



HANDBOOK OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

1987
REVISED 2004



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**

**HANDBOOK OF
RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES**

**1987
FIRST REVISION 1995
SECOND REVISION 2004**

HANDBOOK OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

INTRODUCTION

This desk manual has been prepared for the use of chaplains, administrators and other staff of the Washington State Department of Corrections. It is not meant to be an exhaustive study of all religions. It does provide a brief background of most religions having offender followers in Washington prisons. This manual is intended to be followed as practice and procedure for Washington State Department of Corrections institutions. It does not confer theological expertise. It will, however, provide correctional workers with the information necessary to deal with the religious problems commonly encountered. It can also assist those whose contact with other faiths have been minimal in expanding their appreciation of religious diversity. The institution chaplains are the institutions religious authority for the interpretation and implementation of the religious program.

Recognizing that within every faith there are degrees and varieties of expression, worship and practice, the information in this document is reliable to the best of our knowledge and ability. Each section in the manual will be reviewed and updated at regular intervals. This will allow the addition of relevant material from knowledgeable religious authorities to make it more accurate and usable. Any changes or additions to this handbook will be addressed to the Washington State Department of Corrections Religious Program Manager who will only make changes after discussion and collaboration with Washington State Department of Corrections Chaplain, Religious advisors and Correctional Administrators.

Law and policy establish the right to a reasonable expression of faith. Each section concludes with a listing of "Requirements for Offenders in Prison" for that religious group.

Special thanks to Robert Lynn the former Religious Program Manager for the Washington State Department of Corrections who gathered the material together for the original Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices. Special thanks are also extended to the faith groups represented, the United States Department of the Army and the Canadian Prison Chaplaincy Services for the use of some material. After each section was completed, it was sent to an authority from each religious group represented in order to ensure accuracy. Comments from these authorities have been incorporated. Members of the Department of Corrections' Religious Services Advisory Committee acted as consultants regarding their specific faiths. Feedback from Departmental custody and treatment staff was very helpful and has been used.

This document has been prepared by the Washington State Department of Corrections Chaplains in collaboration with Religious Advisors and Correctional Administrators to assist in the administration of established policy for spiritual growth of offenders in Washington prisons. The Office of Correctional Operations stands ready to help correctional staff deal with spiritual problems which extend beyond the scope of this handbook.

This document was revised May 2004.

Daniel L. Williams
Religious Program Manager
Washington State
Department of Corrections

RELIGIOUS PROGRAM MANAGER

Within the Department of Corrections in Washington state there is a position for Religious Program Manager. This person is the Administrative Chaplain for the Department, who plays a key role in religious activities throughout the Department and acts as the Departments link to the religious community at large.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A Religious Services Advisory Committee composed of community religious leaders from a variety of religious practice provides a channel for communication and constructive action with regard to religious matters between the Department of Corrections, the community, and offenders. The Religious Program Manager staffs this committee. Members of the Religious Services Advisory Committee assisted with the production of the Handbook.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES CHAPLAIN STAFF

Each prison in the state has chaplains and religious volunteers who work with inmates to ensure that every offender has the opportunity to practice the religious beliefs of his/her choice. These dedicated members of the religious services chapel teams work diligently to implement the intent of the Religious Freedom Policy (560.200) that governs all religious activities in Washington prisons.

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Bahai

History/Background

The Bahai faith began in Persia (Iran), when a young Muslim merchant, Mirza Ali Muhammed began in 1844 to preach that the Day of God was at hand. He proclaimed himself to be the Bab or Gate. One greater than himself would initiate a new age of peace and justice. There was a hint that this would be the 12th Imam, since 1844 was also the 1000th anniversary of the disappearance of the 12th Imam. Mirza later announced that he was the returned Imam Mahdi. In 1848 he formally announced that Babism was a new religion. He was arrested and executed by a firing squad in 1850.

His successor was Mirza Husayn-Ali Nuri (known as Bahauallah, 'the Glory of God'). In 1863 he announced that he was the one whom the Bab foretold. He lived until 1892. He appointed his eldest son, Abdul-Baha to lead the Community and to interpret the Bahai writings. Abdul Baha in turn appointed his eldest grandson, Shoghi Effendi, as his successor, the Guardian of the Cause. The word Bahai derives from Baha ("glory" or Splendor") and means a follower of Bahauallah.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

Bahais believe that in every age God sends messengers called "Manifestations of God" Each messenger builds upon the Messages of those gone before. Although each is different, all are animated by the Spirit of God. This is basic to their belief in the oneness of God, the oneness of religion, and the oneness of mankind.

Bahai teachings encourage good character and the development of spiritual qualities, such as honesty, trustworthiness, compassion and justice. Other goals are the eradication of prejudices, and universal education.

Healthy living is important to Bahais; alcohol and drugs are forbidden, smoking is discouraged and vegetarianism is recommended. They also discourage asceticism and celibacy. They support strict monogamy, traditional family values being central to their teachings. Women are equal and there is no veiling or seclusion. Divorce is permitted but strongly discouraged. If divorce is contemplated, couples must spend at least one year living apart and attempt to reconcile. If divorce is still desired after that year, it is then granted. This year of "patience", is supervised by the local Spiritual Assembly. It also forbids: killing, stealing, lying, adultery and promiscuity, gambling, alcoholic drinks, drug abuse, gossip and backbiting. It strives and stresses the importance of: honesty, trustworthiness, chastity, service to others, purity of motive, generosity, deeds over words, unity, and work as a form of worship.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Though Bahais teach that the purpose of human life is to know and to worship God, they have no formal creed, no rituals or ceremonies, Bahais do not have a priesthood. Meetings are planned by the local community. The meetings include devotional services, study classes, social events, and the observance of holy days. One may be from another religion and still be able to participate in all activities. However, when one becomes an "enrolled" Bahai, he must sever his membership in another religion.

For Bahais, the purpose of life is to know God and to love him, and to progress in the spiritual life. The tools for these are prayer and meditation.

Holy Books

Bahai Prayers: A selection of prayers Revealed by Bahauallah, the Bab and Abdul-Baha Writing of Bahauallah, (regarded as equal to the Bible or Quran).
Al-Bayan, The Hidden Words, The Kitabi-Iqan or the Book of Certitude, The Seven Valleys, Kitabi-Aqdas or the Most Holy Book

Holy Days/Festivals

April 20 th	Declaration of Bahauallah.
May 23 rd	Declaration of Bab.
May 29 th	Ascension of the Bahauallah.
July 9 th	Martyrdom of the Bab.
October 20 th	Birth of the Bab.
November 12	Birth of the Bahauallah.
November 26 th	Day of the Covenant.
November 28 th	Ascension of the Abdula-Baha.
March 2 nd	First Day of Bahai Fast.
March 20 th	Final Day of the Bahai Fast.

