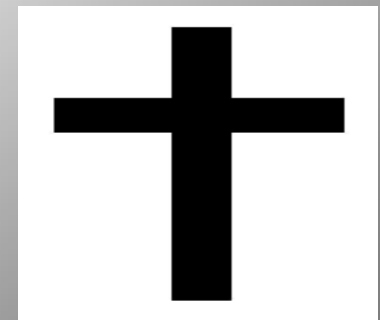


Religious Symbols

All religions
have symbols
that represent
significant
values



Sikhism – The 5 K's

The 5 k's are symbols of the
Khalsa.

Every man and woman who belongs to the *Khalsa* must wear the five symbols which show that they are Sikhs.

They are called the 5 K's because in Punjabi their names all begin with the letter 'K'.

Kesh (uncut hair)

Sikhs do not cut their hair as it is a symbol of purity and holiness.

Uncut hair, and wearing the turban is a symbol that shows that you are a Sikh.



Kara (a steel bracelet)

This bracelet has no beginning and no end - just like God, and is a symbol of being close to God. It also symbolises that all Sikhs are part of a community.



Kanga (a wooden comb)

This symbolises keeping the body clean, neat and tidy.

This is important to Sikhs as God created your body and would want you to look after it.



Kaccha (cotton underwear)

A type of breeches (shorts) worn by Sikhs. These were first worn by Sikh warriors hundreds of years ago.

They are a symbol of purity.



Kirpan (Ceremonial sword)

The Kirpan represents the fight against evil.

It also represents the fight against injustice and how Sikhs must defend the weak.

