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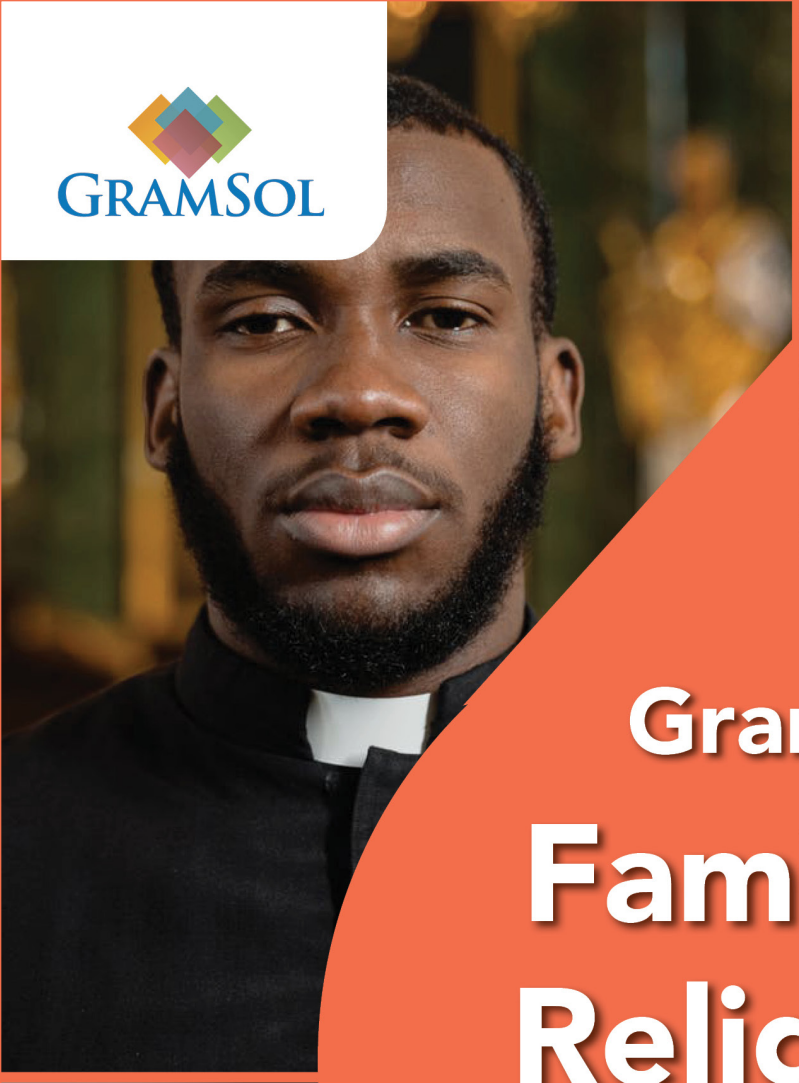

Gramsol Family & Religious Studies

Form 1

Melania Mancuveni

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Family and Religious Studies

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Form 1

Melania Mancuveni

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Family and Religious Studies 1

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Contents

TOPIC 1: Religions 1

UNIT 1.1: The Concerpt of Religion 2

UNIT 1.2: Indigenous Religion 8

UNIT 1.3: Judaism 13

UNIT 1.4: Christianity 20

UNIT 1. 5 Islam 25

TOPIC 2 Religion and Contemporary Issues 32

UNIT 2.1 Religion, Family and Identity 33

UNIT 2.2 Religion and Education 40

UNIT 2.3 Religion and Gender 46

UNIT 2.4 Religion, Ethics and Sexuality 54

UNIT 2.5 Religion and Disability 59

UNIT 2.6 Religion and Environmental Issues 64

UNIT 2:7 Religion and Conflict Management 72

UNIT 2:8 Religion and Conflict Management 76

UNIT 2.9 Technology and Enterprise 80

UNIT 2.10 Religion and The Liberation Struggle In Zimbabwe 91

END OF TERM TEST 1 96

END OF TERM TEST 2 97

END OF TERM TEST 3 98

GLOSSARY 99

INDEX 103

SAMPLE

Book Features

TOPIC 2

RELIGION AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Units Covered

2.1 Religion, Family and Identity
2.2 Religion and Education
2.3 Religion and Gender Roles
2.4 Religion, Ethics, Health and Sexuality
2.5 Religion and Disability
2.6 Religion and the Natural Environment
2.7 Religion, Rights and Social Responsibility
2.8 Religion, Technology and enterprise
2.9 Religion and the Liberation Struggle
2.10 Religion and Conflict Management

Introduction

Every religion's teachings or doctrines affect how its followers interact with their surroundings and the community. These teachings or doctrines have an impact on shaping how followers should perceive things and also how they interact with other people. These topical issues are referred to as contemporary issues because they affect people or places, and many are unresolved. This topic will discuss how these various religions in society regard some of the contemporary issues that directly impact the followers' day-to-day lives. Among these contemporary issues are education, gender roles, natural environment, health and disability.

Catchy opening images captivate the learner

SAMPLE

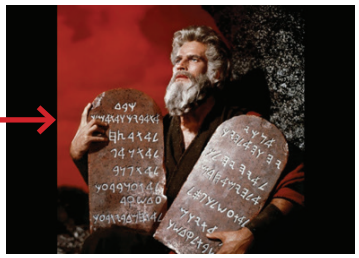
the Romans in 70A.D. The destruction of the second temple forced Israelites to worship in local synagogues.

The key covenant in Judaism is God's covenant with Abraham. Abram's name was changed to Abraham by God in this covenant, meaning 'father of many nations'. Again, in this covenant, we see God giving the **rite** of circumcision as a sign of the Abrahamic covenant. Circumcision meant the removal of a male's foreskin on the 8th day after birth. All males were to be circumcised, thus a lifelong mark of their relationship with God. A Hebrew male child was named on the same day after being circumcised.

FASCINATING FACT

If a person accidentally breaks the kashrut (a food law) they have to make amends by either fasting or praying to god or giving to charity.

Vibrant images throughout the book



Moses with the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai

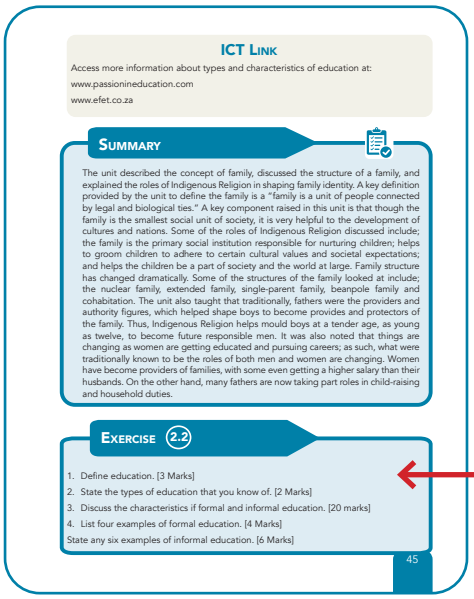
Another key covenant in Judaism is that between God and Moses. Moses is regarded as the most significant prophet and the father of all prophets in Judaism. In the Torah, he has met God face to face. Hence he is the first **rabbi**. God first appeared to Moses at Mount Horeb through a burning bush while Moses was herding his father-in-law's sheep. Moses was instructed to go and deliver the Israelites from Egyptian bondage. It is after the ten plagues that Pharaoh released the Israelites. At Mount Sinai, Moses was given the six hundred and thirteen commandments that make up the *Mitzvot*. These commandments are to be kept by all practising Jews.

ACTIVITY 1.5: GROUP DISCUSSION

In groups, conduct research and class presentations on Abraham, Moses and King David and discuss their importance in Judaism.

