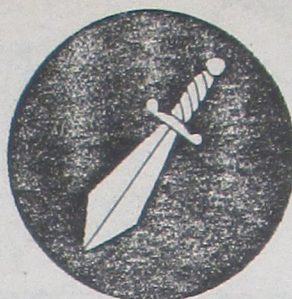




Shinto



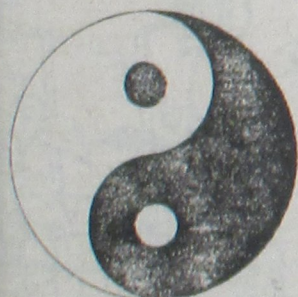
Sikhism

Shinto

Shintoism is a complex of ancient Japanese folk beliefs and rituals that developed into a national patriotic cult. In early Japan the diverse local practices did not constitute a religious system. There were groups of ritualists, abstainers and taboo experts, diviners, and reciters of tradition.

Shinto has little theology and no congregational worship. Individuals worship whenever they wish. Its unifying concept is kami inadequately translated as "god"

Modern Shinto was founded by Kamo Matachi and Motoori Norinaga in the seventeenth century. Motoori's explanation of kami included the myriad deities of heaven and earth, spirits of shrines, birds, beasts, trees, sea, mountains, "anything whatsoever which was outside the ordinary, which possessed superior power or which was awe-inspiring...evil and mysterious things if they are extraordinary and dreadful" as well as the sacred emperors, persons in authority, thunder, foxes, wolves, and peaches (sex symbols).



Taoism



Confucianism

The Sikh Religion

The Sikh religion combines elements of Islam and Hinduism. It was founded by Guru Nanak who began his teaching in 1499. Sat Nam ("true name") was Nanak's monotheistic deity.

Sikhs abide by the "five k's": -not to cut hair or beard (kes) -to wear a comb (kanga) -shorts (kach) -iron bracelet (kartha) -carry a sword (kirpan) Most Sikhs refrain from smoking and Baptism is voluntary.

The main Sikh devotion is to service: service to one's family, to Sikhism, to mankind, and finally the greatest service of all, to God through martyrdom.

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