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith and practice.

Fast Days

March 2nd – 20th - The Fast - observed from sunrise to sunset, all abstain from eating or drinking.

Dietary Restrictions

None required by faith and practice.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

Bahais teach that the purpose of human life is to know and to worship God. They have no formal creed, no rituals or ceremonies. Bahais do not have a priesthood. Meetings are planned by the local community. The meetings include devotional services, study classes, discussions, social events, and the observance of holy days.

Sources:

The New Believers, Sects, "Cults," and Alternative Religions, David V. Barrett, Cassel & Co. 2001, London

Pamphlet, Welcome to the Bahai House of Worship

The Joy of Sects, Peter Occhiogrosso, Doubleday, 1994, New York

Pamphlet, The Promise of World Peace to the Peoples of the World, a statement by the universal House of Justice

Pamphlet, The Vision of Race Unity, America's Most Challenging Issue, A Statement by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahais of the United States, 1991 Bahai Publishing Trust, Wilmette, Il 60091

Pamphlet, One Common Faith, World Peace Through the Oneness of Religion

The Light of Unity, Healing Racism (Selctions from the Sacred writing of the Bahai Faith) 1998, 2000 Bahai Publishing Trust, Wilmette, Il 60091

The Bahais, A Profile of the Bahai Faith and its Worldwide Community, 1992, Bahai International Commu7nity, Reprinted 1999, (Publication of the Office of Public Information, Bahai International Community)

REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

Bahai Prayers: A selection of prayers Revealed by Bahauallah, the Bab and Abdul-Baha

Writing of Bahauallah, (regarded as equal to the Bible or Quran). *Al-Bayan, The Hidden Words, The Kitabi-Iqan or the Book of Certitude, The Seven Valleys, Kitabi-Aqdas or the Most Holy Book*

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

Bahai's should be given the opportunity to observe their holy days and participate in group services if they are conducted on those holy days.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith and practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

Bahai's should be given the opportunity for individual pray and meditation.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

None required by faith and practice.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

None required by faith and practice.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

Though Bahais teach that the purpose of human life is to know and to worship God, they have no formal creed, no rituals or ceremonies, Bahais do not have a priesthood.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

BUDDHISM

History/Background

The Buddhist religion began in India in the sixth Century B.C., based on the experiences of Siddhartha Gautama through which he became Buddha, The Enlightened One. The events of his life provide the basic pattern, known as the Three Jewels, upon which all Buddhist communities have been built; this pattern consist of Buddha, the Enlightened One; *Dharma*, the Teaching of the Path or the Law; and the Sangha, the assembly of followers.

Through the efforts of disciples, Buddhism spread from India throughout most of Asia. Eventually, it came to North America and Europe, where it has grown tremendously in the past century. Today, about six percent of the people on earth – some 257 million – follow some aspect of this many-faceted religious philosophy. Their number is steadily increasing due to global migration patterns and interest by westerners.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

Buddhism is not so much a set of rules as a technique of action. Buddhism is devoted to the elimination of pain and human suffering through the Middle Path between the extremes of self-indulgence and self-denial, which shows the path of right living and mental discipline. The Middle Path is summarized in the *Dharma*, the teaching of the Four Noble Truths.

1. The Noble Truth of Suffering. Existence is characterized by suffering; suffering is universal.
2. The Noble Truth of the Cause of Suffering. Suffering has a cause that is rooted in ignorance, desire, want, and craving for personal, selfish satisfaction and gratification.
3. The Noble Truth of the cessation of Suffering. Once this craving and attachment for satisfaction and gratification is completely ended, forsaken and relinquished, all suffering will cease, and there will be release and detachment from suffering. Sorrow and suffering can be eliminated, as experienced by the Buddha.
4. The Noble Truth of the Eightfold Path: an end to suffering can be achieved by following the Buddha's eight trainings or paths. These include: right (or skillful) understanding or view; right thought; right or skillful speech; right action (following the precepts); right livelihood; right effort; right mindfulness or attentiveness and right concentration through meditation.

There are three major schools of Buddhism – The Theravada (Hinayana), the Mahayana and the Vajrayana. Theravadan Buddhism exists today in Burma, Thailand, Cambodia, Sri Lanka and, to some extent, in Viet Nam. It is a school that emphasizes the teachings of the early sutras and is predominantly a monastic school. A lay version

of this, called Vipassana or Insight Meditation, is popular in the U.S. and Canada. The Mahayana is principally derived from the cultures of China, Korea and Japan and thinks of itself as a broader, more liberal interpretation of the Buddha's teaching. This stream of Buddhism originated in India, then moved to China where it combined with Confucianism and Taoism to produce the Zen and Shin or "Pure Land" sects. When Mahayana moved from India to Tibet, it combined with indigenous elements of the Bon

animist religion to produce a new school called Vajrayana or tantric Buddhism, which is active in Tibet, Mongolia and Bhutan. Tibetan practice has also made its way to North America.

A significant development within the Mahayana was the concept of the Bodhisattva, a term referring to an "awakened" person, who is almost at the stage of Buddhahood or being fully awakened. Instead of passing into nirvanic bliss, the Bodhisattva chooses to remain with other humans to bring all beings toward awakening. The idea is that eventually, everyone has to be brought to the "other shore" of nirvana.

To have "right view" in Buddhist terms means that a person believes in or experiences what are called "the three marks." These are: impermanence (annica), suffering (dukkha) and the absence of permanent soul or "self" (anatta).

Anicca

- Anicca is an important concept, means all existence and phenomena change every second. Everything dies momentarily. Such a prospect causes suffering. The concept, however, is neither pessimistic or nihilistic. It is a teaching that says that all things are forever in flux and that change, or impermanence, is the only constant.

Dukkha

- Dukkha covers all that we understand about pain, illness, disease – physical and mental – including disharmony, discomfort, or in a philosophic sense, the awareness of incompleteness or insufficiency. Dukkha is dissatisfaction and discontent, the opposite of all that we mentally embrace as well-being, perfection, wholeness, and bliss.

Anatta

- Anatta, or non-ego, teaches that all existence and phenomena in this world ultimately do not have substantial reality. There is no soul. There is no individual, permanent self.

Through practicing the Eightfold Path, the Buddhist practitioner can reach nirvana, a state in which all craving, hatred and ignorance (known as the three poisons) have been extinguished. The goal of Buddhism is to liberate humans (and all sentient beings) from these poisons by experiencing the Four Noble Truths and practicing the Eightfold Path. A release from suffering, an awakening, can only be experienced by a combination of ethical commitment and mindful, meditative practice.

