

Creation Stories

Key Vocabulary

creation	The act or process of bringing something into existence.
creation story	A story that explains how the Earth and humans came into existence.
Judeo-Christian	Aspects of Judaism and Christianity that are grouped together because of similarities.
Old Testament	The first part of the Bible containing stories and writings from before the birth of Jesus.
Abrahamic religions	This is what Judaism, Christianity and Islam are collectively known as. They all trace their common origin to Abraham.
Islamic	Relating to Islam, one of the world's main religions.

	Religious Story	Meaning	Holy Book
Buddhism	The Precious Life	Life is sacred	The Tipitaka
Christianity	The Good Samaritan	Helping others	The Bible
Hinduism	When Mahabali Hanuman shattered Bhim's arrogance	Not being arrogant	The Vedas
Islam	The Sad Camel	Be kind to animals	The Quran
Judaism	Moses leads his people to the promised land	Good leadership/ helping others	The Torah
Sikhism	Guru Nanak and the Jasmine Flower	Kindness	The Guru Granth Sahib

Judeo-Christian Creation Story

In this story, God created the world in six days. On the seventh day, God rested.



Abrahamic Religions

The **Abrahamic religions** have these common beliefs: God revealed himself to Abraham. There is only one God. Their holy books contain many of the same people, places and histories.

The Islamic Creation Story

In this story, Allah created the world and the heavens, creatures, vegetation and man. There are similarities between the **Islamic creation story** and the **Judeo-Christian** one.



Key Vocabulary

Brahma	The first god in the Hindu Trimurti .
Trimurti	The three Hindu gods who are responsible for the creation , care and destruction of the world: Brahma , Vishnu and Shiva.
Guru Granth Sahib	The Sikh holy book.
Ex nihilo	The world is created from nothing.
Creation from chaos	The world is created by bringing order from disorder.
World parents	The world is created from a world parent or parents.
Emergence	Humans emerge from another world or are born into a new world.
Earth-diver	Material is retrieved from under water and is used to create land.

Hindu Creation Story

In one story of the creation of the universe, Vishnu commanded **Brahma** to create the world. **Brahma** created the heavens, earth and sky using a lotus flower. He then created animals, plants and trees and gave the animals the senses of touch, sound, movement and sight.



Buddhism

Buddhists do not believe in God, so there is no **creation story** in Buddhism.



Sikh Ideas About Creation

In the **Guru Granth Sahib**, **creation** is described, but there is no **creation story** as such. There is no sequence of events. It does not mention the time it took to create the world.



Non-Religious Creation Stories

There are many belief systems and societies that have their own stories and myths about **creation**. Some of these are written down, others are passed on through an oral storytelling tradition.

The Five Types of Creation Story

There are five different types of **creation stories** and myths:

Ex nihilo
Creation from chaos
World parents
Emergence
Earth-diver

