



R.E.

Why are the Gurus inspirational to Sikhs?

Year 3

Term: 3

Important Facts:

For followers of the Sikh religion special teachers are called **gurus** and the founder of their faith, **Guru Nanak**, symbolizes for them everything that makes a great teacher.

Guru Nanak was born in 1469, at Talwandi, 40 miles from Lahore,. Sikh traditions teach that his birth and early years were marked with many events that showed he was special.

Nanak travelled around different parts of India teaching God's message. The people who listened to him were known as Sikhs, a word which means learner. Nanak became Guru Nanak, God's teacher.

Nanak was the first in the line of Gurus who practised Sikh teachings and showed people the importance of defending their beliefs. He chose his successor, Guru Angad and each of the Gurus who followed were chosen by the previous Guru. Sikhs believe that the Gurus' spirits were like candles which were lit from each other

The Guru Granth Sahib is the Sikh holy book. It is a collection of poetry and hymns, acknowledging God as the True Guru and laying down guidelines for living. Every copy of the Guru Granth Sahib is exactly 1430 pages in length. It contains messages from all of the Gurus. It is covered by a rumala when not in use. The chaur is waved over the Guru Granth Sahib as a sign of respect.

The Guru Granth Sahib contains 5867 shabads, which were written by six of the ten Gurus. They are known as Gurbani (the word of the Gurus). The introduction includes the 'Mool Mantar', which contains all the important Sikh beliefs.

Useful Websites

<https://www.learnreligions.com/gurus-of-sikh-history-2993569>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/religion/sikhism.html>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone/clips/the-sikh-holy-book-the-guru-granth-sahib/4825.html>

<http://www.cleo.net.uk/resources/index.php?cur=15&ks=2>

The Ten Gurus

There were ten Gurus who spread God's message:

Guru Nanak, Guru Angad, Guru Amar Das,

Guru Ram Das, Guru Arjan, Guru Hargobind,

Guru Har Rai, Guru Harkrishan, Guru Tegh Bahadur

Guru Gobind Singh.