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The ethics of Buddhism are: you must not kill any living thing; you must not take what has not been given to you; you must not violate chastity; you must not lie; and you must not slander or use harsh or frivolous language. Buddhism asserts that human deliverance lies firmly in one's own hands, and only the Buddha and the dharma (teaching) which he proclaimed can point the way.

Related to this concept is karma, the Buddhist law of cause and effect. The present is always determined by the past yet the future remains free. Every action we make depends on what we have come to be at the time, but what we are coming to be at any time depends on the direction of the will today. Hence everyone is free within the limitations of one's self-centered karma, which is the result of past action of body, speech and thought.

The Buddha left five Sila, (trainings or precepts) for the lay person to follow. Some traditions take 10 precepts, others 13. Monks and nuns take 200+ precepts when they ordain. But the five oldest, historical lay precepts are:

- I will take up training of not harming or killing.
- I will take up the practice of not taking what is not offered.
- I will take up the practice of not abusing sexuality.
- I will practice gentle, truthful speech.
- I will take up the training of not abusing intoxicants.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Private

The individual Buddhist is expected to have a shrine or altar in the home which may be surrounded by decorations, utensils, flowers, candles or oil lamps. There is always a Buddha or Bodhisattva image or painting on the altar with an incense receptacle. Meditation or sutra chanting is done in front of the altar daily. (Sutras are Buddhist scriptures, most of which are said to be the words of the historical Buddha-but many were written centuries after his death. Buddhist meditation beads are widely used. The rosaries, sometimes referred to as malas, are usually of 108, 54 or 27 beads. The mala is worn on the left wrist in daily life and can encircle the hands in some meditation rites. The beads can be used to count the breath or to repeat invocations or mantras.

Corporate

Buddhist gather weekly-on Sunday in the west-and may have Dharma study, a service consisting of meditation, chanting and a Dharma talk. Once a month, many sanghas (the Buddhist community) hold repentance ceremonies or memorial services to remember the dead.

Holy Books

The *Sutras* are the Buddhist Holy Texts. The *Sutra* is the 84,000 volumes containing the words of the Buddha. Each group/school has chosen its own *Sutra* (usually one to three volumes of the 84,000) that most typifies its teaching. It is recommended, but not required, the individual Buddhist have a personal copy of the *Sutra* of his/her group.

Holy Days/Festivals

Within the schools of Buddhism there are a number of common festivals observed by all groups.

In the Mahayana (northern School) these common festivals are:

Shusho-e	New Year's Day. Celebrated on January 1.
Nehan-e - Nirvana Day	the day the Buddha passed away. Celebrated on February 5 th .
Hanamatsuri/Flower Festival	The birthday of the Buddha. Celebrated on April 8.
O-Bon-e	Memorial Day-to express gratitude to those who have passed on the Buddha's teaching, and to rejoice in the all-embracing compassion and salvation offered by Buddha. Celebrated on July 15.
BodhiDay	Enlightenment Day-Commemorating the enlightenment of the Buddha. Celebrated on December 8.
Joya-e	New Year's Eve Day, celebrated on December 31.

In the Theravada (southern school) these common festivals are:

Vesak	The day commemorating Buddha's birth, enlightenment and death. Celebrated on the day of the full moon in May.
Dharma-vijaya/Poson	Commemorating the preaching of the Dharma to foreign countries, especially Sri Lanka. Celebrated on the day of the full moon in April.
Dharma-chakka/Asalha Puja	Commemorating the first proclamation of the Dharma by the Buddha. Celebrated on the day of the full moon in July.

Japanese Buddhists celebrate:

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Higan-e	Equinox Day. Celebrated on March 21 and September 23.
Shinran Shonin	The Memorial Day commemorating the death of Shinran Shonin, on January 16 th .

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith and practice.

Fast Days

None required by faith and practice.

Dietary Restrictions

As in the differences in holidays, different Buddhist communities follow dietary practices based on cultural origin. Monks are expected to be completely vegetarian, though some in Korea, Japan and China are more lenient on themselves. Meat, fish or fowl would never be served at any public Buddhist event. In the Tibetan-Mongolian tradition, both lay people and monks eat meat, since fruits and vegetables were hard to come by in high barren locations.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

In most of the Chinese descended sects (China, Korea, Vietnam, Japan) monks reside in a monastery for training, then some become "priests" and serve lay communities in village temples. In Japan, priests are allowed to marry. In the west, they may be referred to as Reverend. In the Theravadan tradition, monks never marry and, in the west, are referred to as Venerable (Ven.) Tibetan sangha's are also usually led by monks, though in the West there are many lay teachers in all the traditions.

Sources:

Religions by; Myrtle Langley; Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices; *Inmate Religious Beliefs and Practices* By: Us Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons

REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

The Sutras are the Buddhist holy texts. The individual Buddhist should have a personal copy of the Sutra of his/her group.

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

No mandatory requirements but there are eleven days observed by Buddhists for focusing on Buddhist heritage and practice. The observance of these special days is encouraged but not required if it would cause undue hardship on other people or create a security problem.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith and practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

There are no mandatory requirements. However, daily chanting of the Sutra along with the burning of a small amount of incense is encouraged for thirty minutes in the morning and in the evening.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

Group worship is not mandatory but it is generally practiced each Sunday in the form of chanting, sermon and singing of Buddhist songs.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

No mandatory requirement. However, those from the southern school generally follow ovo-lacto vegetarian diets.

Those offenders who meet the requirements of DOC 560.200 will be provided an Ovo-lacto vegetarian diet.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

Access to an authorized Buddhist lay teacher, minister/priest.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

Christian

Anglican/Episcopal

Eastern or Greek Orthodox

Interdenominational, Non-Denominational Protestant

Messianic

Roman Catholic

Seventh Day Adventist

The Church of Christ Scientist
(Christian Science)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter
Day Saints
(Mormon)

Unity School of Christianity

World Wide Church of God

Anglican/Episcopal

History/Background

The Anglican (British) Church was planted before 200 A.D.. Christians from nearby Gaul (France) were thought to have brought Christianity over. By the year 314 A.D. there were British Bishops in attendance at the Council of Arles. In 325 A.D. they gave formal assent to the decisions of the Council of Nicea. Over two hundred years later Pope Gregory of Rome sent missionaries led by Augustine. Conversions of the Saxons followed, beginning with the queen. Later, Augustine was installed as the first Archbishop of Canterbury. About the year 405 A.D. Patrick, consecrated bishop in France, began his great work in Ireland. The Celtic Church (Irish) was strongly monastic. Missionary work began from such places as Iona and Lindisfarne. Aidan went from the island of Iona around 700 A.D. to England. He was successful in his mission work among pagans who had invaded the country. Theodore, Archbishop of Canterbury was responsible in uniting the British, Latin and Celtic missions in England into the Church of England.

