

Name _____

Sikhism: The Path of Equality and Devotion

Short Answer Key

1. Equality in Sikhism means that all individuals are equal in the eyes of God, regardless of their background, caste, or social status. This belief influences Sikh practices by promoting the rejection of caste distinctions, emphasizing communal worship and service to humanity, and practicing langar to ensure that all people, regardless of their social status, sit together and eat the same food.
2. Langar is a significant practice in Sikhism where free meals are served to all, fostering a sense of community and promoting equality. It signifies that everyone, regardless of their background, is welcome and equal in the eyes of God. Langar serves as a powerful example of selfless service and breaking down social barriers.
3. The Five Ks are: Kesh (uncut hair), Kara (a steel bracelet), Kanga (a wooden comb), Kachera (cotton undergarments), and Kirpan (a ceremonial sword). These symbols are worn by Sikhs who have undergone the Amrit initiation ceremony as a commitment to Sikh principles and to remind them of their identity and responsibilities as Sikhs.
4. Sikhs engage in daily prayers and the recitation of hymns from the Guru Granth Sahib as part of their practice known as Nitnem. They recite specific hymns and prayers at set times each day to maintain a connection with God and seek spiritual guidance. The purpose is to foster a sense of devotion, mindfulness, and spiritual growth.
5. Three countries outside of India with significant Sikh communities are Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

