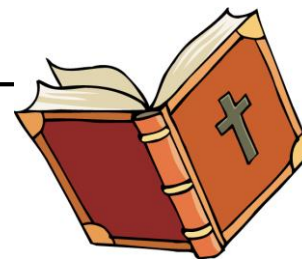


Knowledge Organiser: Human Rights and Social Justice



	Big Picture	To know what human rights are, why we should have them and how religious people may view them.
Key words		
1	Social Justice	Ensuring that society treats people fairly whether they are poor or wealthy and protects peoples human rights
2	Human Rights	The basic rights and freedoms to which all human beings should be entitled
3	Equality	The state of being equal, especially in status, rights and opportunities
4	Prejudice	Unfairly judging someone before you know them. Holding biased opinions (thoughts) about an individual or group.
5	Discrimination	Treating (the action) someone unfairly based on prejudiced thoughts about them
6	Freedom of religion	The right to believe or practise whatever religion one chooses
7	Freedom of religious expression	The right to worship and practise one's faith in whatever way one chooses
8	Disability	A physical or mental impairment which has an adverse effect on a persons ability to carry out normal day to day activities
9	Positive discrimination	Treating people more favourably because they have been discriminated against in the past
10	Poverty	Being without money, food or other basic needs of life
11	Exploitation	Misuse of power or money to get others to do things for little or unfair reward
12	Human trafficking	The illegal movement of people, typically for the purpose of forced labour or commercial sexual exploitation

Specific Religious Teachings

Christianity

"Love your neighbour as yourself" Mark 12:31

The Good Samaritan

The parable of the Sheep and the Goats Matthew 25:31-46

"Faith without deeds is useless." James 2:20

"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male or female for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:28

"Women should remain silent in the churches. They are not allowed to speak...for it is disgraceful for a woman to speak in the church." Corinthians 14:34-35)

"If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone." Romans 12:18

"It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven." Mark 10:25

"No one can serve two masters...you cannot serve both God and money." Matthew 6:33

"For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil." Timothy 6:10

Islam

"We created you all from a single man and a single woman and made you into nations and tribes so that you should get to know one another." Quran 49:13

"Beware of greed for its ready poverty." Hadith

"Do not charge your brother interest, whether on money or food or anything else that may earn interest."

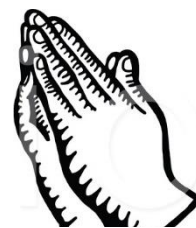
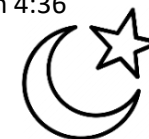
"Cure poverty with charity and giving generously." Hadith

"Be good to your parents, to relatives, to orphans, to the needy, to neighbours near and far." Quran 4:36

"All people are as equal as the teeth of a comb." Hadith

"Allah does not look upon your outward appearance, he looks upon your hearts and deeds". Hadith

"Anyone, male or female who does good works and is a believer, will enter paradise." Quran 4:124



Human Rights and Responsibilities

Human Rights were set up by the UN in 1948.

Some examples to use are: right to vote, right to education, right to healthcare, right to have freedom of speech, right to practice your own religion.



Positive discrimination

Discrimination can be positive as well as negative. Positive discrimination is used to promote opportunities for minority groups in society so that those groups are better represented in public services. For example, the Police Service may advertise specifically for black, Asian and gay officers so that more people are represented from other communities and also trying to promote more equality.

Types of prejudice:

- Sexuality
- Racism
- Disability
- Gender

The Law in the UK

The law is there to protect people from discrimination and make it illegal in the UK. The following Acts have all been introduced:

- 1976 Race Relations Act
- The Commission for Racial Equality
- Equal Pay Act
- Sex Discrimination
- Disability Discrimination Act
- Equality Act 2010



Religious Freedom

In the UK the right to religious freedom is protected. Freedom of religious expression is the right of any person to follow the religion of their choice.

No religion teaches intolerance. The freedom to believe and worship in public or private, to change religion or not to follow any religion is a fundamental human right.

The status and roles of women in religion:

In some Christian denominations women are not allowed to have important positions. Catholics do not support women becoming priests. They argue that men and women are equal but have different roles. Jesus chose male disciples and the tradition of males leaders has continued in their church. However in Britain in 1993 the Church of England allowed women to become priests. This was very controversial and led to some Christians moving churches.

Although men and women are equal in Islam they are not the same. Muslims believe that they have been designed by God for different purposes and have different roles. women are allowed to work but their first priority must be looking after their husbands and their family. Men are expected to work and provide for their family.



Social Justice – Wealth and Poverty



Causes of poverty

- Natural disaster/climate
- War
- Corrupt governments
- Lack of education
- Debt
- Unfair trade/poor wages
- Lack of employment

Poverty in the UK

Housing problems and homelessness is a real issue in the UK and more people are in need than ever before. Charities such as **Shelter** and **The Salvation Army** work all year round to:

- Rebuild lives – drug and alcohol rehabilitation
- Offering food parcels
- Youth clubs

Shelter



Helping the Poor

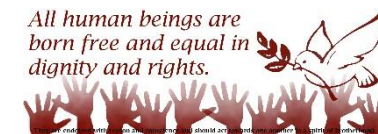
In the UK benefits are paid by the government to help those in financial difficulty. This includes support for those who are sick, unemployed, homeless or disabled. There are a number of religious charities such as Christian Aid and Islamic Relief that raise money and awareness for those living in poverty in the UK and around the world.

Exploitation

Poor people are often vulnerable to exploitation. This means the misuse of power or money to get others to do things for little or unfair reward such as:

- Unfair pay/wages
- Excessive interest on loans
- People trafficking

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.



Responsibilities of wealth in Christianity

Christians believe that there is nothing wrong with wealth itself. It is how we use it that matters. We can use it for good and bad. Christians should not become greedy or selfish that they forget God or forget to love their neighbour. Christians believe that by sharing they are following the teachings of the bible and Jesus.

Responsibilities of wealth in Islam

In Islam every Muslim must donate 2.5% of their wealth to the poor. This is part of the Five Pillars of Islam – the second Pillar is called Zakat which means charity in Arabic. To give extra money voluntarily is known as Sadaqah. Charging interest in Islam is forbidden in Islam as this could mean that the poor get poorer while the rich get richer. This is seen as wrong and unjust.