During the Middle Ages King Henry VIII led the Anglican Church in freeing itself from Rome. The Pope's authority was formally renounced in 1534 by convocation of English clergy "The Bishop of Rome hath not by Scripture any greater authority in England than any other foreign Bishop." Reforms soon followed. Work began on an English Prayer Book in 1544. A complete Book of Common Prayer was published in 1549. The genius behind this first Prayer Book was Thomas Crammer, Archbishop of Canterbury. A second Prayer Book, with minor modifications became available in 1552.

Today, the Anglican Communion, of which the Church of England is a part, considers itself to be reformed Catholic.

It is to be found in many countries of the world under national churches who recognize the spiritual primacy of the Archbishop of Canterbury. There are over 79 million Christian who call themselves Anglican. In the United States the church is known as the Protestant Episcopal Church.

The Episcopal Church traces its beginnings to Jamestown, Virginia. In 1607 the first permanent English Colony celebrated the Mass or Holy Communion. After America became independent from England the church elected its own bishop. More than two-thirds of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were members of the Episcopal Church.

The Episcopal Church in the United States of America is led by a primate. It has recently concluded an agreement of inter-Communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. Ministry and programs are shared by the two churches. Members may attend each other's church and partake of the

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Eucharist. Other Anglicans, who consider themselves as traditionalist, have separated from the Episcopal Church. They continue to use the historic Book of Common Prayer. They consider themselves as continuers of the Ecclesia Anglicana.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

The beliefs and teachings of the Episcopal Church are set forth in the historic Creeds: The Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed, "and in the proceedings from the Seven Ecumenical Councils". Other documents which support its beliefs are the Creed of St. Athanasius and the Articles of Religion. The Book of Common Prayer as a whole describes the beliefs of Episcopalians.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

The daily services are Morning (Matins) and Evening (Evensong) Prayer. The Eucharist, Mass or Holy Communion, is the primary Service, instituted by Christ "for continual remembrance of his life, death, and resurrection, until his coming again." "Bread and wine spiritually taken according to Christ's command are the Body and Blood of Christ." Holy Baptism is the means by which persons are received into the Church and become "inheritors of the Kingdom of God."

Holy Books

The Holy Bible The Book of Common Prayer (1928 or 1979 ed.)
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Holy Days/Festivals

Easter Day	Tells of Christ's resurrection from the dead, teaches that all believers shall be raised up at the last day. The date of Easter determines the beginning of Lent.
Ascension Day	Forty days after Easter Day, celebrates Christ's Return to heaven.
Pentecost Day	Celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church. Commonly called the birthday of the Church.

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Trinity Sunday	Points to the doctrine of One God in Three Persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
All Saint's Day	November 1 st .
Christmas Day	December 25 th , Commemorates the incarnation, the Birth of Jesus Christ.
Epiphany	January 6, commemorates the beginning of the Christian Mission to the Gentiles.
Sundays	Sundays of the year are feasts of Jesus Christ.

Other Feasts: Minor & Major

Minor: The Holy Name, Presentation, The Annunciation, The Visitation, St. John the Baptist, The transfiguration, Holy Cross Day.

Major: All feasts of the Apostles, Evangelists St. Stephan, Holy Innocents, St. Joseph, St Mary Magdalene, St. Mary the Virgin, St. Michael and all Angels, St. James of Jerusalem, Thanksgiving Day, Independence Day.

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith and practice

Fast Days

Date:	Comments:
Ash Wednesday	Observed by special acts of discipline and self-denial.
Good Friday	Observed by special acts of discipline and self-denial.
Lent	Observed by special acts of discipline and self-denial.

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Holy Week	Observed by special acts of discipline and self-denial.
Week Days	Observed by special acts of discipline and self-denial.
Fridays	Observed by special acts of discipline and self-denial.
Ember Days	Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, after the first Sunday in Lent, Pentecost, Holy Cross Day (September 14 th) and December 13 th .

Dietary Restrictions

None required by faith and practice.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

Morning (Matins), and Evening Prayer (Evensong) may be led by a lay person. Holy Eucharist, the Mass can be celebrated only by a priest or bishop.

Sources:

The Book of Common Prayer, 1928ed.

The Book of Common Prayer, 1979 ed.

The Ways and Teachings of the Church, Haughtwout

The American Prayer Book, Parsma and Jones

A Church to Believe In, Moore

Faith and Practice, Wilson

Liturgy and Worship, Clarke and Harris

The Study of Anglicanism, Sykes and Booty

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REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

The Holy Bible

The Book of Common Prayer (1928 or 1979 ed.)

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

Should be given the opportunity to observe Easter, Ascension Day, Pentecost Day, Trinity Sunday, All Saint's Day, Christmas, and Epiphany and participate in group services if they are conducted on those holy days.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith and practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

Should be given the opportunity for individual reading, meditation and prayer.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

Should be allowed to meet once a week in a group setting for worship and Bible study.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

None required by faith and practice.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

Morning (Matins), and Evening Prayer (Evensong) may be led by a lay person. Holy Eucharist, the Mass can be celebrated only by a priest or bishop.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

Eastern or Greek Orthodox

History/Background

The Christian Faith began in Jerusalem and spread to Alexandria, Antioch, Constantinople and Rome. In 1054 AD it split into the Western (Roman) and Eastern (Orthodox) Churches. The Orthodox Church is a family of "autocephalous" (self governing) churches; it is not a centralized organization headed by a pontiff. The unity of the church is manifested in a common faith and communion in the sacraments and no one but Christ himself is the real head of the Church. The number of autocephalous churches has varied in history.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

Orthodoxy is the life that is an ongoing and developing, spiritual and organic union with God. This union with God begins with faith in the dogmas of the Holy Trinity, the Incarnation of the second person of the Holy Trinity, the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and the salvific operation of the Holy Church that was established by Jesus Christ and fulfilled by the Holy Spirit. The Orthodox Faith is made manifest in the life of each believer through the rituals of the Church. With these rituals, which include the Sacraments (Baptism, Chrismation, Penance, Holy Eucharist, Matrimony, Ordination, Holy Unction), the believer receives Divine Grace which opens up the opportunity of the believer to achieve union with God.