In-text activities keep the learners busy

Book Features



ICT Link

Access more information about types and characteristics of education at:
www.passionineducation.com
www.efet.co.za

Summary

The unit described the concept of family, discussed the structure of a family, and explained the roles of Indigenous Religion in shaping family identity. A key definition provided by the unit to define the family is a "family is a unit of people connected by legal and biological ties." A key component raised in this unit is that though the family is the smallest social unit of society, it is very helpful to the development of cultures and nations. Some of the roles of Indigenous Religion discussed include; the family is the primary social institution responsible for nurturing children; helps to groom children to adhere to certain cultural values and societal expectations; and helps the children be a part of society and the world at large. Family structure has changed dramatically. Some of the structures of the family looked at include; the nuclear family, extended family, single-parent family, beanpole family and cohabitation. The unit also taught that traditionally, fathers were the providers and authority figures, which helped shape boys to become provides and protectors of the family. Thus, Indigenous Religion helps mould boys at a tender age, as young as twelve, to become future responsible men. It was also noted that things are changing as women are getting educated and pursuing careers; as such, what were traditionally known to be the roles of both men and women are changing. Women have become providers of families, with some even getting a higher salary than their husbands. On the other hand, many fathers are now taking part roles in child-raising and household duties.

Exercise 2.2

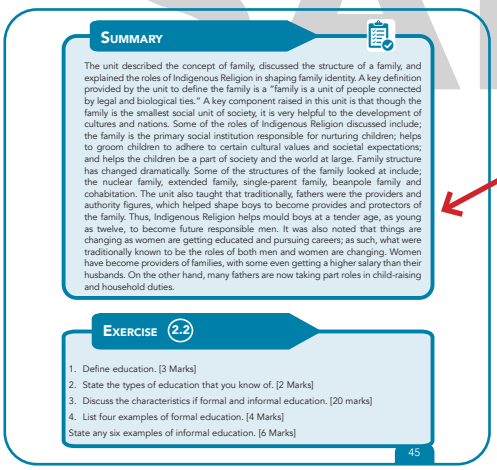
1. Define education. [3 Marks]
2. State the types of education that you know of. [2 Marks]
3. Discuss the characteristics if formal and informal education. [20 marks]
4. List four examples of formal education. [4 Marks]

State any six examples of informal education. [6 Marks]

45

Varied exercises at the end of each unit

SAMPLE



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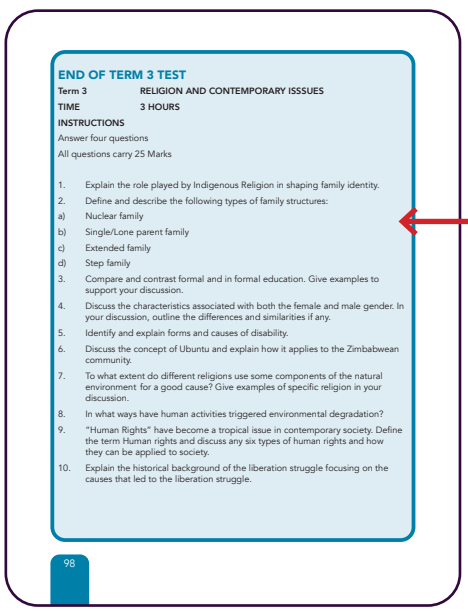
45

Summaries at the end of each topic



END OF TERM 3 TEST

Term 3 **RELIGION AND CONTEMPORARY ISSSUES**
TIME **3 HOURS**
INSTRUCTIONS
Answer four questions
All questions carry 25 Marks

1. Explain the role played by Indigenous Religion in shaping family identity.
2. Define and describe the following types of family structures:
   a) Nuclear family
   b) Single/Lone parent family
   c) Extended family
   d) Step family
3. Compare and contrast formal and in formal education. Give examples to support your discussion.
4. Discuss the characteristics associated with both the female and male gender. In your discussion, outline the differences and similarities if any.
5. Identify and explain forms and causes of disability.
6. Discuss the concept of Ubuntu and explain how it applies to the Zimbabwean community.
7. To what extent do different religions use some components of the natural environment for a good cause? Give examples of specific religion in your discussion.
8. In what ways have human activities triggered environmental degradation?
9. "Human Rights" have become a tropical issue in contemporary society. Define the term Human rights and discuss any six types of human rights and how they can be applied to society.
10. Explain the historical background of the liberation struggle focusing on the causes that led to the liberation struggle.

98

End of term revision tests help with assessment

TOPIC 1 RELIGIONS

Units Covered

1.1 Concept of religion
1.2 Indigenous religion
1.3 Judaism
1.4 Christianity
1.5 Islam

Introduction

Religion is a very wide subject to discuss because of the various religions in the world. In some religions, certain books such as the Torah or the Bible are used as the source for their faith, while in other religions, they do not rely on any bookS. In one religion, certain animals are considered sacred, while in other religions, they are not. Furthermore, in some religions, one god is worshipped, while in others, many gods are worshipped, and in others, no god is worshipped. The most common religions in Zimbabwe and Africa, are Indigenous Religion, Christianity, Islam and Judaism. In developed countries, there is an increase in people who do not believe there is a god or gods. These are known as atheists. This topic discusses the common religions in Zimbabwe, looking at their historical background and Supreme Beings.

1.1 CONCEPT OF RELIGION

Objectives

By the end of this unit, learners should be able to:
- define religion.
- identify the types of religions.
- list characteristics of religions.

Introduction

When studying religion, it is important to understand the origins, development and diversity of beliefs and practices within the various religions. Religion is a controversial and complicated topic to have a single agreement on because of the various beliefs. However, regardless of how different, these religions maybe, certain characteristics define a religion.

SAMPLE

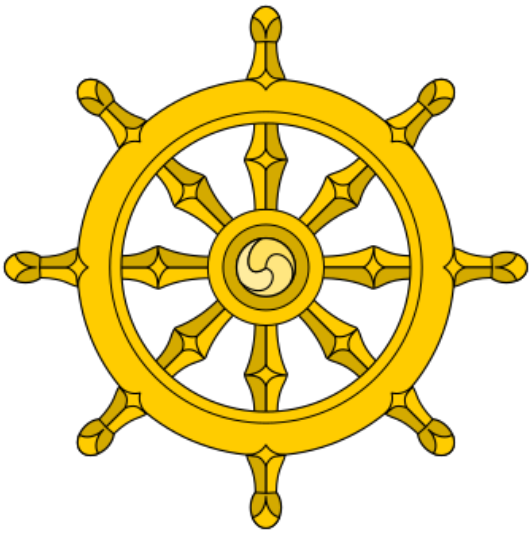
Definition of Religion

Religion does not have a universal definition. There are various definitions that scholars for religion have suggested. Some state that **religion** is the worship given to God, but this definition also applies to the worship of idols and false deities. Other scholars define religion as the belief in spirits or the supernatural. Some have defined religion as a unified system of beliefs and practices that unite into one moral community called a Church. Basing on the above simplified definition of **religion** would be that religion is the belief in supernatural and spiritual beings. Apart from **religion** being associated with the supernatural and spiritual beings, it can also refer to forms of worship that include Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, to mention a few. Therefore, religion can also be taken to mean a form of worship.

Classification of R!eligions

The various categories of religion found around the world include polytheism, monotheism, atheism, animism and totemism.

