# Faith symbols and their meanings

## Bahá’í: The Nine Pointed Star
A simple nine-pointed star is generally used by Bahá’ís as a symbol of their Faith. The number nine has significance in the Revelation. Nine years after the announcement of the Báb in Shiraz, Bahá'u'lláh received the intimation of His mission in the dungeon in Teheran. Nine, as the highest single-digit number, symbolizes completeness. Since the Bahá’í Faith claims to be the fulfillment of the expectations of all prior religions, this symbol, as used for example in nine-sided Bahá’í temples, reflects that sense of fulfillment and completeness.

## Buddhism: The Dharma Wheel
The Dharma Wheel is the symbol of Buddhist life, the endless circle of birth and rebirth, and also represents the Buddhist teaching or Dharma. The Buddha's first sermon is called "Turning the Wheel of the Dharma." The wheel often has eight spokes, which stand for the noble Eightfold Path of Buddhism.

## Christianity: The Cross
The Cross (sometimes known as 'the crucifix') is the main symbol of Christianity. It serves as a reminder of the sacrifice that Jesus made on the cross. It emphasizes not only his obedient suffering, undertaken for the salvation of humanity, but the power of his risen life.

## Hinduism: The OM
The OM represents the letters A U M in Hindi, which is the sound of the sun. A – to create, U – to preserve, M – to destroy. The three letters represent the trinity of God in Hindu Dharma (Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva). They also represent the states of wakening, dream and deep sleep and the three planes of existence: heaven, earth and the netherworld.

## Islam: The Crescent Moon and Star
The crescent moon and star Although Islam has no symbol doctrinally associated with it, the symbol of the crescent moon and star (hilal in Arabic) is now widely used to symbolize Islam. This symbol has no religious significance in Islam and Muslims do not hold the crescent and star to be holy or sacred. The crescent represents progress and the five pointed star, light and knowledge. The moon is the appointed sign of times, seasons, fast and feast, and governs the Islamic calendar. The five points of the star can represent the five pillars of Islam, the essential elements of the Muslim faith.
**Judaism: Star of David**
The six pointed Star of David is representative of the Jewish religion and symbolizes God's rule over the universe in all six directions: north, south, east, west, up and down. Originally, the Hebrew name Magen David -- literally "Shield of David" -- poetically referred to God. It acknowledges that King David, the military hero won the wars by the support and faith of the Almighty.

**Sikhism: The Khanda and the Chakkar**
The Khanda is the insignia of the Sikh faith. The central doubled-edged sword, used by Guru Gobind Singh to prepare Amrit, is referred to as Khanda. It signifies divine strength, truth, freedom, justice, and the Sikh belief in One God. The inner circle, Chakkar, represents the Oneness of God who is without beginning or end, or the Oneness of humanity. This Chakkar was used by Sikhs as a war weapon against injustice and oppression. Guru Gobind Singh himself and all his Sikh warriors wore the Chakkar on their turbans as part of the battle dress. The Chakkar is surrounded by two swords called Kirpans which symbolise the twin concept of Miri (temporal sovereignty) and Piri (spiritual sovereignty) introduced by Guru Hargobind, to represent the equal emphasis that a Sikh must place on spiritual aspirations as well as on obligation to society.

**Unitarian Universalism: The Flaming Chalice**
Flaming Chalice is the official symbol of the Unitarian Universalist (UU) Service Committee and Association. The flaming chalice combines two archetypes-a drinking vessel and a flame-and as a religious symbol has different meanings to different beholders. Officially or unofficially, it functions as a logo for UUs' believers and is a focal point for worship. The flaming chalice, like UU faith, stands open to receive new truths that pass the tests of reason, justice, and compassion.

**Wicca: The Pentacle or Pentagram**
The pentacle or pentagram is a five-point star surrounded by a circle. It is the symbol of the Wiccan faith, and represents the five elements: Air, Earth, Fire, Water and Spirit. The pentagram has long been associated with mystery and magic. It is the simplest form of star shape that can be drawn unicursally - with a single line - hence it is sometimes called the Endless Knot. It is believed to be a potent protection against evil and demons, hence a symbol of safety, and was sometimes worn as an
amulet for happy homecoming. The old folk-song: "Green Grow the Rushes,O!" refers to the use of the pentagram above doors and windows in the line: "Five is the symbol at your door." Today the symbol is an ubiquitous symbol of neo-pagans with much depth of magical and symbolic meaning.

Aboriginal Spirituality: Walking in a Good Way

With the help of the creator and honoring our culture and traditional ways, we will bring all of our Nations together on a journey walk to promote: Wisdom; Love; Respect; Bravery; Honesty; Humility; and Truth.

With an army of helpers, we will achieve these Teachings through Gatherings, Sharing Knowledge and Creating Awareness of the issues of Trauma – Mental well-being (Health) – Addictions that plagues our brothers and sisters.