## What is an artefact?

A religious artefact is something made for a purpose, it is designed to be used in religion, used now and today, so it is not a museum piece.

Artefacts offer an insight into a religion. See these examples:



Chalice, to be used in worship.



Icon, to be sued as a focus for reflection.



A Kippah, be a witness to others.

Religions use artefacts as reminders.

In School, we use artefacts in a process of discovery, to encourage thinking about how the object symbolises an element of a religion.

An artefact needs to be filled with meaning; with facts, stories, discussion, looking at the symbolism, the craftsmanship, how it is used, & the feelings of those who use it.

We should not focus only on the externals of the artefact & its use but must ask questions like these 4 Key Questions:

- 1. What does this artefact mean to a believer?
- 2. How might it change their life?
- 3. What beliefs or concepts does this artefact point to?
- 4 How does this relate to me?
- Task: Find and give information about THREE artefacts from DIFFERENT religions.

You should: Make a sketch and answer the 4 Key Questions for each artefact.