The beliefs of the Orthodox Faith are expressed in Church Tradition that includes the Divine Scriptures (the Holy Bible), the teaching of the Ecumenical Councils, especially the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed, the Divine Services, the lives of the saints and the Oral Traditions of the Church.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

The main expression of worship in the Orthodox Church is the Divine Service. Each day is illuminated by a cycle of services that include: Vespers, Compline, Midnight Office, Matins, First Hour, Third Hour, Sixth Hour, Divine Liturgy, and Ninth Hour. Commonly, some of the services are grouped together to form single services such as the All-night Vigil and the Liturgy Hours. Of the daily services, the most vital is the Divine Liturgy during which is celebrated the Holy Eucharist.

Holy Books

Holy Bible Prayer Books

Holy Days/Festivals

The Circumcision of Christ	January 1
The Presentation of Christ in the temple	February 2
The Annunciation	March 25
Palm Sunday	
Holy (Good) Friday	Strict fast day
PASCHA (Easter)	
The Ascension of Christ	Always on a Thursday and 40 days after Pascha
Pentecost	10 days after the Ascension
The Transfiguration	August 6
The Dormition of the Theotokos (Mary)	August 15
The beheading of John the Baptist	August 29 (Strict fast day)
The Birth of the Theotokos	September 8
The Elevation of the Holy Cross	September 14 (Strict fast day)
The Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple	November 21
The Nativity of Christ (Christmas)	December 25
Each person has a patron saint	People usually celebrate their name day

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith and practice.

Fast Seasons

These are not fast days but abstention days. They can eat three light meals a day but have to abstain from meat, fish, dairy including eggs, and no alcohol from Monday to Friday.

Their Lent time is determined by the Orthodox calendar so it changes every year. They do not go by the Gregorian calendar proposed by Pope Gregory.

Great Lent -8 weeks prior to Easter, First week abstain from meat, all other weeks abstain from all meat, fish, dairy, eggs and olive oil.

Apostle's Fast- (The Monday after Orthodox All Saints Sunday [about 8 weeks after Easter] – June 28) abstain from Meat, dairy, eggs and olive oil.

Dormition fast (August 1-15) Abstain from meat, dairy, eggs and olive oil.

Advent (November 15 – December 24) Abstain from meat, dairy, eggs and olive oil.

On all above fasts olive oil is allowed on the weekends.

Fast Days

Every Wednesday and Friday except Compact Weeks

Epyphany Eve – January 18th

Beheading of St. John the Baptist – September 11th

Elevation of the Holy Cross – September 27th

Compact Weeks

No fasting Wednesdays & Fridays during the following weeks:

Weeks after Nativity – January 7-17th

Week after Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee – Feb. 2-8.

Week after Meat-Fare Sunday – February 15-22.

Week after Pascha (Easter)

Week after Pentecost

Dietary Restrictions

During Fasting – They can eat three light meals a day but have to abstain from meat, fish, dairy including eggs,

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

Orthodox Christians believe that with prayers and offerings of the faithful, the prayers and actions of the priest, along with agency of the Holy Spirit and gifts offered at the Divine Liturgy, i.e. the bread and wine, truly become the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Divine Liturgy cannot be served without the presence of a priest.

Sources:

Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices; *Inmate Religious Beliefs and Practices*
By: Us Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons; Fr. Tryphon (David Parsons)
Russian Orthodox, All merciful Savior Monastery P.O. Box 2420 Vashon Island, WA
98570.

REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

Holy Bible
Prayer Books

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

Common practice is for the person to commune on the twelve major feast days, the four annual fast periods, on one's saint's day and on Easter night.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith and practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

Should be given the opportunity for individual reading, meditation and prayer.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

Orthodox faithful are expected to commune regularly; however, the regularity is dependent on the counsel of the Orthodox person's spiritual father, the priest to whom the Orthodox person confesses regularly. Common practice is for the person to commune on the twelve major feast days, the four annual fast periods, on one's saint's day and on Easter night.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

During Fasting – They can eat three light meals a day but have to abstain from meat, fish, dairy including eggs,

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

The Divine Liturgy cannot be served without the presence of a priest.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

Christian

Interdenominational, Non-Denominational, Protestant

History/Background

Christians are the followers of Jesus of Nazareth, who believe him to be the Christ, or Messiah, sent from God for the salvation of his people.

Protestants believe that the Christian Church truly began on the day of Pentecost, as mentioned in the second chapter of the book of Acts. Since Protestants believe that God indwells believers through the Holy Spirit, (Acts: 2) the Church first began its service to God on this day.

Springing from Judaism, Christianity follows the teachings and example of Jesus and views Him as the fulfillment not only of the promise of God's deliverer from the Old Testament of the Bible, but also as the establishment of the new covenant between God and those who would seek after Him.

Jesus did not refute the teachings of Jewish scripture but sought to bring into a sharper focus those tenets set forth in the covenant between God and the Jews. Jesus brought the concept that God's people were not only those of the Jewish race but included all those—regardless of social or economic standing—who sought reconciliation and fellowship with God as well as all those who would respond to his seeking after them.

Christians, although differing with each other in many aspects of theology and doctrine, believe that Jesus' death on the cross as an atonement for sins, His resurrection from the dead, and His giving of the Holy Spirit are foundational to the faith.

The earliest followers of Jesus were Messianic Jews but by 70 AD non-Jews, or Gentiles, were increasingly among the followers of "the Way" and in Antioch by the end of the first century were referred to as "Christians."

The early centuries of Christianity witnessed diverse interpretations of beliefs, which resulted in the formation of different groups within the faith. The Roman Catholic Church quickly emerged as the dominant institution around the beginning of the fourth century; however, other groups following the "tradition of descent" or the "evangelical alternative" continued to spread the teachings of Jesus. In 1054 the Great Schism (or Eastern Schism) divided the Roman Catholic Church of the West from the Orthodox Church of the East. Another separation occurred with the Protestant Reformation. The reformation started well before the 1500's; there have been many who tried to bring reform to the Church but it was not until Martin Luther and John Calvin that what we know as the Reformation took place. This is when many separated from the Church of Rome.

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By 1540, two great types of the reform of religion in northern Europe had made themselves manifest. Luther had molded the one type. Calvin had molded or begun the molding of, the other. Luther was for retaining medieval doctrine, government, worship, many things – whatever seemed to him desirable and not forbidden in the Word of God. Calvin was for bringing the Church into conformity with the pattern shown in the Word. He would have the Church hold the faith taught in the Word, govern itself according to the principles

He believed in the sufficiency of the Scriptures as a rule of faith and practice, and would have had the Church conform in all aspects of Scripture teaching. Luther who also believed in Sola Scriptura shared the same belief.

