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| **REL212 WORLD VIEW CHART (alternate version)** | |
| This chart contains all the research you need to write the final paper for this course. If you do the research and reading on the religion(s) we study each week, and if you give yourself a good guide to the religions using this chart, you will have a good foundation for that final paper. The more information you provide for yourself with this chart, the easier it will be to write your final paper. Do not forget to provide adequate material for any in-text citations and be sure to include a reference page as well.  Complete and submit the following worksheet. Provide citations for any source(s) you used to explain or provide examples for in your research. List in APA Style full references for any in-text citations and source(s) made in the above chart. | |
| **Student Name:** | |
| **RELIGION(S) OF THE WEEK** | **Provide your response in this column.** |
| * State the name of the Religion being addressed in this chart. * Please address **ONLY ONE** (1) religion per chart. | Sikhism |
| **ORIGIN OF ALL THINGS** | **Provide your response in this column.** |
| * State the creation story that this religion uses to explain the creation of the universe. If you cannot identify a creation story for this religion, offer a suggestion as to why this religion may not have one. * Back up your statement with explanation and/or example. * You should have a minimum of 3 complete sentences when this is complete. | Sikhism is based on the idea of the ‘Oneness of Creation’. Sikhs believes the universe was made by Waheguru (God) who created the earth and all forms of life on it.  Before the creation there was no earth, no sky, no sun and no life. Only Waheguru existed until he decided to create the world. Then Waheguru created everything by a single word:  Waheguru spoke once and there was creation.  Waheguru is responsible for all of creation and everything in and on the earth belongs to Waheguru. Waheguru is in charge of all life and without his hukam (will) nothing can exist, change or develop.  Since creating the world Waheguru has cared for it he looks after it and protects it.  Waheguru is in charge and causes the birth, life and death of everything. There is no single aspect of the earth which Waheguru does not care for. Sikhism believes that all creatures lead their lives under the rule of Waheguru. |
| **NATURE OF GOD/CREATOR** | **Provide your response in this column.** |
| * State the nature of the god(s) worshiped by this religion. If you cannot identify a god (or gods) for this religion, offer a suggestion as to why this religion may not have one. * Back up your statement with explanation and/or example. * You should have a minimum of 3 complete sentences when this is complete. | Sikhism is a monotheistic religion and hence, believes that "God" is One, and prevails in everything, as symbolized by the symbol Ik Onkar (one all-pervading spirit). The fundamental belief of Sikhism is that God exists, indescribable yet knowable and perceivable to anyone who surrenders his egoism and Loves the Almighty. The Sikh gurus have described God in numerous ways in their hymns included in the Guru Granth Sahib, the holy scripture of Sikhism, but the oneness of the deity is consistently emphasized throughout. |
| **VIEW OF HUMAN NATURE** | **Provide your response in this column.** |
| * State how this religion views human beings. * How are human beings viewed with regard to their characteristics and their place in the universe? If you cannot identify how this religion defines human beings, offer a suggestion as to why it doesn't. * Back up your statement with explanation and/or example. * You should have a minimum of 3 complete sentences when this is complete. | Sikhs perceive human life as an opportunity to merge with the divine will. However, the core problem is that human judgment is occluded by a false sense of self. Guru Nanak (1469-1539) called this false sense of self haumai ("the I-me"). Those who follow this sense of self, and thus the workings of their own deluded mind, are the manmukhs ("self-facing"); the pious Sikhs who follow the Guru's ways are called gurmukhs ("Guru-facing"). When following his or her own mind, and the false sense of self-importance that comes with it, the individual is susceptible to lust, anger, greed, clinging, and pride. These states of mind entrap and preclude individuals from walking the path of the pious.  Sikhism teaches that Kartar created the universe in one command and cares for it. His command set the world into being, and his orders run it. Humans are believed to be the apex of created beings—with intellect, emotion, and mastery of their senses—but are troubled by the same sense of self that makes them unique. One can pray formally, and visit all sorts of holy places, but Sikh teachings require a deep inner commitment by the individual in order to be on the path to liberation. |
| **VIEW OF GOOD & EVIL** | **Provide your response in this column.** |
| * State how this religion defines the concept of good and evil. * Most religions encourage their adherents to be good and to shun evil. How does this religion define these terms for those who practice this religion? If you cannot identify how this religion defines good and evil, offer a suggestion as to why it doesn't. * Back up your statement with explanation and/or example. * You should have a minimum of 3 complete sentences when this is complete. | Sikhs believe in Karma and in reincarnation, people are rewarded when they do good things, and when they do terrible things, they suffer the consequences. Goodness, is what leads a person to achieve their eternal goal, and straying from goodness, will make that journey toward that goal a bit longer. This eternal goal they are working towards is the final salvation. Giving into any selfish desires you might have will only end up making the journey longer. Greed, selfishness, and self-indulgence are all considered evil things by Sikhs. To them you can still make up for past actions and if you are born as a poor beggar, you can still improve yourself as a person, and continue working towards the eternal goal.  To Sikhs we are all born good, and as we grow up we have to combat all of the bad things around us, our spirit is strong and it should be able to stand up to life tough trials. The evil around is very influential, but you must be able to resist it, and be able to stay pure. They have five sins that are listed in the Sikh readings, they are: lust, anger/rage, greed, pride/ego, and attachment. Sikhs also belief that suffering is not actually directly inflicted by God, but is instead more of a test of an individual’s courage, and God just approves these tests. God wants to test a person faith and see if they are willing to give into these evil temptations. |
