

Religious Studies Topic of the Month

December 2025

Why is the Guru Granth Sahib important in Sikhism?

Topic of the month aims to stimulate discussion at Key Stages 4 and 5 and bring religion to life. This can be achieved by considering religion's relevance in our vast modern world. We have selected a current news article, which you may wish to read and integrate into your teaching practice, using the discussion prompts provided.



Disclaimer:

This topic relates to a video article, produced by BBC News* entitled "Happiness and tears as Sikhs see rare outing of ancient holy book"

Introduction

This article relates to the rare display of a 300-year-old Guru Granth Sahib at Edinburgh Gurdwara.

[\(Click here to access the article\)](#)

Discussion prompts

- How does the Guru Granth Sahib function as a living embodiment of authority in Sikhism?
- Why might handwritten scriptures hold greater spiritual significance than printed versions?
- What does the ceremonial treatment of the Guru Granth Sahib reveal about Sikh beliefs regarding respect and reverence?
- How does the concept of the Guru Granth Sahib as a 'person' influence Sikh worship practices?
- Why is the preservation of sacred texts important for maintaining religious identity?

Links to topics featured in our specifications:

- **GCSE:**
 - Sikh beliefs
- **A-Level:**
 - The nature, role and status of the Guru Granth Sahib
 - Religion and society