

Fact Sheet: Culture vs Religion presented by the Culture & Ethnic Diversity Network



In this fact sheet produced by the Culture & Ethnic Diversity Network we define Culture and Religion and explore the differences between these two terms.

 **What does culture mean to you?**
 Wordcloud Poll  23 responses  13 participants



The Difference between Culture and Religion

Culture refers to the broad range of shared beliefs, values, customs, behaviours, arts, etc., that characterise a particular group or society.

Religion on the other hand is a system of beliefs, practices and rituals that relate to the worship of a higher power or powers. Religion focuses on spiritual and unexplained aspects, providing answers to existential questions and offering a framework for understanding the divine.

Both Culture and Religion provide individuals with a sense of identity, belonging, and purpose but the two terms are not interchangeable.

Attribute	Culture	Religion
Beliefs	Varies greatly across different cultures	Specific set of beliefs and doctrines
Practices	Customs, rituals, and traditions	Religious rituals and ceremonies
Values	May differ based on cultural norms	Derived from religious teachings
Language	Unique languages associated with different cultures	Religious texts may be written in specific languages
Art and Architecture	Varies in style and form across different cultures	Religious art and architecture often reflect religious themes
Social Structure	Varies based on cultural norms and traditions	May influence social structure and hierarchy
Geographical Influence	Culture can be influenced by geography	Religion may have specific geographical origins or influences
Symbolism	Symbolic representations vary across cultures	Religious symbols hold specific meanings
Impact on Daily Life	Culture shapes daily life practices and traditions	Religion often guides daily life practices and moral decisions



Informative Videos:

Religion and Culture – What’s the difference: <https://youtu.be/PIDlx0cD9k4?si=zl-Y3JPfDa6dAAwq>

What is Culture: <https://youtu.be/fL5WzpuvXfY?si=WwvfgND2w986q1fe>