Polytheism

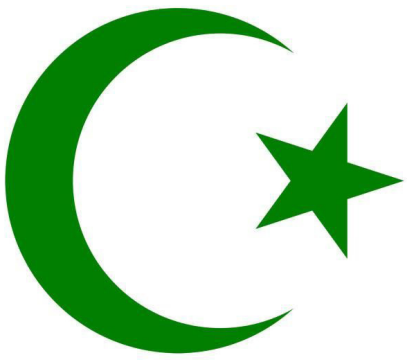


Buddhism symbol, Wheel of Dharma

Polytheism is a belief in many or multiple gods. Polytheism is characterised by all other religions except Christianity, Judaism, and Islam, which believe in one god. Followers of this category believe that different gods have different roles, functions, and powers for different circumstances. Some gods are viewed as more superior and powerful than others. However, other gods can prove more dominant than others without necessarily attaining overall supremacy. For example, Zeus in the ancient Greek religion seemed to be more dominant, but there are other gods too within this religion. Polytheists also believe in many demonic and ghostly forces. Examples of religions under this category include Hinduism, Buddhism, ancient Greeks, Egyptians, to mention a few. There are African societies, such as in Nigeria, which also have religions that are Polytheist.

SAMPLE

Monotheism



Islam symbol, Star and Crescent

It is the belief in the existence of one God. Followers of monotheism believe that God is universal and sovereign and rules over everyone and everything in the world. They do not believe in other gods or deities. Belief in any other god is called idolatry. Monotheists also emphasise that no one or nothing else must be worshipped but God alone, who shares

His glory with no one and nothing. They consider God to be omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent and active in the governing of the universe. Followers of monotheism believe that this one God is also the world's creator and sustainer of life. Judaism, Islam, Christianity are examples of monotheist religions.

Atheism

Atheists are a group of people who do not believe that there is a God or gods. However, even though they are non-believers, they have morals. Most Nobel Peace Prize winners and humanitarians have labelled themselves as atheists. This group of people is prevalent in developed countries, but they are now found within our communities as well. To everything that takes place, either good or bad, they believe there is a logical explanation for it.

Animism

Animism is the belief in the **divinity** of non-human beings. Animists believe in gods who are not human beings, such as plants, animals and the natural world. Followers of animism view themselves as equal to animals, plants and the natural world. Thus, they treat these with the same respect given to human beings. They believe that animals and plants are spiritual beings and spirits **reside** in them. Therefore, animists practice indigenous nature worship. They believe that there are **innumerable** spiritual beings concerned with human affairs and are capable of helping humans. Animist spirits are regarded to be the souls of deceased relatives and can either be good or evil. It is important to note that these animist spirits are not worshipped as deities.

SAMPLE

In animist societies, rituals are essential because they are said to win the favour of the spirits. Followers of animism believe that these spirits inhibit non-human spiritual beings that bring favour, provide food, shelter, and fertility. A good example of an animist religion is Shinto in Japan. Shamans or medicine men and women act as mediums between the physical world and the spiritual world.

Totemism

Totemism is a belief system in which the followers believe that they have a relationship or kinship with a spirit being such as a plant or an animal or any element of nature. The totem is believed to interact with the kin members and serve as their emblem or symbol. This is a widely practised belief system, especially among Africans though some societies in developed countries also practise totems. In Zimbabwe, both the Shona and Ndebele practice totemism. Among the Shona and Ndebele people, there are totems such as the *Mbizi/Dube* (zebra), *Soko/Ncube* (monkey), *Shumba/Sibanda* (lion) and *Nzou/Ndlovu* (elephant), to mention a few.

The followers of totemism believe that it is a taboo for one to eat or kill their totem. If they go against the belief, a bad omen will befall them or their family. Another practice within totemism is that people of the same totem are said to be related. Thus they are forbidden to marry each other. If they decide to marry, the groom is expected to look for a white cow without any mark and give it to the bride's relatives as a symbol of breaking their relation. This process is called *chekaukama/ukuquma ubuhlobo*. While this is a belief system that people observe and practice, totemism is a way of conserving the endangered wildlife

species within communities.

Activity 1.1 Group Discussion

In groups, list the taboos that are associated with totems that are found within your communities. Each group will present its findings to the class.

Characteristics of Religion

There are various characteristics of religion. Characteristics of religion include but are not limited to the following:

1. Belief in the supernatural, such as a god or gods or spirits, plays an important role in people`s day-to-day lives.
2. Every religion has a sacred day or days. These sacred days are important and may be a reminder of important events that happened in that religion's history. For example, Christians regard Christmas and Easter as sacred days, and Muslims have Ramadan. In indigenous Religion, for example among the Shona and the Ndebele, one of the sacred is are called *Chisi/Izilo*.

Salat Muslim prayer

Most religions have certain ritual activities which are occasionally practised. When followers of a particular religion carry out the various rituals, they will be making a public declaration of their belief. It is important to note that from one religion to another, rituals are done for various purposes. Some of thr reasons could be appeasing the ancestral spirits or Supreme being , recognising a transition from one stage to another in one`s life, or celebrating the blessings bestowed upon humanity. Examples of rituals carried out in various relations include baptism, *kurova guva/umbuyiso in IR*, Lord`s Supper/Holy Communion in christianity, Salat payer in Islam religion, to mention a few.

1. Religions usually have a moral code or ethical principles that are meant to be followed to guide individuals and communities. These principles or moral codes are the basis for the believers in making decisions in their day to day lives. Examples of the moral code found in some religions include The Ten Commandments for Christians and The Shari'ah law for Muslims.

2. Religions have various ways to communicate with the divine. Christians, Muslims, and Jews engage in individual and corporate prayers. Hindus and Buddhists engage in meditation to communicate with the divine.
3. Most religions have dress codes. For example, a Buddhist monk wears a saffron robe and has a shaved head. A Muslim woman wears the *hijab* (a traditional, loose-fitting covering that may include a veil.)
4. Religions teach or have a doctrine that describes the future as hopeful through the coming of a new age or a better existence in the afterlife. For example, the Second Coming of Jesus Christ taught in Christianity, the final incarnation of the Hindu deity *Vishnu*. The future hope may be realised in new heaven or new Earth or a blissful existence beyond this physical life.
5. Most religions have sacred objects and symbols.

Activity 1.2 Group Discussion

In groups, discuss practices that are done or observed on the sacred days of various religions. What are the consequences of not following the set-out guidelines for these sacred days?

SAMPLE

Summary

The unit began by defining the concept of religion. Various definitions were discussed, but the working definitions at this level were concluded to be "religion is the belief in supernatural and spiritual beings", and religion is a form of worship". In addition, categories of religions of the world, including Monotheism, Polytheism, Atheism, Animism, and Totemism, were the main focus. The key things learnt about the categories of religion in question are is that; Monotheism is the belief in the existence of one God; Polytheism a belief in multiple gods; Atheism is the belief that there is no God or that there are no gods; Animism is the belief in the divinity of nonhuman beings; Totemism is a belief system in which people have a kinship or mystical relationship with a spirit being such as an animal or plant. The unit concluded by discussing the characteristics of religions, the common characteristic being the belief in the supernatural.

Exercise 1.1

1. Discuss the various definitions of religion that have been put across by various scholars. [5 Marks]
2. List the types of religions that exist in the world. [5 Marks]
3. With the aid of examples, describe the following;
   a) Polytheism
   b) Monotheism
   c) Animism
   d) Atheism
   e) Totemism [25 Marks]
4. State any ten characteristics of religion. [10 Marks]

SAMPLE

1.2 INDIGENOUS RELIGION

Objectives

By the end of this unit, learners should be able to:
- define Indigenous Religion.
- trace the historical background of Indigenous Religion.
- list names of the Supreme Being.
- identify the attributes of the Supreme Being.

