

## Aspirational Vocabulary

Term	Definition
Religious Art	Art that expresses religious beliefs, stories, or values.
Symbolism	Using symbols to represent ideas or qualities in religious art.
Icon	A religious image, particularly in Eastern Christianity, used as an aid to worship.
Mandala	A spiritual and ritual symbol in Buddhism representing the universe.
Bhakti	A Hindu tradition of devotion expressed through music, dance, and art.
Chanting	A form of rhythmic speaking or singing used in worship across religions.
Sacred	Connected with God or religion and deserving respect.
Worship	Acts of religious praise, honour, or devotion.
Expression	The process of making known one's thoughts, feelings, or beliefs.
Interpretation	The action of explaining the meaning of art, music, or symbols.

## Introduction to Religious Art

- Religious art is used by believers to express faith, teach stories, and inspire worship.
- It can be found in places of worship, homes, and public spaces.
- It includes paintings, sculptures, stained glass, and more.

- Dance in African and Indigenous religions may be used in rituals, prayer, and celebration.

## Religious Art

- Religious art can reflect cultural and spiritual values.
- It helps people connect with their faith emotionally and visually.
- Religious symbols and stories are often used to communicate beliefs and inspire reflection.

## Faith through Music

- Music plays an important role in religious worship and celebration.
- Christian hymns, Islamic nasheeds, Jewish psalms, and Hindu bhajans are examples.
- Music can inspire devotion, help people remember teachings, and bring communities together.

## Big Questions

- 1) How can art be a form of religious expression?
- 2) What is the purpose of music and dance in religious worship?
- 3) How does Buddhist art help believers in their spiritual lives?
- 4) Why do religions use symbols in art?
- 5) Can creative expression be a form of worship or devotion?

## Buddhist Art

- Buddhist art includes statues of the Buddha, mandalas, and images from the Buddha's life.
- Mandalas are used in meditation and represent balance and the universe.
- Buddhist art aims to inspire calm, mindfulness, and compassion.

## Faith through Dance

- In some religions, dance is a way of expressing worship or telling sacred stories.
- Hinduism includes classical dances with spiritual meaning, such as Bharatanatyam.

