

Transcendent

God is not something which can't be seen or touched. God is outside of the universe and far beyond human understanding. God is described as being above all – transcendent.



Brahman

Hindus believe in One Supreme Spirit, or Power called Brahman. Brahman can take the form of many gods and goddesses, also known as deities.

Trimurti

Hindus believe that Brahman is beyond their understanding, so the different gods and goddesses help them to understand various aspects of Brahman. Three of the Hindu gods are known as the Trimurti (Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva)

Brahma
(Creator)

Vishnu
(Preserver)

Shiva
(Destroyer)



The Nature of Allah

Muslims believe that Allah:

- is the one true God - all worship and praise.
- is directed towards him should be treated with respect as he is the supreme being.
- is the creator, designer and sustainer of the world.

Allah has many different descriptions and it is hard to represent him in a few words (Islam doesn't allow any images of Allah or the Prophet Muhammad), so the Qur'an teaches that Allah has **99 names**. Each of the 99 names relates to a **particular attribute of Allah**, making him easier to understand and relate to. Al-Hakim (The Wise), Al-Hakam (The Judge) and Al-Rahim (The Most Merciful) are examples of Allah's 99 names in the Qur'an.

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Does God Exist?

In religion the words with the pre-fix '**omni**' are often used to describe God:

Omnipresent - Always present



Omnipotent - All powerful




Omnibenevolent - All loving



Omniscient - All knowing



 **Theist** - Someone who believes in God.



Agnostic - Someone who isn't sure if God exists.



Atheist - Someone who doesn't believe in God

For atheists, the beginning of the universe and the human race can be explained by science:

Big Bang - about 13.8 billion years ago the whole Universe was a very small, extremely hot and dense region. From this tiny point, the whole Universe expanded outwards to what exists today.

Evolution - f living things have evolved from simple life forms over a period of time. The Earth is about 4.5 billion years old and there is scientific evidence to suggest that life on Earth began more than three billion years ago.