Those who embraced the separation were referred to as “Protestants.” The name is actually a derivative to the verb “protestari” which means not simply “to protest” in the sense of “to raise an objection,” but denotes a broader connotation meaning “to avow or witness or confess.” Protestants believed they were professing the pure teachings of the early church, which had been viewed as obscured through medieval Catholicism. Protestantism has been referred to as the recovery of New Testament Pauline theology.

Arising from the Reformation were several “groups” liturgical and non-liturgical including the Lutherans, Calvinists, Anglicans, Presbyterians, Independents, and Erastians (founded by the Dutch theologian Erasmus 1466-1536). In the 17th and 18th centuries, these churches further divided along theological lines and produced denominations including Baptists, Methodists, Episcopalians, Disciples of Christ, Congregationalists, and Church of the Brethren among others. Both Luther and Calvin recognized that with the reforms there would be many splits within the church. Many of these denominations saw impressive growth in America during the First and Second Great Awakening movements.

Another phenomenon, which occurred during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century in America, was the emergence of new religious groups. Centering mainly on individualistic scriptural interpretations and joining in the societal “millennial fever” experienced at the turn of the century, these groups developed theologies and doctrines that differed sometimes greatly from generally accepted Christian doctrine.

One of the most significant changes in the last quarter century is the deep popularization that has occurred with Christianity. On the one side are those who are characterized as liberal, progressive or mainline and on the other side are those who are called conservative, traditionalist, evangelical or fundamentalist. These divisions have at times become more significant than divisions caused along denominational lines.

A parallel shift in emphasis is seen in a moving away from the denominational level to the congregational level. The identification of churches with their denomination is minimized; what becomes important is the local congregation in a specific community. In addition, congregations are assuming functions which used to belong to centralized denominational offices. These shifts are also reflected in the theological beliefs and experiences. An individual’s belief in Jesus Christ, and their relationship with Christ, along with one’s adherence to the Scriptures have become more determinative than denominational expressions of faith. This has resulted in a decline in membership of many “mainline” denominations and a rapid increase in growth of membership in

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loosely structured denominations and non-denominational, interdenominational and independent churches.

This shift is very evident in the inmate population. Many more inmates claim to be non-denominational, fundamentalists, or charismatic than those who identify themselves with specific denomination or religious organization.

Due to the large variety of Christian Churches identified under the general category of Protestant Christianity, or general Christian, it is extremely difficult to come up with a set of theological statements with which all "Christians" would agree. Even the following major tenants will vary in interpretation among the different Protestant faith groups.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

1. **The Trinity:** The basic underlying belief of Christianity is the belief in the Trinity, that there is one God who exists in three persons; God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Since each person of the Trinity has the same essence, God is described as One. Christians believe that the concept of the Trinity is implicit in the Old Testament and becomes more explicit in the New Testament of the Bible. The classic definition of the Trinity is that God is one essence and three in person. Many different explanations have been given to describe this seeming paradox. For example, water has three forms, solid, liquid, and gas (ice, water and steam), but has only one chemical formula. All share the same ingredients but have three different forms. This is symbolically similar to the Trinity, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. All have the same essence but function in distinct roles. God is Creator (Father), Redeemer (Son), and Sustainer (Holy Spirit).
2. **Supremacy of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior:** Jesus is the central focus as Redeemer and Savior. Christians stand on the scriptural teaching that an individual's belief in Christ's sacrifice atoning death and His physical resurrection from the dead are essential for salvation (Romans 10:9-10). The Old Testament points forward to the coming of Jesus Christ and the New Testament describes the fulfillment of His coming and how this was worked out in the early New Testament church.
3. **The Scriptures:** Christians rely on the **Holy Bible** as the source for all teachings and doctrines practiced in the church (2 Timothy 3:16-17). The Old Testament consists of 39 books and the New Testament has 27 books. Many translations of the Bible are in existence today. For centuries, the most widely accepted translation was the King James Version; a translation authorized by the English monarch James, first published in 1611. A number of Churches believe that the King James Version is still the only acceptable Bible. The best selling translation today is the New International Version, first published in 1978.
4. **Justification by faith:** Christians believe that an individual receives forgiveness from sins and experiences a "newness" of life from God through acceptance by faith and not merited by works or personal achievement (Ephesians 2:8-9).
5. **Salvation and eternal reward:** Protestants believe that God seeks individuals for fellowship. However, human beings through sin have alienated themselves from

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their Creator. Those who accept God's grace receive salvation, or deliverance, from eternal damnation, the penalty of rejecting God ultimately resulting in spiritual death. God's reward to the repentant faithful is his abiding presence with us and the promise of eternal life (Romans 6:23; John 3:16).

6. **Sacraments/Ordinances**: Christians acknowledge one source of God's grace, that being the Word, which may be manifested in such ways as preaching/proclamation, active ministry, and the sacraments. Sacraments or ordinances are best described as the Word of God made visible. Christians, generally believe in two ordinances for which there is scriptural evidence that they were established and practiced by Jesus himself, namely Baptism (Mathew 28:18-20) and the Lord's Supper (Mathew 26:26-29).
 - A. **Baptism**: Baptism is a rite of purification by water, a ceremony invoking the grace of God to regenerate the person, free him or her from sin, and make that person a part of the church. Formal baptism is performed by immersion, pouring or sprinkling, depending on the tradition. Baptism can be performed on babies or can be postponed until a person is relatively mature and can make a formal confession that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior of his or her life.
 - B. **The Lord's Supper**: Partaking of the elements, the bread and the wine, or grape juice in some traditions, the believer is united in some form with Christ and with other members. Much difference of opinion exists with the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Some believe that a change occurs by which the body and blood of Christ join with the bread and wine. Others believe that no such change takes place, but that there is a union with Christ and each other. Still others believe it is an occasion to remember the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Some Christians use unleavened bread, others use raised bread. In addition, Some Protestants use wine while others use unfermented grape juice. All Christians receive both elements. The frequency of celebrating the Lord's Supper among Christians ranges from weekly to once a year.
7. **The Church**: Christians believe that God indwells believers through the Holy Spirit. Where God's people gather together for worship or service, there is fellowship with God and with each other. The Church, like a body, functions with the cooperation of its combined members. Christians likewise believe that God has empowered the church with spiritual gifts that when performed properly edify and equip the church for ministry (Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 2:19-22).
8. **Priesthood of all believers**: Christians hold fast to the scriptural teachings found in 1 Peter 2:9. Each individual has access to God the Father through Jesus the Son in the power of the Holy Spirit. Forgiveness, reconciliation, salvation, revelation of and understanding God's divine will etc., are sought and attained on a personal level.
9. **Eschatology or Doctrine of the Last Things**: Probably nowhere is the Protestant branch of Christianity more divided than on this subject of eschatology. The last book of the Bible, the book of Revelation, is key to understanding the different

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viewpoints. Much emphasis is made on the interpretation of the thousand-year reign of Christ (Revelation 20), the events surrounding that reign and the interpretation of Biblical prophecy. There are basically three major views on the thousand-year reign of Christ, called the Millennium.

