

Knowledge Organiser – Sikhism

Assessment Question: How did the final five human Sikh Gurus shape Sikhism?

Key Vocabulary:

Amrit – ‘immortalising nectar’ the Sikh term for holy water.

Sikh Khalsa - a group into which committed Sikhs can be initiated to demonstrate their devotion to their faith.

Gurdwara – Literally ‘The doorway to the Guru’, Sikh place of worship

Karah Parsad – Sweet food shared at the Gurdwara

Karma – Law of cause and effect which results in reincarnation

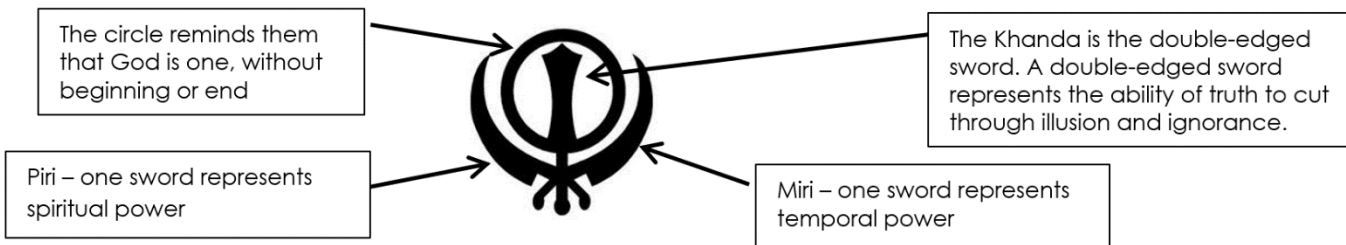
Reincarnation – cycle of birth, death, re-birth

Mukti - Liberation from the cycle of life, death and reincarnation

Kirtan Sohila – Evening prayer, read at funerals and when the Guru Granth Sahib is laid to rest.

Sikh Diwali - a festival that celebrates light and freedom.

The **Khanda** is the symbol for Sikhs, and it represents key beliefs:



Guru Hargobind (1595-1644) – The Sixth Guru:

He was the son of Guru Arjan. He is known for establishing Gurdwaras, the Sikh place of worship.

Guru Har Rai (1630-1661) – The Seventh Guru:

He was fourteen years old when he was chosen to be the Guru. He liked to rescue sick or injured animals, grow herbs and started a hospital.

Guru Har Krishan (1656-1664) – The Eighth Guru:

5 years old when he became the Guru. He went and preached in Delhi but stayed to help the smallpox victims. At age 8, he too died of smallpox.

Guru Tegh Bahadur (1621-1675) – The Ninth Guru:

Emperor Aurangzeb, who ruled India, asked Sikhs and Hindus to give up their religion. Guru Tegh Bahadur was arrested and ordered to have his head cut off as he stood up the Emperor.

Guru Gobind Singh (1666-1606) – The Tenth Guru:

In 1699, at the spring festival of Baisakhi, Guru Gobind Singh founded the Khalsa. Khalsa Sikhs today have taken amrit at the Gurdwara and wear the 5Ks. Some Sikhs choose to wear a kirpan as a symbol on a necklace rather than wearing a kirpan.