

Introduction to Hinduism

Learning objective: To understand and identify key beliefs, symbols, and practices of Hinduism.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of Hinduism. Read the term or question on the front, try to remember the answer, and then check the back to see if you are correct!

What is the name of the place of worship for Hindus?

Mandir: A Hindu temple where people go to pray and meditate.

What is 'Brahman' in Hinduism?

Brahman: The belief in one supreme spiritual power or soul that is in everything in the universe.

What does the term 'Karma' mean?

Karma: The belief that your good or bad actions in this life will affect what happens to you in the future.

What is 'Samsara'?

Samsara: The cycle of birth, death, and rebirth (reincarnation).

What is the 'Om' symbol?

Om: A sacred sound and symbol that represents the universe and is often used during meditation.

What is Diwali and why is it celebrated?

Diwali: The Festival of Lights, celebrating the victory of light over darkness and good over evil.

Who is Ganesha?

Ganesha: A popular Hindu deity with an elephant head, known as the remover of obstacles.

What is 'Puja'?

Puja: The act of showing reverence to a god or goddess through prayer, offerings, and rituals.

What is a 'Murti'?

Murti: A statue or image of a deity used to help Hindus focus during worship.

What is the significance of the River Ganges?

River Ganges: A sacred river in India that many Hindus believe purifies the soul.

Which deity is known as the Preserver of the universe?

Vishnu: The god who protects and preserves the universe.

Which deity is known as the Destroyer of evil?

Shiva: The god who destroys the old to make way for new creation.