Introduction

The word **indigenous** refers to someone or something **native** whose origins can be traced down to that particular society. In the context of religion, **Indigenous Religion** is a system of native beliefs for a particular group of people or society passed on from one generation to another. In Zimbabwe, the **Indigenous Religion** is one of the popular religions. African history shows that **Indigenous Religion** was the dominant religion before the coming of Europeans. Thus, religions such as Christianity, Judaism, and Islam came to Zimbabwe as a result of colonialism.

SAMPLE

Historical Background

Indigenous Religions are quite **diverse**, varying from country to country and tribe to tribe. There are more than fifty African countries, and each country has its particular history, numerous **ethnic** groups with different languages and unique customs and beliefs. As stated earlier, African history reveals that the indigenous communities were religious before the coming of Europeans and that they had a belief system they adhered to. This system varied from society to society, and it does even today. These indigenous communities also had a hierarchy of spiritual leaders, including gods, mediums, traditional priests, diviners, elders, ancestors, to name a few.

Due to the constant migrations and diversity of communities, **Indigenous Religions** is not the same in terms of what rituals are done, how rituals are done, the names of their gods, the sacred day or days, to mention a few. Some African societies are monotheists, while others are polytheists. Regardless of these diversities, the common feature is that **Indigenous Religions** is passed down **orally** from one generation to another, and sacred texts or scriptures are used for reference. The elders or spiritual leaders are responsible for relaying information about how the religion is observed. Historical evidence, especially in Zimbabwe, shows that kings or chiefs were relied upon for spiritual guidance and led to performing some of the rituals that affected the community, such as drought or war.

Names of the Supreme (Being) and Their Meaning

As noted earlier, there are numerous ethnic groups with different languages and unique customs and beliefs. The diversity, therefore, brings with it diverse names attributed to their Supreme Being. Some of the indigenous names for the Supreme Being and their meaning are in the table below.

Name of God	Tribe	Meaning
UMlimu	Ndebele	He who is
Mwari	Shona	He who is
Musikavanhu	Shona	Creator of human beings
Unkulunkulu	Zulu	The great one
Nana Buluka	Ewe	Ancient of days
Onyane	Ghanaians	the Great and Shining One who is high and above all
Olodumare	Yoruba	the Supreme Being is unique, superlative, unchanging and ever reliable
Osanobuwa	Edo	God who is the "Source and Sustainer of the World
Chikwu	Ibo	The Great Chi or the Great Source of life and of being
Soko	Nupe	The Great One; He who dwells in Heaven

SAMPLE

Table 1.1: Indigenous names and meaning for the Supreme Being in Indigenous Religion

Activity 1.3 Group Discussion

In groups, research on other Zimbabwean tribes. Find out about their different god or gods` names and their meanings.

Characteristics of Indigenous Religion

Indigenous Religions have various characteristics that define them or distinguish them from other religions. These characteristics include:

- **Indigenous Religions** is based mainly on oral transmission. It is not written on paper but in peoples' hearts, minds, oral history, rituals, shrines and religious functions. These oral sources are incorporated into arts, political and social structures, and culture.
- African **Indigenous Religions** provide strong linkages between the life of humans and the world of their ancestors. Therefore, humans can maintain constant relations with their ancestors, who are intimately concerned and involved in their everyday affairs.

- **Indigenous Religions** are less of faith traditions and more focused on lived traditions. They are less concerned with doctrines and much more concerned with rituals, ceremonies, and lived practices.
- **Indigenous Religions** has no founders, missionaries, reformers such as Gautama the Buddha founder of Buddhism, Jesus Christ, or Muhammad.

Attributes of the Supreme Being

The Belief in the existence of the Supreme Being is fundamental in African society. The word Supreme Being refers to the living eternal Being, the creator and source of all living things. The Supreme Being in the **Indigenous Religions** has many attributes. In this context, attributes refer to words or phrases ascribing traits, properties, qualities or characteristics to the Supreme Being.

1. The Supreme Being is real to Africans

The fact that God is real to Africans is enshrined in the meaning of the name they call him. The various names given to God in African attest to this. The Yoruba of Nigeria call God *Olodumare* or *Edumere,* meaning "The King or Chief unique who holds the sceptre, wields authority and has the quality which is superlative in worth, and he is at the same time permanent, unchanging and reliable. The shona call him Musikavanhu meaning the one who created mankind.

SAMPLE

2. God is unique in the African religion

The uniqueness of deity is one reason why there are no images – graven or in drawing or his painting in Africa. When the word unique is used about the attribute of God in Africa, we are looking at God as having no equal or non like Him and being the only One. In this regard, the African concept of God is an emphatic 'No one' and 'None' to the question, 'To whom then will you liken God or what likeness compare with Him?

3. God is eternal and immortal

The Africans do not see the Supreme Being as One who will one day cease to be or eventually die. They rather view Him as the eternal and immortal One who lives forever to satisfy the human soul.

4. God is the Creator

This implies that the Supreme Being is the originator, as illustrated in some of the African myths. For the Shona, he is called *Musikavanhu,* meaning he is the one who created the people. The Yoruba creation myth, for example, states that God the creator (*Orisanla*) commissioned the chief divinity to perform some works of creation, and He, therefore, created the human body. Thus, there is no doubt that creation originated from the Supreme Being himself. He has absolute power over his creatures, and no creature has reason to boast of itself. This capacity of God as a creator made the Yoruba's call Him *"Eleeda",* which means "creator" or "owner of creation". The Igbo call God*"Chineke",* meaning "the spirit that creates" or "source of being that creates".

5. God is King

This attribute implies that the Supreme Being is the mighty one who is the absolute controller and sustainer of the universe. The Africans regard Him as higher and worthy of respect than any given to an earthly king. The Ndebele call him *Nkosi* and the Shona *Mambo*. As king, this implies that the Supreme Being in **Indigenous Religions** is omnipotent and the sovereign ruler of the universe.

Activity 1.4: Case Study

In groups, analyse the following creation story for the Shona people and compare and contrast it to the biblical creation story. Discuss in your observations about the similarities and differences?

God created Mwedzi (the moon) in a deep pool of water. The moon begged to be allowed to live on land. Once on land, Mwedzi was lonely, so God sent Hweva (Morningstar) down to become his wife but warned that he would have to return her to the sky after two years. Hweva stayed with Mwedzi and gave birth to all the vegetation on earth. After two years, a reluctant Mwedzi sent her back to the sky.

Mwedzi became lonely again, so God sent him Venekatsvimborume (Eveningstar) and told him that she must return to the sky after two years. Venekatsvimborume stayed with Moon. She gave birth, first to herbivores and birds and then to boys and girls. After two years, God asked the Mwedzi to return her. Mwedzi refused. On the next day, Venekatsvimborume gave birth to lions, scorpions and other predators.

Source: A blog by the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art and partners in conjunction with the "African Cosmos: Stellar Arts" exhibition in June 2021.

Summary

The unit focused on **Indigenous Religions**. The unit aimed to define **Indigenous Religions**, trace the historical background of **Indigenous Religions**, list names of the Supreme Being and also identify the attributes of the Supreme Being. The definition of African **Indigenous Religions** was established as the indigenous or autochthonous religions of the African people, which deal with the African people's cosmology, ritual practices, symbols, arts and society. It was also noted that African **Indigenous Religions** are quite diverse, varying from country to country and tribe to tribe. Africans were already religious before their interactions with the West. Many characteristics of **Indigenous Religions** were discussed; among these characteristics, African Indigenous religion is a religion based mainly on oral transmission, stresses the importance of Ancestors, and has no founder. Some of the Supreme Being names discussed in this unit include; Mwari, Umlimu, Musikavanhu and Unkulunkulu. The unit concluded by discussing the attributes of the Supreme Being. Among these attributes is that God is immortal, eternal and is the creator.

