Muslims have 6 main beliefs

- 1. Belief in Allah as the one and only God.
- 2. Belief in angels.
- 3. Belief in the holy books.
- 4. Belief in the Prophets (special messengers). e.g. Adam, Ibrahim (Abraham), Musa (Moses), Dawud (David), Isa (Jesus).

Muhammad (peace be upon him) is the final prophet.

5. Belief in the Day of Judgement...

The day when the life of every human being will be assessed to decide whether they go to heaven or hell.

6. Belief in Predestination...

That Allah has already decided what will happen.

Muslims believe that this doesn't stop human beings making free choices

What are the five Pillars of Islam?

These are five duties that every Muslim is obliged to perform. The *five* pillars of Islam help Muslims put their faith into action.

- Shahadah: declaration of faith
 - "I bear witness that there is no god, but God; I bear witness that Muhammad is the prophet of God." By reciting this, one enters Islamic faith.
- Salah: prayer
 - Muslims are required to pray five times a day, washing themselves before prayer and facing in the direction of Mecca while praying.
- Zakat: giving a fixed proportion to charity
 Muslims are required to give away a percentage of their earnings to
 those less fortunate, regardless of their religion.
- Saum: fasting during the month of <u>Ramadan</u>
 Muslims fast for one lunar month each year, a period called
 Ramadan. During this time, Muslims reflect on their behaviour and
 strive to purify their thoughts.
- **Hajj**: pilgrimage to Mecca
 If it is financially possible, Muslims are required to travel to Mecca
 once in their lifetime.

What do Christians believe?

The Ten Commandments

- 1. You shall have no other Gods but me.
- 2. You shall not make for yourself any idol, nor bow down to it or worship it.
- 3. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.
- 4. You shall remember and keep the Sabbath day holy.
- 5. Respect your father and mother.
- 6. You must not commit murder.
- 7. You must be faithful to your husband or wife.
- 8. You must not steal.
- 9. You must not give false evidence against your neighbour.
- 10. You must not be envious of your neighbour's goods. You shall not be envious of his house nor his wife, nor anything that belongs to your neighbour.

What is the Hindu way of life?

For many Hindus there are four goals in human life (purusharthas);

- 1 **Moksha** the release of the soul (Atman) from the cycle of rebirth. The individual soul (Atman) unites with Brahman the universal soul. There are different ways to Moksha.
 - spiritual involves acquiring spiritual knowledge through yoga and meditation. devotion to god
 - working selflessly for the good of society.

How a person is reincarnated is determined by karma.

- 2 **Dharma** the code for leading one's life. Respect for elders is considered important and many consider marriage as a son's religious duty.
- 3 **Artha** the pursuit of material gain by lawful means.
- 4 **Karma** through pure acts, knowledge and devotion, you can reincarnate to a higher level. The opposite achieves the contrary result.