does Christian Aid help? 2. What does poverty mean? 3. Give 3 examples of how Christian Aid helps people in poverty. (3 marks) 4. What year did Fair Trade start? 5. Who set up Fair Trade? 6. How does Fair Trade help those in poverty? 7. How did Fair trade support Banana farmers in Ghana? 8. Why might someone be happier to pay more for a fair trade product? **Answers**

Charities

Christian Aid and Fair

Christian Aid is a charity, sponsored by most of Christian groups in the UK, that works to end world poverty (Poverty means people living in poor conditions). It helps both religious and non-religious people and it tackles the causes and effects of poverty. The charity helps in emergency situations providing food, clean water and shelter necessary for survival, e.g. in the Philippines, after the typhoon, monsoon and floods in 2012. Christian Aid also funds early warning systems so that people can be evacuated from their homes before they are in danger.

Fair Trade was set up in 1992 by Christian Aid and both charities believe in helping people caught in the trap of poverty. Rather than going oversees and helping by providing water and food, Fair trade focus on making sure the farmers from poor areas are paid a fair price for their products. For example in Ghana, Banana farmers were paid very little for their work by big companies like Tesco and Fair Trade forces them to offer enough money for each banana so the farmers don't have to live in poverty. Fair trade means people have to pay little more for the product but most people would be happy to do that as long as the producer is being paid fairly.

- 1. When was Islamic relief founded?
- 2. What does the charity aim to do?
- 3. What does Islamic relief work to do in local communities?
- 4. What does Islamic relief rely on?
- 5. What do Muslims have an obligation to give?
- 6. What is Zakah one of?
- 7. Give 2 things that the money raised from Zakah will go towards? (2 marks)
- 8. What does the quote from the Qur'an mean?
- 9. Name one other Muslim Charity.

ANSWERS

Charities

Islam Relief

Islamic Relief is an international **charity** founded in 1984. The charity aims to improve the lives of the poorest people by responding to **natural disasters** and **emergencies**. The organisation also works with local communities to develop social and economic growth.

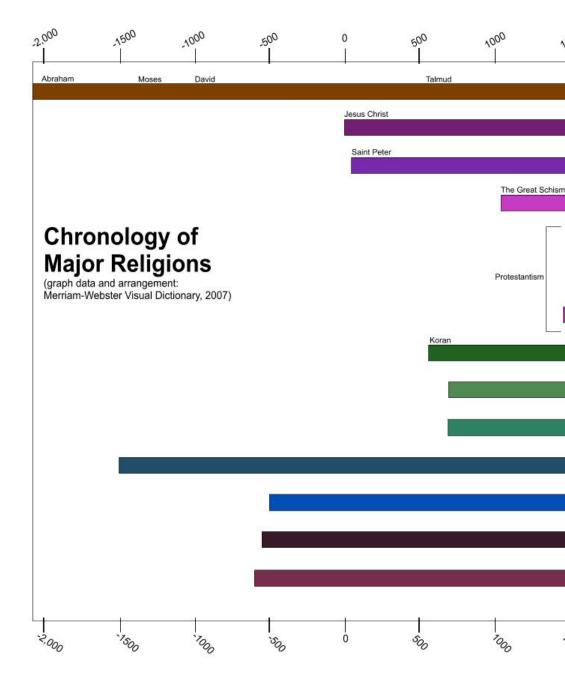
Islamic Relief relies on donations. Muslims have an obligation to give a percentage of their income to charity. This is known as **Zakah**, one of the **Five Pillars of Islam**. The money raised supplies people in need with food, water, clothing, education and other basic necessities.

The mission of this organisation is based on the teachings of Islam using quotes from the **Qur'an** as a guide, for example: "Whoever saved a life; it would be as if he saved the life of all mankind." This quote from the **Quran** tells Muslims that they who work to help others in need. It mean that if you save someone's life by helping someone in need of food or water etc. then it is as important as saving the whole of mankind. Muslims try to live by this teaching and give as much as they can to charity.

There are many other Muslim charities too; for example **Muslim Aid** is a UK based charity that raises millions every year.

/10

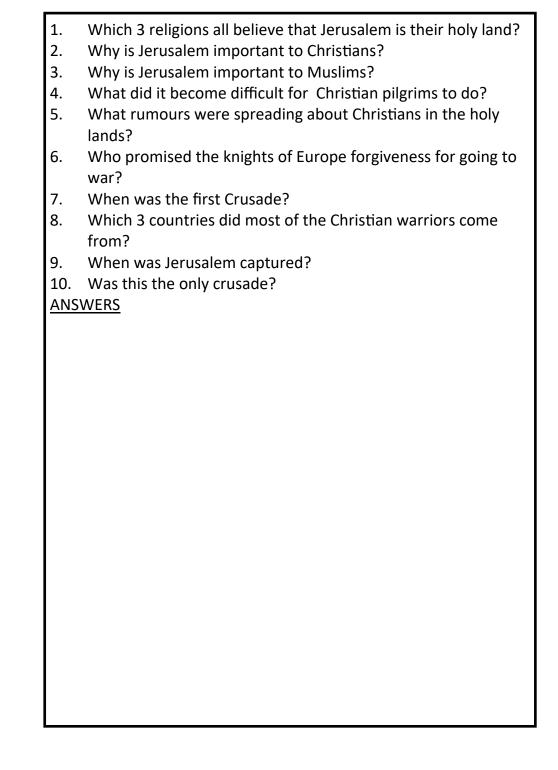
Chronology of World Relig



/10



10113		1.	The oldest religion is
500 2000	Year	2.	Christianity began
	Judaism: Old Testament	3.	years ago. The Orthodox Church began in
=	Christianity: New Testament		the year
2	Catholicism +	4.	The youngest 2 religions are
	Orthodox Church: Michel Keroulari		and
Reformation	Lutheranism: Martin Luther	5.	started in the
	Calvinism: John Calvin		year 490AD.
	Anglicanism: Henry VIII	6.	
	Islam: Muhammad +	7.	years ago? _B years older
	Sunnism		than Christianity.
*	Shiism	8.	Shinto is older than Christianity.
	Hinduism	•	True of false?
l)	Buddhism: Buddha +	9.	Which is older; Islam or Catholicism?
	Confucianism: Confucius	10.	Which is older Shinto or Confu-
	Shinto		cianism?
1 to	Year	-	



Religion and Conflict

The Crusades

In the Middle Ages, the **Muslim** world stretched from India to Spain, including Jerusalem and the Holy Land. For Jews, **Christians** and Muslims, **Jerusalem** was and still is a holy city. In fact for Medieval Christians it was the centre of their world **spiritually** and geographically according to their maps.

For Christians, Jerusalem was the place where Jesus Christ died and was buried. To Muslims, **Jerusalem** is the third most holy city, as Prophet **Muhammad** ascended to heaven from there. It became harder for Christian pilgrims (travellers) to visit as various Muslim groups struggled for power. Rumours of mistreatment of local Christians and pilgrims spread. Therefore in 1095, **Pope** Urban II promised the knights of Europe forgiveness of their **sins** if they went on a Crusade to win back Jerusalem for **Christianity**. Many responded by taking the cross and showed this act by cutting out red crosses before sewing them into their tunics.

The First **Crusade** began in 1096. Christians, known as the Franks, from France, Germany and Italy set out on the long journey to the Holy Land, led by nobles and knights. After a long siege they captured Jerusalem in 1099. The attack was brutal, with thousands killed. The loss of Jerusalem was a terrible blow to the Muslims. Christians, however, did not hold the land for long and there were many more crusades that followed.