



How do families celebrate the birth of a baby?



1. What do we mean by birth rites?

A ceremony to celebrate the birth of a baby. Each religion will celebrate in their own way.

We will reflect upon the uniqueness of each individual born in the world. How was your birth celebrated?



2. How do Muslims welcome a new baby in their families?

- The **Adhan** (a statement of faith) is whispered into the baby's right ear as soon after birth as possible. The baby is also given something sweet to taste.
- The **Aqiqah** pronounced Ak-kee-ka) is a ceremony on the 7th day. The baby's hair is shaved off and weighed when they are 7 days old. The equivalent cost in gold is given to the poor. The family enjoy a special meal and give any leftover meat to the poor because they recognise how lucky they are and want to help others.

3. How do Hindus welcome a new baby in their families?

- Honey/ghee on the tongue
- Whispers name of the God in the baby's ear
- Naming ceremony



Key Vocabulary

Rituals—a religious ceremony consisting of a series of actions performed according to a prescribed order.

Birth rites—a traditional rite performed to welcome a child, not only to the world, but also to the family and community. This is religiously practiced in Islam, among Jews, and in families in the East.

Symbolism—the use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities.

Community—a group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common.

Places/books of worship

Quran -the holy book of the Muslim religion

Mosque -the holy building of the Muslim religion

Veda -the holy book of the Hindu religion

Mandir -the holy building of the Hindu religion

4. How are the birth rites of these two religions similar and different?

We will compare and contrast the birth rites of both religions.

5. How else might families celebrate the birth of a baby?

How do families from different cultures celebrate the birth of a baby?

Applying Past Knowledge

This learning links with the lessons you had in year 1 learning about how people show they belong to a community. It also builds on what you learnt about the places of worship and the way communities welcome a baby that we explored in Autumn 1.

