

Exploring Sacred Texts: A Journey with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To identify, describe, and compare the significance of sacred texts across major world religions.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of sacred texts. Ellie the Elephant has remembered these facts from her travels, but can you master them?

What is the general term for the holy books or writings that guide the beliefs and practices of a religion?

Sacred texts or scriptures.

Which sacred text is central to Judaism and is often kept in an ornate scroll within a synagogue?

The Torah.

In Christianity, which two main sections make up the Holy Bible?

The Old Testament and the New Testament.

What is the name of the sacred text of Islam, believed to be the word of God revealed to the Prophet Muhammad?

The Quran (or Qur'an).

Which religion considers the Guru Granth Sahib to be its eternal living Guru?

Sikhism.

What are the oldest sacred texts of Hinduism, originally passed down through oral tradition?

The Vedas.

In Buddhism, what is the traditional term for the collection of scriptures known as the 'Three Baskets'?

The Tripitaka (or Pali Canon).

What does the term 'revelation' mean in the context of sacred texts?

The belief that a divine being has communicated truth or knowledge to humans.

Why are sacred texts often treated with special care, such as being kept on a high shelf or wrapped in cloth?

Because they are considered holy, inspired by the divine, and central to the identity of the faith community.

True or False: Most sacred texts contain only historical facts and no moral guidance.

False. Sacred texts typically contain stories, laws, prayers, and moral teachings to guide daily life.