End of unit Exercise 1.2

1. Define **Indigenous Religions**. [1 Mark]
2. Describe the characteristics of **Indigenous Religions**. [5 Marks]
3. List any five names of God and state what they mean. [5 Marks]
4. State and explain the attributes of God in **Indigenous Religions**? [10 Marks]

SAMPLE

1.3 JUDAISM

Objectives

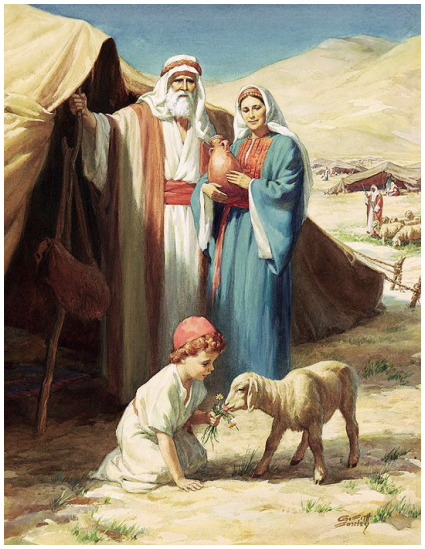
By the end of this unit, learners should be able to:
- define Judaism.
- narrate the historical background of Judaism.
- list names of the Supreme Being.
- identify the attributes of the Supreme Being.

Introduction

One of the most influential and ancient religions in the world is **Judaism**. Statistics show that while **Judaism** is an ancient religion, it does not have a huge following when looking at the world`s population. The origins of **Judaism** and its iconic figures are based on its most holy text, the first five books of the old testament, called the Torah. **Judaism** can be defined as a monotheistic religion that believes in one God who revealed himself through Abraham, Moses and the ancient Hebrew prophets. God then made a covenant with them through Moses, governed by laws and the Ten Commandments. Thus, the basis of **Judaism** is grounded on the Laws of Moses and the Ten Commandments.

SAMPLE

Historical Background



Abraham and his wife Sarah and their son Isaac

Early Jewish history can be found in its most holy text, the first five books of the old testament, called the Torah. According to the Torah, the first **patriarch** and founder of Judaism was Abraham, who lived in Ur Kasdim, better known today as Iraq. It is believed that he made

a **covenant** with God on behalf of all his **descendants,** the Jews. The covenant made between the two parties was calling Abraham out of polytheism into worshipping only one God. God also promised Abraham and his descendants that they would be a great nation. The other patriarchs of Judaism are Isaac, Abraham`s son, and Jacob, Abraham`s grandson.

The Jews later became known as the Israelites, derived from Israel, a name given to Jacob after he had wrestled with an angel all night. As a result of drought, the Israelites **migrated** to Egypt through Joseph`s influence and position. Here they enjoyed life for a while in a land given to them by Pharaoh called Goshen. After hundreds of years of staying in Egypt and Joseph`s death, the Israelites were subjected to slavery.

In 1312 BCE, Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt while being guided by God. After forty years of travelling in the desert, the Israelites settled in Canaan, the Promised Land, to Abraham, their ancestor. This journey from the land of bondage to Canaan is popularly known as the 'Exodus'. It is, however, important to note that the children of Israel made a covenant with God during their journey at Mount Sinai. This is an important event because Moses was given the moral code, The Ten Commandments, by God and was instructed to teach it to the Israelites. These commandments were inscribed upon two tablets of stones.

Moses and the vast majority of the people that left Egypt did not enter Canaan. However, under the guidance of Joshua, who took over after Moses, the Israelites drove away many nations and settled in Canaan. During their stay in Canaan, the Israelites were led by judges, then priests, then prophets, and it was during the time of prophet Samuel, Israel became a **monarch** and appointed its first king. The first king of the Jews was Saul, and after him came King David and a host of other kings after him. King David is regarded as the greatest king ever to rule the Jews. He ruled around 1000B.C. David`s son, Solomon, later ruled after him and built the magnificent temple in Jerusalem, which became the central place of worship for the Jewish religion.

The Israelite Kingdom fell apart around 931 B.C, and the Jewish people split into two groups, namely Israel in the North and Judah in the South. Around 87B.C, the Babylonians destroyed the first temple and sent many Jews to exile. A second temple was built but was eventually destroyed by

Fascinating Fact

According to Exodus 6:20 Moses' parents were Jochebed and Amram.

SAMPLE

the Romans in 70A.D. The destruction of the second temple forced Israelites to worship in local synagogues.

The key covenant in Judaism is God's covenant with Abraham. Abram's name was changed to Abraham by God in this covenant, meaning 'father of many nations'. Again, in this covenant, we see God giving the **rite** of circumcision as a sign of the Abrahamic covenant. Circumcision meant the removal of a male`s foreskin on the 8th day after birth. All males were to be circumcised, thus a lifelong mark of their relationship with God. A Hebrew male child was named on the same day after being circumcised.

Moses with the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai

Fascinating Fact

If a person accidentally breaks the kashrut (a food law) they have to make amends by either fasting or praying to god or giving to charity.

Another key covenant in Judaism is that between God and Moses. Moses is regarded as the most significant prophet and the father of all prophets in **Judaism**. In the Torah, he has met God face to face. Hence he is the first **rabbi**. God first appeared to Moses at Mount Horeb through a burning bush while Moses was herding his father-in-law`s sheep. Moses was instructed to go and deliver the Israelites from Egyptian bondage. It is after the ten plagues that Pharaoh released the Israelites. At Mount Sinai, Moses was given the six hundred and thirteen commandments that make up the *Mitzvot*. These commandments are to be kept by all practising Jews.

Activity 1.5: Group Discussion

In groups, conduct research and class presentations on Abraham, Moses and King David and discuss their importance in Judaism.

Names of the Supreme Being and Their Meaning

There are many names that are given to the Jewish God. The following table provides the names and their meanings.

Name	Meaning
Yahweh	The self-existent One. He brings into existence that which exists.
Adonai	God is the Lord over all. He is the King of kings and the Lord of lords.
Yahweh-Maccaddeshem	The Lord your sanctifier.
Yahweh-Rohi	The Lord my shepherd.
Yahweh-Shammah	The Lord who is present.
Yahweh-Rapha	The Lord our healer.
Yahweh-Tsidkenu	The Lord our righteousness.
Yahweh-Jireh	The Lord will provide.
Yahweh-Nissi	The Lord our banner.
Yahweh-Shalom	The Lord is peace.
Yahweh-Sabbaoth	The Lord of Hosts.
Yahweh-Gmolah	The God of Recompense.
Elohim	The living God.
El-Elyon	The most high God.
El-Gibhor	Mighty God. The Lord is mighty to save.
El-Olam	The everlasting God. God is eternal.
El-Roi	The God who sees.
El-Shaddai-Rohi	God Almighty.
El-Chuwl	The God who gave you life.
El-Deah	God of all knowledge.

SAMPLE

Table 1.2: Different names of God and their meaning in Judaism

Attributes of the Supreme Being

Jews are monotheists, meaning they believe that there is only one God. To emphasise this, they have a prayer called the SHEMA, which displays their belief that there is only one God. Many Jews recite this prayer every morning and evening. The prayer reads:

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one." (Deuteronomy 6:4).

