

Year 7 Hinduism

Key words

Brahman	Hindu word for God
Trimurti	3 most important forms of God
Brahma	The creator of life
Vishnu	The preserver of life
Shiva	The destroyer of life
Karma	Good actions will lead to good things happening to you
Reincarnation	After death, the soul is reborn into another body
Caste system	A way of organising people in traditional Hindu society

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Key facts

Hinduism began in India gets its name from the area in which it started – the river **Indus**.

Hinduism is the **oldest of the world's major religions** – about 4,000 years old.

There are approximately **400,000** Hindus living in Britain today.

Hinduism is the third biggest world religion with approximately **900 million followers**.

There is no single founder for the religion, it formed as members from two different tribes, the Aryans and the Dravidians, who married each other over time.

Brahma



Vishnu

Shiva

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Beliefs about God

Hindus believe in one God (**Brahman**) who takes on over 55 million different forms.

Of the 55 million there are 3 that are considered to be the most important, these are known as the **Trimurti**.

Each member of the **Trimurti** has its own role to play in the cycle of life.

- **Brahma** creates life.
- **Vishnu** preserves (protects) life.
- **Shiva** destroys life so that it can be reincarnated.

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The boy who lived before

Cameron believed that he had been **reincarnated**, he claimed to have memories of a past life in the remote Scottish Island of Barra.

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Reincarnation

Hindus believe that when they die their soul (**atman**) becomes reborn into another life.

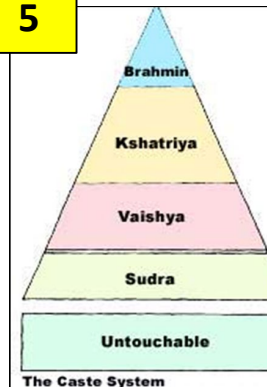
What kind of life they are born into depends on their **karma** from the previous life.

People who did lots of good things will get reborn into a good life and people who did lots of bad things will get reborn into a bad life. This is called **reincarnation**.

Wider reading and video clips

For everyone - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z73d7ty>
Stretch and challenge - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z3jpyrd>

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The caste system

In traditional Hindu society, people were organised into groups according to the **caste system**.

The people at the top of the system were believed to be 'better' than the people at the bottom.

Hindus believe that their **karma** in their present life decides which caste they are **reincarnated** into.



Karma

Karma is the idea that if you do good things then good things will happen to you and, if you do bad things, bad things will happen to you.

