



KS1 Thinking like a Theologist

Key Knowledge:

- Sanatanis believe in a universal soul or God called Brahman. Brahman takes on many forms. Brahman, the supreme spirit, basically underpins and permeates everything. Sanatana Dharma is a MONOTHEISTIC religion. Brahman is one god in many forms.
- Sanatanis believe that there is a part of Brahman in everyone and this is called the Atman.
- Sanatanis are comfortable with using images and objects (often called murtis) to portray God. Sanatanis do not *worship* these but worship Brahman *through* them. Sanatanis are free to worship God in a variety of colourful forms.

Trimurti

Trimurti, a term meaning "having three forms," refers to the three main aspects of Brahman: Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva

Ganesha

One of the most easily identifiable Sanatani deities due to his large elephant head. He is known as the remover of obstacles and is very popular.

Lakshmi

Lakshmi is one of the most popular deities and is known as the goddess of wealth and purity.

Vocabulary

Brahman: The Supreme Power -God

Brahma: creator

Vishnu: preserver

Shiva: destroyer

Atman: part of Brahman – in every-

Learning Questions

Who is God to Sanatanis?

How can people show different parts of their personality?

How do Sanatanis understand Brahman?

What do the deities in the Trimurti reveal about Brahman?

Why do Sanatanis worship one God in many different forms?

How do beliefs about Brahman influence the lives of Sanatanis?

What can we learn from Sanatani beliefs about respecting living things?