There are certain attributes or qualities that are ascribed to the Supreme Being in Judaism. When reflecting on the names and their meanings as discussed earlier, one will note that

they reflect these qualities. Some of the attributes of the Supreme Being in **Judaism** include:

1. God as creator

The Torah begins with the creation story that is in Gen 1:1-28. Most Jews believe every detail of this story to be true. They recognise that God is responsible for everything that exists in creation. They believe the world was created and did not just happen by chance. Shabbat or Sabbath is celebrated each week as a celebration of creation. Observant Jews rest as God did on the seventh day. They also rest on the seventh day as inscribed in the fourth Commandment, of the Ten Commandments.

Jews believe that, as the creator of everything, God must also have created evil himself. However, they also argue that He gave people the free will to choose between right and evil. Jews believe that evil must exist for people to have free will because having the ability to choose to do good and avoid evil makes the act of doing good more significant. Some Jews find it difficult to deal with the idea that God created the potential for evil, but it is considered necessary to give humans free will.

2. God as one

For Jews, monotheism is not just the belief that there is only one God, but it is God who is ever-present in people's lives. This is shown in the first two verses of the **Shema**, an important Jewish prayer taken from Deuteronomy and Numbers. It begins with an expression of the unity of God and the way that humankind should respond to this belief:

> Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. (Deuteronomy 6: 4-5)

SAMPLE

The reference to loving God with all your heart shows that God wants total loyalty, just as loyalty is needed in any full and loving relationship. The mention of the soul shows that Jews need to have spiritual dedication to one God. For Jews, God is a single, whole, indivisible entity. He is infinite and eternal, beyond the full understanding of humankind. This makes him the only being who should be worshipped.

3. God as the law-giver

The Torah records the Ten Commandments. Jesus believe the Ten Commandments help to create a just society that is close to God. By following these laws, Jews are creating a close relationship with God.

4. God as the judge

In Judaism, God is viewed as a God of justice and mercy, who will judge each person. The Talmud describes how the deeds Mitzvot of each person will be weighed by God. The Jewish festival of Rosh Hashanah celebrates the world's creation, where it is believed God will judge every person. After this festival, ten days are given before *Yom Kippur* (the Day of Atonement). People make up for their sins during this time and make amends, asking for forgiveness.

5. God the sustainer

Jews believe that God not only created the universe but also sustains it. They believe that God provides sufficient resources on the planet to feed and provide for all species. They further suggest that resources are unfairly distributed such that some have less than they need due to human free will, granted by God. To the Jews, those who follow Jewish teaching by helping to provide resources for others who have too little are helping to fulfil God's plan for the world He created. Therefore, life is Holy, so we have no right to destroy it.

5. God or G-d?

As a sign of reverence, many Jews believe that the name of God is so holy that it should not be spoken or written. Therefore, they often write G-d instead or use Adonai (My Lord) or Hashem (The Name). The Hebrew letters of the name for God are YHWH, and this is never said aloud by Jews. When it appears in liturgy or scripture, Jews substitute it with the Hebrew word Adonai instead of saying it. Any book containing the Hebrew name of God is treated with respect and is never destroyed or thrown away. When the book is too old to be used, it is kept in a special place in the synagogue before being properly buried in a Jewish cemetery. However, some Jews think that it is acceptable to write God's word, as they regard it as a title and not a name. It is important to note that God and G-d refer to God one and not two different gods or parts of God.

SAMPLE

Activity 1.6: Group Discussion

In groups, discuss how Judaism is similar and different to Christianity.

Summary

In this unit, emphasis was on defining **Judaism**, narrating the historical background of **Judaism**, listing the names of the Supreme Being and identifying the attributes of the Supreme Being. The definition of **Judaism** was concluded to be "a monotheistic religion that believes in one God who revealed himself through Abraham, Moses and the ancient Hebrew prophets." It was also noted that the basis of **Judaism** is grounded on the Laws of Moses and the Ten Commandments. Under the historical background of **Judaism**, the key things highlighted are the patriarchs of Judaism. The first patriarch was Abraham, who made a covenant with God on behalf of all his descendants; the Jews. Other significant patriarchs of **Judaism** mentioned include Isaac and Jacob, and the Matriarchs Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah.

A key historical component also discussed is thatThe Jews believe in the Messianic age, which is a time to come filled with peace on earth, whereby violence, hunger, and crime will no longer be present. Jews have been waiting for the Messiah (which means 'anointed'). Some of the Supreme Being names discussed in the unit include; Yahweh, Adonai, Elohim, El Roi, and El Shaddai. Amongst the attributes of the Supreme Being discussed are; God as Creator, God as One and God as Sustainer.

Exercise 1.3

1. Describe the historical background of the Jews. [5 Marks]
2. Where did God first appear to Moses? [1 mark]
3. Describe five attributes of God. [20 Marks]
4. Name key covenants made in Judaism. [3 Marks]
5. Describe the Mosaic covenant and explain its significance to Judaism. [7 Marks]
6. List any three key figures in Judaism and explain what role they have played in the Jewish religion. [8 Marks]
7. Why is the Mount Sinai experience important? [6 marks]
8. List 4 names and their meanings of the Supreme Being in Judaism. [4 Marks]

1.4 CHRISTIANITY

Objectives

By the end of this unit, learners should be able to:
- define Christianity.
- narrate the historical background of Christianity.
- list names of the Supreme Being.
- identify the attributes of the Supreme Being.

Introduction

Statistics show that there are over two billion Christians worldwide, making **Christianity** the most followed religion on the planet. This has mainly been because of the numerous denominations of Christianity. **Christianity** is a monotheistic religion, meaning that the followers believe in one God, and it is founded on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. Followers of **Christianity** are called Christians derived from the founder, who is Jesus Christ. A key component of christianity is whta has come to be called the "trinity" the father (God), son (Jesus Christ) and the Holy Spirit.

SAMPLE

Activity 1.7: Research

In groups, conduct research on the various teachings that are found in the various Christian denominations. Each group will present its findings.

Historical Background

Christianity began as a movement within Judaism during the first century C.E. Jesus Christ of Nazareth undertook a public teaching ministry. He was preaching the **imminent** coming of the 'Kingdom of God'. He put together a group of twelve Jewish disciples, along with many other followers. With the disciples' help, he ministered to the poor and outcast in present-day Israel and Palestine.

Around the year 33 C.E., Jesus was arrested and executed by the Roman governor. He is believed to have resurrected from the dead after three days. Jesus` followers understood that Jesus Christ was the Son of God who came into the world to save sinners so that they could receive salvation and have eternal life. Thus, through his death, Christians attained salvation and pardon for their sins.

Disciples and women in the upper room at Pentecost

Christianity is believed to have experienced significant growth following the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This growth is recorded in the book of The Acts of the Apostles. In Acts 1:15, around one hundred and twenty Jewish believers in Christ gathered in Jerusalem in an upper room to wait for the promise of the Holy Spirit. At Pentecost, Peter preached a sermon that resulted in the baptism of three thousand people (Acts 2:41), and later their numbers grew to five thousand (Acts 4:4). Soon enough, the Samaritans, whom the Jews considered 'unclean' were added to the church (see Acts 8:5-25), as were the Gentiles (see Acts 10: 13–28). The rest of the book of Acts is a historical account of how Paul, Peter, and others were empowered by the Holy Spirit spread **Christianity** among both Jews and Gentiles around the northern Mediterranean, including Samaria (Acts 8:5-25), Phoenicia, Cyprus, Antioch (9:32–12:25), Phrygia and Galatia (13:1–15:35), Macedonia (15:36–21:16), and Rome (21:17–22:29). Despite persecution by Roman and Jewish authorities, **Christianity** spread like wildfire. One of Paul's strategies was to visit major Roman capitals easily reached by existing trade routes, which resulted in the gospel spreading out to other areas through these routes.

