



RE

Sikhism



Symbols and Meanings

twinkl

Aim

- I can name and explain the meanings of Sikh symbols.

Success Criteria

- I can correctly match Sikh symbols with their names.
- I can explain what the main Sikh symbols mean or represent.

Religions and Symbols



Can you match the religions with their main symbols?

Christianity

Judaism

Hinduism

Sikhism

Buddhism

Islam

Christianity



Judaism



Sikhism



Hinduism



Buddhism



Islam



Sikh Symbols and Their Meanings: Ik Onkar



Ik means one. **Onkar** means supreme reality or being.

Translated into English it is equivalent to: **There is only one God.**

It is the first line of the Mool Mantar Prayer.

Sikh Symbols and Their Meanings: Khanda

This is the main symbol of Sikhism.

The **two curved swords** are **Kirpans** and represent the concepts of:

Miri – Temporal Authority – power humans exercise on Earth.

Piri – Spiritual Authority – power God exercises which is eternal.

The ideas of Meeri and Peeri were introduced by **Guru Hargobind**.



The **circle** around the Khanda is the **Chakar**. The **Chakar** is without beginning or end and symbolises that **God is eternal**.

The **double edged sword** (also called Khanda) in the middle represents **divine knowledge**.

Sikh Symbols and Their Meanings: Nishan Sahib



Nishan means **sign**. **Sahib** means **master**.

It is a flag which is placed outside every Gurdwara. It is triangular, saffron coloured and includes the Khanda.

The use of the Nishan Sahib was first introduced by **Guru Hargobind**.

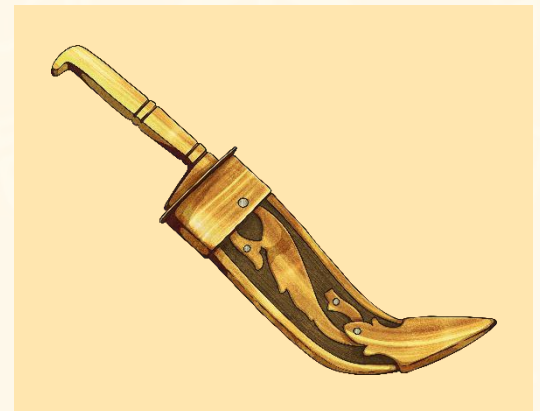
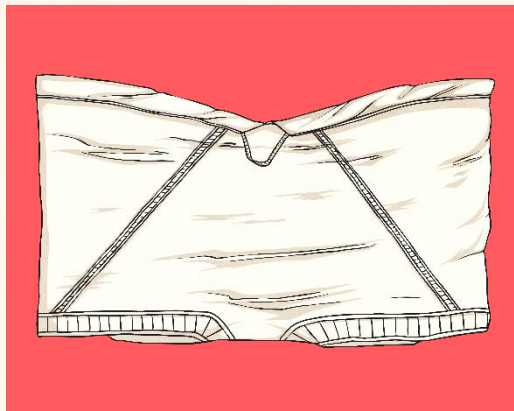


Sikh Symbols and Their Meanings: The 5 Ks

Guru Gobind Singh founded the **Khalsa**.

All men and women who belong to the Khalsa must wear five symbols which shows they are Sikh.

They are called the five Ks because in Punjabi their names all begin with the letter 'K'.

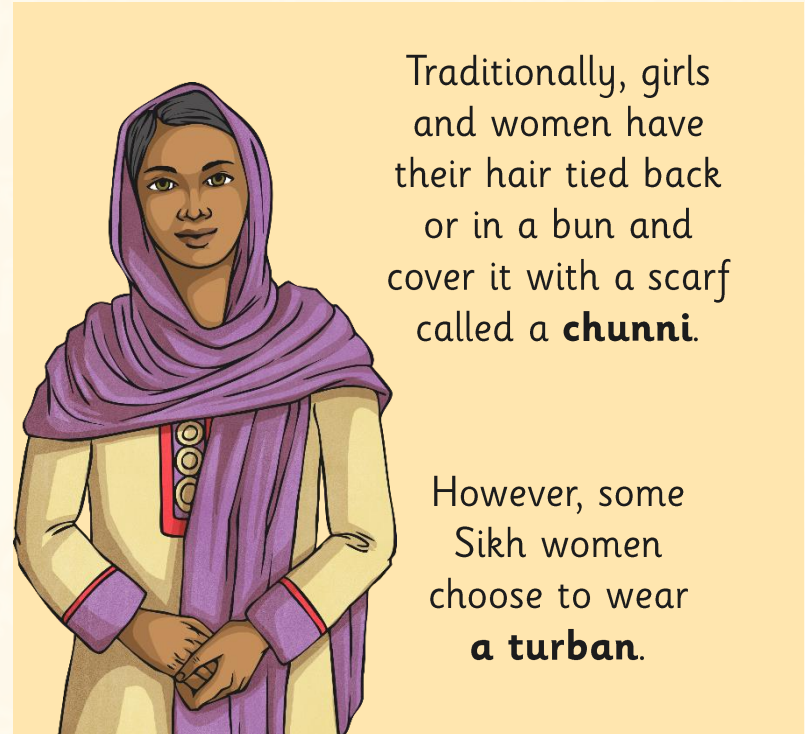


Sikh Symbols and Their Meanings: The 5 Ks - Kesh

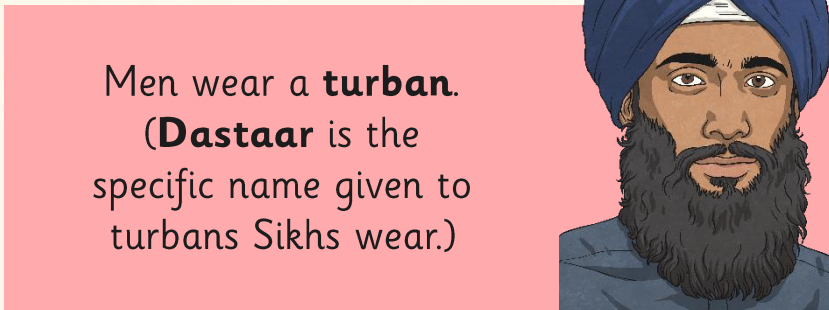
Kesh means hair. Sikhs make a promise to not cut their hair but let it grow as a symbol of their faith. They believe this demonstrates their obedience to God. Sikhs' hair gets very long during their life and they have to keep it tidy.



