

Year 4 Spring 1 – Sikhism

Key facts

- Hola Mohalla, also called Hola, is a three day long Sikh festival that takes place on the first day of the lunar month of Chet which usually falls in March.
- "Hola Mohalla" stands for "mock fight".
- Guru Gobind Singh, the tenth Sikh Guru built upon the story of Prahlad and founded the festival of Hola Mohalla.
- This festival is a time for Sikhs to practise their military exercises and hold mock battles.
- During this festival, processions are organised in the form of army type columns accompanied by war-drums and standard-bearers, who march from one gurdwara to another.
- During the 3-day festival many activities take place such as mock battles, exhibitions/displays of weapons, bareback horse-riding and various other feats of bravery. This is followed by kirtan, (music and poetry competitions).



Guru Gobind Singh



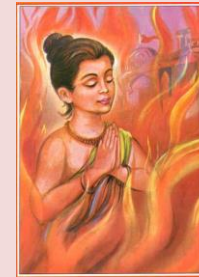
Hola Mohalla celebrations



A column of Sikhs



Bareback horse-riding



Prahlad in the flames

Vocabulary

- gurdwara
- Hola Mohalla
- Prahlad
- Chet
- Guru Gobind Singh
- military
- Gatka
- kirtan

We are thinking about:

Why do Sikhs celebrate Hola Mohalla?

How do they celebrate Hola Mohalla?

Do other religions have important festivals?