

## Judaism

**Torah** The Torah is the religious document which contains the first five books of Moses. These are Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. It provides the law and wisdom of Jewish Scripture.

**Rabbi** A rabbi is a teacher of Jewish law who is trained for religious leadership

**Kippah /kipot** A kippah is a small circular piece of material like a cap, which Jewish males wear as a sign of devotion to God. **Tallit** A tallit is a prayer shawl with a tassel fringe. The tassels remind the person wearing it of all the commandments they should live by.

**Shabbat** Shabbat is the seventh day of the Jewish week which is a Friday. The family gather together for a special meal after the sun has gone down. The meal begins with prayers. Shabbat lasts until one hour after sundown on Saturday. It is a time of rest, prayer and celebration.

**Star of David** The Star of David is a symbol which has six points, each representing a differ-

ent aspect of something important in the Jewish beliefs. These six aspects are creation, revelation (the revealing of God's will), redemption (to be saved from sin), Man, the World and God

**Hanukkah** Hanukkah is known as the festival lights. It lasts for eight days and is celebrated either in November or December.

**Menorah** The Menorah is a special candle with eight branches used in Jewish festivals and celebrations. It is representative of the burning bush on Mount Sinai as seen by Moses and is a symbol of light, wisdom and Divine inspiration.

**Seder plate** The Seder plate is used during the festival of Passover. Special foods are placed on the plate to remind Jewish people of the time when Moses led the Jews from slavery to freedom.

**Passover** Passover is also called Pesach. It is a Jewish festival which is celebrated in spring and lasts for seven or eight days. It is held to remember those who Moses saved from slavery

**Matzos** Matzo is unleavened bread. This means it has not risen and remains flat. It is eaten during the festival of Passover as a reminder of what the Jewish slaves ate as Moses led them

out of slavery.

**Synagogue** A synagogue is a Jewish building of worship to God with a large room for prayer and smaller rooms for study.