Young boys wear a **patka**.



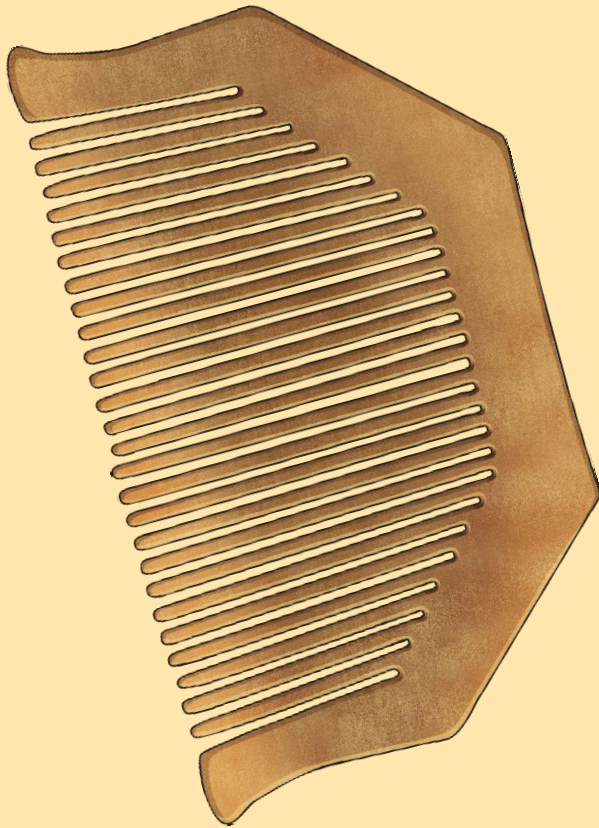
Traditionally, girls and women have their hair tied back or in a bun and cover it with a scarf called a **chunni**.



Men wear a **turban**.
(**Dastaar** is the specific name given to turbans Sikhs wear.)

However, some Sikh women choose to wear **a turban**.

Sikh Symbols and Their Meanings: Kangha



The Kangha is a small wooden comb.

Sikhs use this to keep their hair in place and it is a symbol of cleanliness.

Combing their hair reminds Sikhs that their lives should be tidy and organised.

Sikh Symbols and Their Meanings: Kara

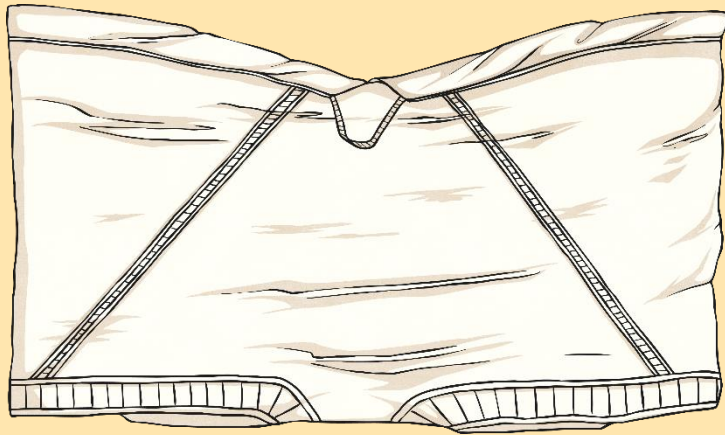
The Kara is a steel bangle worn on the arm of Sikhs.

It is a continuous circle with no beginning and no end.

It reminds Sikhs to behave well, follow their faith and restrain from doing wrong.



Sikh Symbols and Their Meanings: Kachera



The Kachera are short trousers worn as underwear. These are more practical than the long loose clothes most people in India wore at the time of Guru Gobind Singh.

They are a symbol of leaving old ideas behind and following new better ones.

Sikh Symbols and Their Meanings: Kirpan

The Kirpan is a warrior sword. These days, a very tiny one is worn as a symbol of dignity and self respect.

It reminds Sikhs that they must fight a spiritual battle, defending what is right and upholding the truth.



Matching Sikh Symbols and their Meanings



Matching Sikh Symbols and Their Meanings

Cut out and match the pictures/words and the meaning.

Symbol

Symbol Meaning

	This symbol reminds Sikh to follow their faith and do the right thing.		This symbol represents leaving old ideas behind and following new better ones.
	This symbol is displayed outside a Gurdwara.		This symbol reminds Sikhs that they should be tidy and organised in their lives.
	This symbol combines the ideas of divine knowledge, that God is eternal and the concepts of Miri and Piri.		This symbol represents obedience to God.
	This symbol		

		
Kara	Khanda	Kirpan
		
Ik Onkar	Kangha	Nishan Sahib

Sikhism KWL Grid



This is the end of this unit.

Go back to your Sikhism KWL Grid and complete the 'What I Have Learnt' column.

Look at the What I Know column – is there anything there that needs to be corrected?

Tick the questions in the What I Want to Know column that have been answered and add any new ones that you may have.

RE: Sikhism		
K	W	L
What I know	What I want to know	What I have learnt

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