



Y2 Thinking like a Theologist

Key Knowledge:

This enquiry concentrates on the Sanatani creation story and the symbolism and significance of the Aum and the lotus flower. Sanatanis believe in Brahman as the one true God who is formless, limitless, all-inclusive, and eternal

The Aum can have a symbolism which reminds them of the Trimurti:

- Bottom left-hand curve - Brahman the creator
- Top left-hand curve – Shiva the destroyer
- Right hand curve – Vishnu the destroyer
- Top crescent and moon dot – calm and peace

This is one interpretation. Other people think it stands for being awake, deep sleep, dreams and finding God.

The lotus flower came from Vishnu and contained Brahma who then started creation.

Learning Questions

Why do Sanatanis use symbols?

Can I say what different common symbols mean to me?

Can I identify the Om (Aum) symbol and say how it is used?

Can I retell the story of Sanatana Dharma story of creation and identify the place of the Aum in the story?

Can I say why a lotus flower might be an important symbol for Sanatanis?

Can I say why a symbol may be meaningful to me, and how symbols might impact the life of a Sanatanis?

Can I say why a symbol may be meaningful to me and how I would use it?

Vocabulary

Dharma	Brahma	Lotus
Brahman	Vishnu	Aum
Symbols	Shiva	Supreme
Deity	Saraswati	Krishna
Ganesha	Atman	Lakshmi

