

RE Knowledge Organiser—Year 3/4

Introduction to the Sikh Faith

Key Words	
Sikh	A believer or follower of the Sikh faith.
guru	Teacher and guide, especially in matters of religion.
Guru Nanak (1469-1539)	The founder of the Sikh faith. Born into a Hindu family.
equality	The belief that all people are equal and should be treated is central to the Sikh faith.
Punjab	The area of India where Nanak was born.
gurdwara	The Sikh place of worship. The word means “door to the guru”.
Guru Granth Sahib	The holy book of the Sikh faith.
langar	The kitchen in a gurdwara where a free meal is served to all visitors.
khanda	The main symbol of the Sikh faith.
ten gurus	The ten human teachers that established the Sikh faith.

The Golden Temple in Amritsar, India is one of the most important holy buildings in the Sikh faith.



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**.