



**KEYWORDS**







<b>1. Judaism</b>	A religion following one God, followed by Jews.
<b>2. Heritage</b>	A person's inherited sense of family identity: traditions handed down by previous generations. Also, ethnic, cultural, or national identity.
<b>3. Star of David</b>	Symbol of Judaism.
<b>4. Monotheist</b>	Someone who believes in only one God.
<b>5. Patriarch</b>	Male leader of the community– Abraham.
<b>6. Covenant</b>	An agreement between God and the Jews.
<b>7. Promised Land</b>	Land God promised to give to Abraham and his descendants (Canaan).
<b>8. Exodus</b>	The Exodus, the departure of the Israelites from Egypt under Moses. The second book of the Bible, containing an account of the Exodus.
<b>9. Menorah</b>	Multibranch candelabra, used in the religious rituals of Judaism, and an important symbol in both ancient and modern Israel.
<b>10. Pesach</b>	Passover– Moses saved the Jews from slavery in Egypt.
<b>11. Seder Plate</b>	Symbolic foods eaten or displayed on Pesach.
<b>12. Diaspora</b>	Jews driven out of Israel to other lands.
<b>13. Rabbi</b>	A spiritual leader or religious teacher in Judaism.
<b>14. Synagogue</b>	Jewish place of worship.
<b>15. Ner Tamid</b>	'Eternal light' which burns to show God's presence, in the synagogue.
<b>16. Torah</b>	The most important holy book for Jews– is the Law of Moses.
<b>17. Ark</b>	Beautiful cupboard holding the Torah scrolls in front of the synagogue.
<b>18. Mitzvah</b>	Law or commandment.
<b>19. Kosher</b>	Food which is allowed to be eaten.
<b>20. Holocaust</b>	Also known as the Shoah. The killing of six million Jews in Nazi Germany.
<b>21. Israel</b>	Middle Eastern country regarded by Jews, Christians, and Muslims as the biblical Holy Land. Its most sacred sites are in Jerusalem.

**OVERVIEW**

**Judaism is the oldest of the world's monotheistic religions. It has around 14.6 million followers and is approximately 4,000 years old.**

**Jewish history begins in the Middle East with the covenant established between God and Abraham around 1812 BCE.**

**Jews, like Christians and Muslims, believe that there is one God who created the world and everything in it.**

<b>Where do Jews worship?</b>	Synagogues are where Jewish people go to worship. The front of a synagogue faces Jerusalem. In an orthodox synagogue, men and women sit separately, and the synagogue house is a larger room for prayers and study.
	
<b>What is the Jewish Holy Book called?</b>	The holiest Jewish book is the Torah (the first five books of the Hebrew Bible). Others include Judaism's oral tradition, the written form known as the Talmud.
	The Torah (or teachings) contains the five books revealed to Moses by God on Mount Sinai: 1. Genesis, 2. Exodus, 3. Leviticus, 4. Numbers, 5. Deuteronomy.
<b>Types of Jews</b>	The main Branches (Denominations) are Orthodox, Reform, and Conservative. The different groups of Jews exist because there is a difference of opinion about how Jewish laws should be kept in the modern world. Some Jews, including Orthodox Jews, try to keep the laws in a traditional way. Reform and Liberal Jews are happy to reinterpret the commandments for life today.
	
<b>Holy Place</b>	Jerusalem. The Western Wall is a holy place of prayer and pilgrimage sacred to the Jewish people. The wall was part of the Second Temple of Jerusalem, the center of worship in ancient Israel. The Western Wall is the last remaining wall of the Temple. It is a place of pilgrimage for Jews today.
	
<b>Major Festivals</b>	Rosh Hashanah (New Year) and Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement), Pesach (Passover), Shavuot (Feast of Weeks), Sukkot (holiday and harvest celebration). Hannukah (Festival of lights.)
	Passover takes place in March/April and remembers the Exodus from Egypt. A special meal called the Seder is shared by the family.
<b>Four Stages of Life</b>	Jews believe in four stages of life and mark them with a religious ceremony. The four are birth, becoming an adult, marriage, and death.
	

**TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS**

<b>1812 BCE</b>	<b>Abraham forms covenant with God.</b>
<b>1428 BCE</b>	<b>Israelites enslaved in Egypt.</b>
<b>1392 BCE</b>	<b>Time of Moses begins.</b>
<b>1312 BCE</b>	<b>Exodus - Israelites freed from Egypt</b>
<b>1312 BCE</b>	<b>Moses receives the 10 Commandments</b>
<b>1272 BCE</b>	<b>Conquest of 'promised land.'</b>
<b>1080 BCE</b>	<b>The Kingdom of Israel and King Saul.</b>
<b>877 BCE</b>	<b>Time of King David begins.</b>
<b>825 BCE</b>	<b>King Solomon and First Temple completed in Jerusalem.</b>
<b>422 BCE</b>	<b>Babylonians conquer Israel and first Temple is destroyed.</b>
<b>370 BCE</b>	<b>Jews return to Israel from Babylonian exile.</b>
<b>352 BCE</b>	<b>Second construction of Temple begins.</b>
<b>63 BCE</b>	<b>Romans invade Israel.</b>
<b>70 CE</b>	<b>Romans destroy second temple.</b>
<b>638 CE</b>	<b>Islamic conquest of Jerusalem.</b>
<b>1939–45</b>	<b>WW2 and the Holocaust (Shoah).</b>
<b>1948 CE</b>	<b>State of Israel set up by the United Nations in 1948, which has since expanded.</b>
<b>1967 CE</b>	<b>Six Day War.</b>