| **VIEW OF SALVATION** | **Provide your response in this column.** |
| * All religions suggest that human beings are faced with a “problem” that needs to be overcome. What is the “problem” this religion identifies, and how does it suggest that we can overcome it? If you cannot identify how this religion defines the “problem,” or how to overcome it, offer a suggestion as to why it doesn't. * Back up your statement with explanation and/or example. * You should have a minimum of 3 complete sentences when this is complete. | Sikhs believe in reincarnation and karma concepts found in Hinduism and Buddhism. However, in Sikhism both karma and liberation "is modified by the concept of God's grace" (nadar, mehar, kirpa, karam etc.). Guru Nanak states "The body takes birth because of karma, but salvation is attained through grace". |
| **VIEW OF AFTERLIFE** | **Provide your response in this column.** |
| * What does this religion teach about “what comes next” after all is said and done? For Eastern religions that teach reincarnation, this question is about what happens after moksha is attained. For Western religions, this question is about what happens when we die. If you cannot identify how this religion defines the afterlife, offer a suggestion as to why it doesn't. * Back up your statement with explanation and/or example. * You should have a minimum of 3 complete sentences when this is complete. | Sikhs believe in reincarnation. This means that a person’s soul may be reborn many times as a human or an animal. Therefore, for Sikhs, death is not the end. The Sikh sacred text, the Guru Granth Sahib, says that the body is just clothing for the soul and is discarded at death.  Sikhs believe that everything that happens is Hukam – the will of Waheguru (God).  There is a divine spark which is part of Waheguru in each person and this spark or soul is taken back to join Waheguru when a person is finally released from the cycle of rebirth. Sikhs believe that there are 8,400,000 forms of life and that many souls have to travel though a number of these before they can reach Waheguru. When something dies their soul is reborn. Only humans know the difference between right and wrong and so it is only when the soul is in a human being that there is a chance of the cycle being broken.  Sikhs believe in karma. This belief says that actions and the consequences of these actions decide whether a soul can be set loose from the cycle. Freedom from the cycle of rebirth is called mukti. |
| **PRACTICES AND RITUALS** | **Provide your response in this column.** |
| * How do members of this religion “practice” their “faith?” * What ceremonies, or rituals, do they use to help pass this religion on to the next generation? If you cannot identify how this religion is practiced, offer a suggestion as to why it doesn't have any rituals or practices. * Back up your statement with explanation and/or example. * You should have a minimum of 3 complete sentences when this is complete. | Sikhs worship God and only God. Unlike members of many other religions they worship God in his true abstract form, and don't use images or statues to help them.  Sikh worship can be public or private.  Sikhs can pray at any time and any place.  Sikh aims to get up early, bathe, and then start the day by meditating on God.  The Sikh code of conduct lays down a stern discipline for the start of the day:  A Sikh should wake up in the ambrosial hours (three hours before the dawn), take a bath and, concentrating his/her thoughts on One Immortal Being, repeat the name Waheguru (Wondrous Destroyer of darkness).  There are set prayers that a Sikh should recite in the morning and evening, and before going to sleep.  Prayer - spending time with God  Although the Sikh God is beyond description Sikhs feel able to pray to God as a person and a friend who cares for them.  Sikhs regard prayer as a way of spending time in company with God.  For prayer to be really effective a person tries to empty themselves of everything of this world so that they can perceive God. |
| **CELEBRATIONS AND FESTIVALS** | **Provide your response in this column.** |
| * Identify one or two celebrations and/or festivals that members of this religion use to express their beliefs in public, or in private. * Name the festival(s) and give a short explanation of how it is observed. If you cannot identify any celebrations or festivals for this religion, offer a suggestion as to why it doesn't have any. * Back up your statement with explanation and/or example. * You should have a minimum of 3 complete sentences when this is complete. | Vaisakhi is a long established harvest festival in the Punjab. It had been celebrated long before it gained an added dimension for Sikhs.  In 1699 the tenth guru, Guru Gobind Singh, chose Vaisakhi as the occasion to transform the Sikhs into a family of soldier saints, known as the Khalsa Panth.  Vaisakhi is celebrated in much the same way as Gurpurbs. Gudwaras are decorated and visited. Parades, dancing and singing happen throughout the day. Many Sikhs choose to be baptised into the Khalsa brotherhood on this day.  The Sikh holy book, wrapped in embroidered cloth, is carried through the temple door The Guru Granth Sahib is carried reverentially into the gurdwara  Nagar Kirtans  The festival is marked with nagar kirtan processions: processions through the streets (nagar means "town") which form an important part of Sikh culture and religious celebrations.  Kirtan is a term meaning the singing of hymns from the Guru Grath Sahib, the Sikh holy book. Celebrations always include music, singing and chanting scriptures and hymns.  The processions are led by traditionally dressed Panj Piaras.  The Guru Granth Sahib will be carried in the procession in a place of honour. |

References:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/rs/death/sikhbeliefrev2.shtml>

[www.patheos.com](http://www.patheos.com)