One view is that certain prophesied events need to happen before a literal thousand-year reign of Christ (premillennialism) is ushered into history. Upon completion of the thousand-year reign, judgement will come. Many different interpretations of this view exist among the more fundamentalist and evangelical churches. Another view is that the thousand-year reign of Christ is symbolic (amillennialism) of the period of time between Christ's first coming and Second Coming. A third view is that the church is victorious in the world today and that the church will usher in a golden age on earth before the Day of Judgement (postmillennialism).

The whole subject of the end times is very popular today among Christians. Many books of theology have been written on the subject and currently a whole series of novels are written around the theme and the various aspects of the literal thousand-year reign of Christ.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Christians expect to have the opportunity to attend weekly congregate worship in order to receive God's grace through such various means as the proclamation of the Word, opportunity for individual reconciliation/forgiveness, and observance of the ordinances or sacraments. Due to this wide variety of worship expressions among the inmate population, the chaplain must be sensitive to the diversity and should provide a variety of worship styles in Christian worship services.

Worship services following the specific liturgy and faith of the chaplain will ordinarily be conducted on days other than Sunday.

Holy Books

The Holy Bible

Holy Days/Festivals

Christians differs sometimes significantly from denomination to denomination, culture, and yet hold in common the basic tenets of the Cross and the Resurrection of Christ. While not mandated as days of religious observance, the liturgical calendar (the lectionary) highlights several seasons that are significant in the life of the church and are worthy of consideration for special services, remembrances, etc. These would include:

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Christmas Day	The celebration of Christ's birth. December 25 th .
Epiphany	Commemorates the beginning of the Christian mission to the Gentiles and growth of the Church.
Ash Wednesday	Lent begins
Holy Week	Palm Sunday – Maundy Thursday – Good Friday – Easter
Good Friday	The celebration of Christ's death and burial. The date changes since the date follows the lunar/solar cycle.
Easter	The celebration of Christ's resurrection from the dead. This is fundamental with all Christians. Christ's resurrection is the cornerstone of their faith. The date changes since the date follows the lunar/solar cycle.
Pentecost	Celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church. Commonly called the birthday of the church.
Ascension Day	Celebrates Christ's return to the Father in heaven. Forty days after Easter.
All Saints' Day	November 1 st .

Work Proscription Days

Christians, in general, embrace the concept in Psalm 118:24 in which every day is considered a unique gift from God and that none, more so than others. However, there are several days of religious significance important to the Christian believer. These dates are Easter, Good Friday, and Christmas.

Fast Days

Fasting is a matter of individual conscience and may occur at any time of the year. There are no mandatory fast days. (Exception: Episcopal or Anglican, see Anglican)

Dietary Restrictions

None required by faith or practice.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

Worship meetings are led by Pastors or Priests depending on the church or denomination. Lay persons participate in all aspects of worship.

Sources:

Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices; *Religions* By: Myrtle Langley; *Inmate Religious Beliefs and Practices* By: Us Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons, *What We Evangelicals Believe* By: David Allan Hubbard

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REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

Christians should be allowed to possess a Bible and have it as their personal property.

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

Christians should be given the opportunity to observe Christmas, Lent, Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Easter, and Pentecost and to participate in group services if they are conducted on those holy days.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

Christians should be given the opportunity to individually pray and read the Bible.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

Christians should be allowed to meet once a week in a group setting for worship and Bible study.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

Worship meetings are led by Pastors or Priests depending on the church or denomination. Lay persons participate in all aspects of worship.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

Offenders should be permitted to be baptized if they meet denomination requirements.

Offenders should be allowed to take communion if they meet denominational requirements of this sacred rite.

Messianic

History/Background

This religious group is sometimes referred to as "Messianic Judaism". They hold to the belief that Yeshua (Jesus) "is the Redeemer (Savior) spoken of in the Torah (Old Testament). Early Christians whose activities are described in Acts 15:19-21; 21:17-27 were called Messianic Jews, who were "Zealous for Torah." They therefore consider themselves as a continuation of the witness of the first converts to Christianity. Followers of this religious group prefer to be called "Messianic Jews" rather than Christians.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

Messianic Judaism (MJ) is the religion of the followers of Yeshua (Jesus) who desire to recover the Hebrew roots of their faith, worshipping and living in accordance with the Torah (Law) of Moses as taught by Yeshua and His disciples. In the 1st Century CE (AD), MJ was one of the many sects of Judaism. As such, it adheres to many of the tenants and practices of ancient Judaism. In modern times, MJ differs from traditional Judaism by its confession of Yeshua as the promised Messiah of the Hebrew prophets, and the acceptance of the Apostolic Scriptures (New Testament) as authoritative.

The heart of MJ is the belief that there is only one God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and that He has revealed Himself through His creation, His word (the Bible, with the Torah as the first and foundational revelation), and in His Son, Yeshua our Messiah. MJ affirms that salvation is by faith alone and not based upon one's ethnicity. Therefore both Jews and non-Jews who confess Yeshua as the Messiah, and accept forgiveness of sins through His work of salvation, are equally part of the family of God, sharing in all of the privileges and responsibilities of covenant membership.

MJ affirms the absolute and final authority of the written Scriptures (39 books of the Tanach; 27 books of the Apostolic Scriptures). While the Oral Torah (writings and compilations of the ancient Sages, primarily the Mishnah and Talmuds) are held in high regard, they are nonetheless not accorded the same authority of Scripture. Various groups within MJ give a higher or lesser degree of importance to Oral Torah.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Private

Daily prayers in the morning, afternoon, and evening are the standard tradition of MJ. Additional prayers are added on the Sabbath and Festivals. Prayers may be private or corporate, but corporate prayers are preferred. On the Sabbath and Festivals, corporate prayers are required. A prayer book (Siddur) is used which contains the prayer services and various blessings for different occasions. It is traditional for males to wear a head covering during prayers, and some in MJ wear the traditional kippah or yarmulke all day as a sign of reverence to God. The kippah may be of various styles

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and colors, chosen by the individual. It is also traditional to wrap oneself in a prayer shawl (tallit) for prayer. The tallit has fringes on all four corners in accordance with the biblical commandment (Num 15). Some also wear an undergarment (tallit katan) which has fringes attached on all four corners. The tallit katan is worn all day. On weekdays, males may also wear small black leather boxes (phylacteries or tefillin) with leather straps for morning prayers. These boxes contain four passages of Scripture: Exodus 13:1-10, 11-16; Deuteronomy 6:4-9, and 11:13-21 and are strapped to the forehead and arm in compliance with the biblical commandment. These may be inspected, but only a qualified Rabbi should open the boxes themselves for inspection. Whenever possible, an inmate should not be required to pray in a room that contains a toilet or symbols of other religions.

