

The Torah is the holy book of Judaism and consists of the five books of Moses. Torah scrolls are kept in the Ark (an ornate chest or cabinet) in a synagogue.





Abraham is regarded as the founder of Judaism. God spoke to him and told him he would be the leader of a great people.



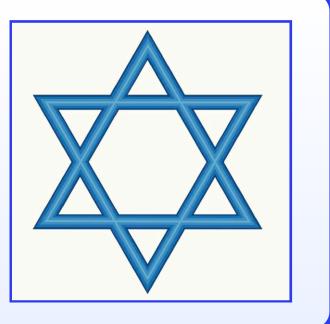


A Jewish place of worship is known as a synagogue. The main service of the week takes place on Shabbat (Saturday) morning.





The Star of David is the symbol of Judaism. It is a six pointed star which appears on the flag of Israel and symbolises God's protection of King David of Israel.





Shabbat is the Jewish holy day, and runs from sunset on Friday to sunset on Saturday. No work can be done on Shabbat.





Passover, or Pesach, is a festival which commemorates the Jewish people being led out of Egypt by Moses. In Egypt they had been slaves.





Hanukkah is a festival of light which takes place in November or December every year. Games are played and latkes (potato cakes) are traditionally eaten during the festival.





During worship, Jewish men often wear a Kippah (skullcap) and women cover their head with a scarf or hat, as a sign of respect for God.





In 2016 there were estimated to be around 14 million Jewish people. The largest Jewish populations are found in the USA and Israel.





Jewish people were the largest victims of the Holocaust. It is believed that six million people were killed by the Nazis before and during World War II.





Judaism passes down the maternal line, from mother to child. So anyone who has a Jewish mother, is Jewish too.





Jewish girls become adults at the age of 12 and boys become adults at 13. At that time they have a special ceremony in the synagogue, known as Bar Mitzvah (for boys) or Bat Mitzvah (for girls).



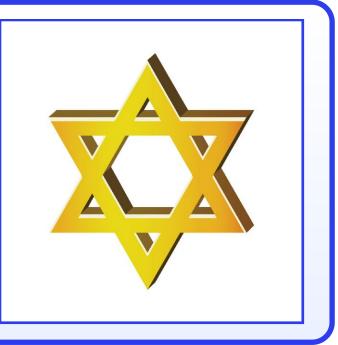


Kosher food is food that Jewish people can eat according to Jewish law. Only certain animals can be eaten, and they must be killed in the correct way.





Judaism was founded during the Bronze Age, and was the first monotheistic religion in the world. Monotheistic means "One god".



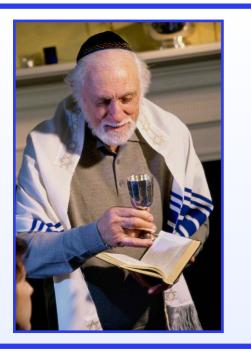


Jerusalem is the holy city for Jewish people. According to Jewish tradition, it is where creation began. Many Jewish people visit the Western Wall in the city to perform rituals.





A Jewish spiritual leader is called a Rabbi, which means teacher. Synagogue services can be lead by the rabbi, by a cantor who has studied prayers, or by a member of the congregation.



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A menorah is a seven branched lamp often found in synagogues. In the book of Exodus, God says that it should be made of solid gold.





The Torah contains laws about not mixing milk and meat. For this reason, many Jewish households have two separate kitchens, one for dairy and one for meat.





Moses is the most important prophet in Judaism. He led the Jewish people out of slavery and received the 10 commandments from God on Mount Sinai.





The Talmud is the written version of Jewish law. The laws were written down in about the 2nd century CE. Before that they were passed down orally.