It is important to note that the first Christians had radical new beliefs that drastically differed from the existing beliefs. They believed that a Jewish man named Jesus was the long-awaited and prophesied Messiah. The first Christians further argued that three days after being crucified on the cross, Jesus had been resurrected, lived among them for forty days and ascended to heaven. They also believed that Jesus had died so that the people who believed in him would be forgiven of their sins.

SAMPL

Fascinating Fact

The Jewish belief system was that the long-awaited Messiah would come and overthrow the Roman Empire by military means, thus restoring Israel`s glory as was in the days of Solomon. This is why they never accepted Jesus as their Messiah or as King of the Jews.

Christianity was often outlawed under Roman law, and many believers were persecuted and executed for professing their faith. In 313 C.E., the Roman emperor Constantine converted to **Christianity** and legalised it, ending the persecutions. When Constantine realised that Christians disagreed on many issues that included the relationship of Jesus to God, Constantine called the Christian leaders (bishops) from across the empire to a council at Nicaea in 325 C.E. This first major council clarified key points of theology, including the Trinity and the divinity of Jesus.

Although lively debates over key theological points continued, **Christianity** underwent further unification in the fourth century under the reign of Emperor Theodosius and through the theology of Bishop Augustine of Hippo. Almost seventy years after Constantine legalised **Christianity**, Theodosius established the Christian faith as the Roman Empire's official religion. From then on, **Christianity** spread rapidly. Some converted to Christianity to advance in Roman society or fear Roman authorities, but many converted willingly. **Christianity** thus became a leading religion of the Roman Empire, which then encompassed most of Europe and North Africa.

Names of the Supreme Being and Their Meaning

Many names are given to the Christian God. The following table provides the names and their meanings.

SAMPLE

Name	Meaning
Yahweh	The self-existent One. He has always existed and will always exist
Father	He is a fatherly figure to mankind.
King	He is known as the King of Kings who rules all nations and whose kingdom is everlasting.
El Shadai	The God of heaven.
Adonai	God is the Lord over all. He is the King of kings and the Lord of lords.
Yahweh-Maccaddeshem	The Lord your sanctifier.
Yahweh-Rohi	The Lord my shepherd.
Jehovah-Shalom	The Lord is peace.

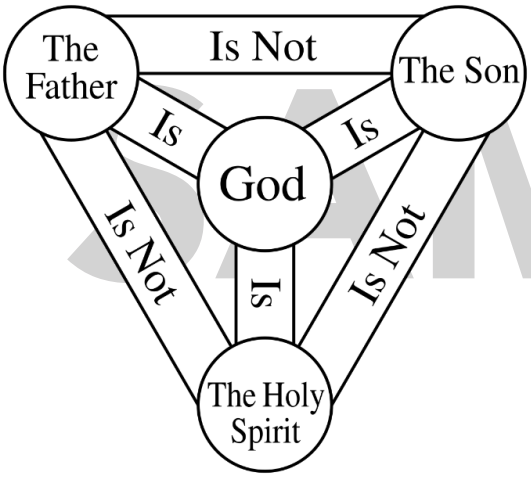
Table 1.3: Different names and their meaning for the Supreme Being in Christianity

Attributes of the Supreme Being

There are many attributes of the Supreme Being in Christianity. Some of these include:

1. **Wisdom –** God makes no mistakes.
2. **Infinitude –** God knows no boundaries.
3. **Sovereign –** God is in control of everything that happens.

4. **Holy –** It refers to God's perfect moral purity.
5. **Eternal –** God is perfect in that He transcends all time and temporal limitations and is thus infinite concerning time.
6. **Omniscience –** God is all-knowing.
7. **Omnipresent –** God transcends all space and spatial limitations and is thus infinite concerning space, with His whole Being filling every part of the universe and being present everywhere.
8. **Creator –** God is the One through whom all things have come into existence. He has created everything.
9. **Merciful** – God forgives all sins no matter how grave they are
10. **Trinity –** The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are all called God, or they form the God-head and are involved in doing things only God could do. All are involved completely whenever One of the Three is active. This attribute (trinity) has been illustrated in the diagram provided.



Trinity relationship

SAMPLE

Activity 1.8: Debate

In groups, debate on 'The numerous Christian denominations in Zimbabwe have done more harm than good'.

Summary

The unit focused on defining **Christianity**, narrating the historical background of **Christianity**, listing names of the Supreme Being and identifying the attributes of the Supreme Being. The definition of **Christianity** discussed in the unit is that **Christianity** is a monotheistic religion that is founded on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. A person who is a member of **Christianity** is called a Christian. Some of the names of the Supreme Being discussed are Father and King. The unit ended by highlighting key attributes of the Supreme Being. Some of the attributes mentioned include; God as wise, God as eternal, God as holy, God as creator, God as faithful and God as love. A key attribute also discussed in the unit is that of the trinity whereby the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are all called God, given worship as God, exist eternally, and are involved in doing things only God could do, but although, God reveals Himself in three persons, God is One and cannot be divided

Exercise 1.4

1. Discuss the origins of Christianity. [10 Marks]
2. List five names of God and give their meanings. [10 Marks]
3. States and explain any 4 attributes of the Supreme Being in Christianity. [15 Marks]
4. Discuss the concept of the trinity. [5 Marks]
5. How does Christianity differ from Judaism? [10 Marks]

1.5 ISLAM

Objectives

By the end of this unit, learners should be able to:

- define Islam.
- narrate the historical background of Islam.
- list names of the Supreme Being.
- identify the attributes of the Supreme Being.

Introduction

Research shows that **Islam** is the second-largest and fastest-growing religion globally, with over one billion followers. The Arabic word **Islam** means 'submission', and the word Muslim, which refers to followers of **Islam**, means 'one who submits to God'. Therefore, Muslims believe that they should live their whole lives for God. **Islam** is a monotheistic religion whose followers believe that one God created the world out of nothing and has absolute control over everything. **Islam** teaches that Muhammad is Allah's final and ultimate prophet, and Allah is the one and only God in Islam.

SAMPLE

Historical Background

Qur`an

Muhammad was born in Mecca on the Arabian Peninsula about the year 570 AD. He was orphaned at six and raised by family members. There were pagan religions in which many gods were worshipped (especially the sun, moon, and star gods). Because of some Christian and Jewish settlements scattered throughout Arabia and due to caravan routes that passed through Mecca, it is said Muhammad came into contact with Christian and Jewish teachings

that he then incorporated into the Qur'ān.

At the age of forty, while retreating in a cave outside Mecca for an extended period of meditation, Muhammad claims that the angel Gabriel visited him and gave him a call to be Allah's prophet. The revelations continued until Muhammad died in 632 A.D. and were then recorded in the Qur'ān. When he received these revelations, Muhammad began to preach the message received. They are summed up in the Shahadah, an Islamic creed among the Five Pillars of Islam.

A key feature of his message was 'There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is the prophet of Allah'. Such preaching by Muhammad narrowed the focus of the Arab world from many gods to one god, Allah. His preaching of monotheism in a world of pagan idolatry also included a call to repentance from pagan immorality. Muhammad received great opposition to his message for many years. Leaders of the town of Yathrib, where some of his followers had already settled, invited him to live there. The town was later renamed Medina, (meaning the prophet's city) to honour him. His escape from Mecca and his arrival in Medina took place in 622 A.D. and would become known as the **hijra**.

