

Review and Study Questions for Asian Religions Quiz 1

Hinduism

1. What are the Vedas?
 2. How old are the Vedas and who wrote them?
 3. What deities appear in the *Rig Veda*?
 4. What is Harappa?
 5. What is the Hindu view of cows and why?
 6. What is the difference between Shaivites and Vaishnavites?
 7. What is the traditional Hindu belief about time?
 8. According to Hinduism, how is salvation attained?
 9. According to Hinduism, how should one worship God?
 10. According to Hinduism, how was the universe created?
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Buddhism

11. The *Dhammapada* is an early book claiming to preserve the words of the Buddha. It refers to a “stream enterer.” What does it say about this?
 12. In the *Dhammapada*, what does the Buddha say we should do about bad friends?
 13. In the *Dhammapada*, what does the Buddha say about eating?
 14. Where does the Buddha say we should turn for refuge from suffering?
 15. In the *Dhammapada*, what does the Buddha say is a basic teaching of all Buddhas?
 16. What are the basic elements of a Buddhist mandala?
 17. How is a mandala used to help practitioners?
 18. What do Buddhists prescribe as an antidote to attention deficient acquired by cell phone and internet usages?
 19. What is the practice and assumptions of Buddhist Mindfulness meditation?
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Jainism

20. Offer some general comparisons and contrasts between Jainism and Sikhism.
21. Describe some features Jainism shares with Buddhism.
22. Discuss similarities and differences between the Buddha and Mahavira.
23. What are the twenty-four tirthankaras?

24. What is the Jain view on God?
 25. How does Jainism conceive time?
 26. Explain the dualism found in Jainism and how it shapes understanding of human beings.
 27. How are human beings different from other things composed of matter and spirit?
 28. Discuss the Jain goal and the understanding of karma and rebirth.
 29. Explain *ahimsa* and how this ethical recommendation is lived out.
 30. How does "holy death" fit into Jain religion.
 31. What are the branches of Jainism?
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Sikhism

32. What does Sikhism share with Hinduism? What does it share with Islam?
 33. What was Nanak's revelation and how did it occur?
 34. Describe features of Hinduism that Nanak accepted. Which characteristics of Hinduism did he reject?
 35. Who are the Khalsa? What do they do and how do they dress?
 36. What defines the earliest stage of Sikhism?
 37. Describe important features of the second stage of consolidation and religious definition.
 38. What is the general content of the Adi Granth?
 39. How is the Adi Granth viewed and treated?
 40. Describe the dislocations and antagonisms experienced by Sikhism.
 41. From what part of India does Sikhism come and where is it most prevalent today?
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Bhakti Poets

42. What is a Bhakti poet?
43. Where are the poems of Ravidas and Kabir found? What religious tradition reveres this source?
44. What is hagiography?
45. According to legend, what did the Brahmins do when Queen Jhali chose Ravidas as her guru?
46. In Benares, a temple is being built above the Ganges. How are the four corner spires of this temple being related to Ravidas?
47. What does Kabir say about Muslims and what about Hindus?
48. Summarize the life and poetry of Rabindranath Tagore.

The spirit or soul that enlivens matter is called jiva.

Matter without soul or life is called ajiva.

A perfected person in Jainism who will not be reborn is a jina

Tirthankara refers to one of the twenty-four ideal human beings of the past. Its literal meaning is "crossing-maker" or "ford-finder."

The last and greatest of the twenty-four who reached perfection is Mahavira.

The founder of Sikhism was Nanak.

The primary scripture of the Sikhs is the Adi Granth.

The Golden Temple of the Sikhs is located in the city of Amritsar

The special military order founded by Gobind Singh was called the Khalsa

A Sikh temple is also known as a gurdwara.

A poem by Guru Nanak that begins the Adi Granth, the Japji is recited daily by pious Sikhs.

"Clothed in sky", a Digambara is a member of the Jain sect in which monks do not wear clothing.

"Clothed in white", a Shvetambara is a member of the Jain sect in which monks and nuns wear white clothing.

"Building person", a Sthanakavasi is a member of the youngest Jain sect, which rejects the use of statues and temples.

In Jainism, the puja is a ritual in honor of the tirthankara.

The area of northwest India and eastern Pakistan, the Punjab is where Sikhism originated.

A spiritual teacher is also known as a guru.

"Holy Death"; death by self-starvation, sallekhana is valued in Jainism as a noble end of a long life of virtue and detachment.

The idea in Buddhism and Jainism that emphasizes non-hurting and nonviolence is known as ahimsa.

Uncut hair by the Khalsa and the last name Singh represent the symbolic characteristics of the lion.