In the next few years, Muhammad and his followers began to loot rich caravans and conquer one small town after another, thus accumulating wealth and power, which enabled Muhammad to return in conquest to Mecca in 630 A.D. and to bring almost all of Arabia under submission to the religion of **Islam** by the time of his death in 632 A.D. **Islam** as a religion and as a political and cultural force extended from the western edges of India and China across to Persia, Arabia, Egypt, and North Africa to the Atlantic. The defeat of Muslim armies at Tours, France, in 732 A.D. prevented any further movement into Europe. However, the Ottoman Empire in the 16th century spread **Islam** into Turkey, southern Russia and reached as far as Austria.

Fascinating Fact

The Five Pillars are the core beliefs and practices in Islam. These pillars are declaration of faith (shadah), prayer (salah), alms-giving (zakat), fasting (sawm) and pilgrimage (hajj).

Names of the Supreme Being and Their Meaning

Allah is believed to have ninety-nine names, but only twenty will be discussed.

The following table provides the names and their meanings.

SAMP

Name	Meaning
Ar- Rahmaan	The Beneficent
Ar-Raheem	The Merciful
Al-Malik	The King
Al-Quddus	The One who is Very Pure
As-Salam	The Embodiment of Peace
Al-Mu'min	The Infuser of Faith
Al-Muhaymin	The Preserver of Safety
Al-Aziz	All Mighty
Al-Jabbar	The Compeller
Al-Mutakabbir	Supreme The Majestic
Al-Khaaliq	The Creator / The Maker
Al-Baari	The Evolver
Al-Masawwir	The Fashioner
Al-Ghaffar	The Great Forgiver
Al-Qahhar	The All Prevailing One
Al-Wahhaab	The Supreme Bestower
Ar-Razzaaq	The Provider
Al-Fattaah	The Supreme
Al-Aleem	The All-knowing
Al-Qaabid	The Withholder

SAMPLE

Table 1.4: Different names and their meaning for the Supreme Being in Islam

ACTIVITY 1.9: RESEARCH

Conduct research on any thirty names and their meanings of the Supreme Being in Islam. The teacher will provide an opportunity for presentations.

Attributes of the Supreme Being

The name of the Supreme Being in **Islam** is Allah. The word Allah cannot be used to designate anything other than the one true God. When reflecting on the names and their meanings as discussed earlier, one will note that they reflect the Supreme Being`s attributes. Some of the attributes of the Supreme Being in **Islam** include:

Muslims believe in one unique, incomparable, superior undivided God. They believe that God is one and only. He has no wife, children. He has never been born and shall never die.

The Word Allah is an Arabic translation for Lord or God, and it is the same word used by Arab Christians and Jews. He is God, the One and Only; God, the Eternal, Absolute; He begets not, nor is He begotten; and there is none like Him (Quran: 112). In the Qur'an, God describes Himself as:

> "He is God, the One. God, to Whom the creatures turn for their needs. He begets not, nor was He begotten, and there is none like Him." (Qur'an, 112:1-4)

This means no one has the right to be invoked, supplicated, prayed to, or shown any act of worship, but Allah alone.

1. He manages all affairs. He provides the need of all His creatures, and all His creatures depend on Him for all they need.
2. He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing, and the All-Knowing. His knowledge encompasses all things, the open and the secret, and the public and the private. He knows what has happened, what will happen, and how it will happen.
3. No affair occurs in the whole world except by His will. Whatever He wills, will be, and whatever He does not will, will not. His will is above all will.
4. He has power over all things, and He can do everything.
5. He is the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful, and the Most Beneficent.
6. They also believe that God is far removed from injustice and tyranny, and He is All-Wise in all of His actions and decrees. If someone wants something from God, he or she can ask God directly without asking anyone else to intercede with God for him or her. God is not Jesus, and Jesus is not God. Even Jesus himself rejected this. God has said in the Qur'an:

   Indeed, they have disbelieved those who have said: "God is the Messiah (Jesus), son of Mary." The Messiah said: "Children of Israel, worship God, my Lord and your Lord. Whoever associates partners in worship with God has forbidden Paradise for him, and his home is the Fire (Hell). For the wrongdoers, there will be no helpers.

   (Qur'an, 5:72)
7. God is not a trinity. God has said in the Qur'an:

   Indeed, they disbelieve those who say: "God is the third of three (in a trinity)," when there is no god but

Fascinating Fact

Many Muslims memorise the ninety-nine names of God so that they can recite them when they pray. Therefore, to assist in reciting many Muslims use a subhah (a string of prayer beeds) to keep count of the ninety-nine names of God

SAMPLE

one God. If they desist not from what they say, truly, a painful punishment will befall the disbelievers among them. Would they not rather repent to God and ask His forgiveness? For God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful. The Messiah (Jesus), son of Mary, was no more than a messenger...

(Qur'an, 5:73-75)

8. Islam rejects that God rested on the seventh day of the creation, that He wrestled with one of His angels, that He is an envious plotter against mankind, or that He is incarnate in any human being.
9. Islam also rejects the attribution of any human form to God. All of these are considered blasphemous.
10. God is the Exalted. He is far removed from every imperfection.
11. He never becomes weary. He does not become drowsy, nor does he sleep.

Summary

The unit was able to define Islam, narrate the historical background of Islam, list names of the Supreme Being and identify the attributes of the Supreme Being. Islam was defined as an Abrahamic monotheistic religion that teaches that Muhammad is God's final and ultimate messenger. Their God is Allah and Muhammad is his prophet. An important historical component of Islam discussed in the unit is that when Muhammad was forty years old, and he was retreating in a cave outside Mecca for an extended period of meditation, Muhammad claims that the angel Gabriel visited him and gave him a call to be Allah's prophet. The revelations continued until Muhammad died in 632 A.D. and were then recorded in the Qur'ān. Learners also leant that Allah is said to have 99 names. Some of the attributes of the Supreme Being deliberated in the unit are He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing, the All-Knowing; He is far removed from every imperfection, and He never becomes weary.

Exercise

1. Trace the history of Islam. [10 Marks]
2. List any ten names of Allah and give their meanings. [20 Marks]

3. Discuss the attributes of Allah in detail. [20 Marks]
4. Describe what the Quaran is made out of. [5 Marks]

End of Topic Revision Exercise 1.6

1. Define the following words: [10 Marks]
   a. Religion
   b. Indigenous
   c. Supreme
   d. Sovereign
   e. Eternity
2. Discuss the characteristics of religion. [10 Marks]
3. With the aid of examples, describe the following types of religions: [10 Marks]
   a. Animism
   b. Polytheism
   c. Monotheism
   d. Atheism
   e. Totemism
4. Define the following: [8 Marks]
   a. Indigenous African religion
   b. Judaism
   c. Christianity
   d. Islam
5. List at least five names of the Supreme Being of African Indigenous religion and give their meaning. [10 Marks]
6. What are the attributes of God in African indigenous religion? [10 Marks]
7. Describe the characteristics of African indigenous religion. [5 Marks]
8. List any three key figures in Judaism and explain what role they have played in the Jewish religion. [8 Marks]
9. State the thirteen principles of Judaism. [13 Marks]

10 . At what age are Jewish males circumcised and named? [2 Marks]

11. Describe five attributes of the Supreme Being in Judaism. [20 Marks]

12. What do the Jews believe about the afterlife? [5 Marks]

13. What is the significance of the Messiah among the Jews? [5 Marks]

14. Compare and contrast Christianity and Judaism in terms of the names and characteristics of the Supreme Being. [10 Marks]

15. Discuss the origins of Christianity. [10 Marks]

16. Discuss the concept of the trinity. [5 Marks]

17. Trace the history of Islam. [10 Marks]

18. List any ten names of Allah and give their meanings. [20 Marks]

19. Discus the attributes of Allah in detai. [20 Marks]

20. Describe what the Quaran is made out of. [5 Marks]

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