A mezuzah is a small parchment scroll on which is written the opening paragraphs of the Shema. The scroll is placed in a protective container that is affixed to the upper right-hand doorpost of the front door of the home, as well as upon other doors within the dwelling (especially if these doors lead to the out-of-doors).

The individual should have his or her own prayer book and Bible (containing the Old and New Testaments) for private worship. When possible, the Bible should contain the Hebrew (with translation) of the Old Testament (Tanach) and the Greek (with translation) of the New Testament (Apostolic Scriptures). If such editions are not available, the individual should have the complete Bible in his or her primary language. In addition, whenever possible, an individual should be allowed to have his or her own Torah Scroll for study and as one of the central symbols of the life and worship of MJ.

Corporate

Traditionally a quorum (minyan) of ten adults is required for corporate prayers, but this requirement can be waived in a prison setting. While the presence of a trained rabbi is always welcomed, it is not necessary since MJ does not have sacraments. Any individual can lead in services and prayers.

The Torah (first five books of the Bible) is divided into weekly sections to be read through in one year. Some groups follow a three year cycle (patterned after the earlier triennial cycle used in ancient Israel). There are also sections from the Prophets (the haftarah) and the New Testament (Apostolic Scriptures) which are read in parallel with the assigned Torah section. These are read publicly in the Sabbath morning service, and some groups read them as well on Mondays and Thursdays.

It is important that a MJ group who regularly worships together have a Torah Scroll if at all possible, since the Torah Scroll is an important symbol of MJ. The Torah Scroll represents the word of God, and is symbolic of the Incarnate Word, Yeshua the Messiah.

If at all possible, it is also important that people within the MJ group have access to the ancient writings of the Sages (the Mishnah, Midrashim, and Talmud). Since learning and study is one of the core values of MJ, library materials that help explain the Judaic background of the Scriptures,

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a messianic interpretation of the Tanach (Old Testament) and the various traditions of MJ (especially the festivals and their meaning)

The Sabbath and Festivals

As noted above, on the Sabbath and certain days of the Festivals common work and commerce are forbidden. Those who are part of the MJ group worship together on these days. The celebration of these days should be a shared religious experience for all, whether Jew or non-Jew, in accordance with Scripture.

The Sabbath is a day of rest, devoted to God. It begins at sunset on Friday evening, and ends at sunset on Saturday. The beginning of the Sabbath is marked by the lighting of at least two candles which should be capable of burning for at least one half hour, and should be allowed to burn out themselves. A special prayer is recited over the candle lighting. Also included in the Sabbath eve (erev Shabbat) celebration is the reciting of the kiddush over wine. It is permissible to substitute grape juice for wine at these celebrations. It is also traditional to eat braided bread (called challah) on Sabbath eve as well as on the day of Sabbath. A special blessing is recited over the Sabbath bread. The Sabbath is ended by a ceremony called Havdalah (separation), in which the Sabbath is marked as separate from the six days of work. This ceremony consists of wine, spices, and a multi-wicked candle, all with appropriate blessings. The wine symbolizes the joy of Sabbath, the spices remind of the sweetness of the day, and the multi-wicked candle is a reminder that the people of God are to be a light to the nations, and that the blessings of Sabbath should shine in one's life throughout the week.

The Festival days that are Sabbaths generally follow the pattern of the weekly Sabbath with the addition of particular observances and customs. The Festival traditions are listed below beginning with Passover, which is the first festival of the religious calendar in MJ:

Passover (Feast of Unleavened Bread)

Passover (Pesach) is perhaps the best known of the festivals, and commemorates the deliverance from Egypt during biblical times. It is called "the time of our freedom." It lasts for seven days (some, who follow a more rabbinic view, celebrate for eight days) of which the first and last are Sabbaths. The first evening is celebrated with a Passover Seder, a meal at which the exodus story is retold from a special book called a Haggadah. Certain ceremonial foods are eaten, including unleavened bread (matzah), bitter herbs, and four cups of wine or grape juice. No products containing leaven may be consumed during the days of Passover.

The Passover is a particularly important festival for MJ since it was at this time that Yeshua was crucified. It is at the end of the Passover week that Yeshua arose from the dead. Thus, while Passover commemorates the exodus from Egypt, for MJ it also marks the zenith of God's promise to bring a redeemer through Whom one might be free from the penalty of sin.

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Lag B'Omer (the 33rd Day of the Omer)

This is a minor festival occurring during the 49 days that separate Passover from Shavuot (Pentecost). It commemorates the ending of an epidemic that befell the students of the great scholar Rabbi Akiva. Traditionally this is celebrated by outings to parks or woods.

Shavuot

Shavuot (Festival of Weeks or Pentecost) is the festival marked by counting 7 weeks plus one day (for a total of 50 days) following Passover. There are two methods of counting this period in MJ. Some count 50 days beginning on the 16th day of Nisan, so that they celebrate Shavuot on the 6th of Sivan each year. Others beginning counting on the first Sunday following Passover, which means for them that Shavuot will always fall on a Sunday. Shavuot commemorates the giving of the Torah at Sinai, as well as the sending of the Spirit of God upon the disciples of Yeshua to equip them for the ingathering of the nations through the proclamation of the Gospel. Some groups stay awake through out the night before Shavuot, study some aspect of the Torah, as a way of showing appreciation for the gift of the Torah on Shavuot.. It is traditional to read the Ten Commandments aloud at the Shavuot morning service, and to have a meal at lunch that incorporates dairy (cheeses, cream, milk, etc.).

Tisha B'Av

This day commemorates the day upon which calamity has befallen the people of Israel throughout her history. Both the 1st and 2nd Temples were destroyed on this day, and the Jews were expelled from Spain on this day in 1492. It is observed as a fast day by some groups within MJ. It is traditional to read the book of Lamentations in a corporate meeting.

Rosh Hashanah

This is the beginning of the civil year in the Jewish calendar. It is a period of self-examination and resolution. It is required to blow a shofar (ram's horn) on this day, which is a solemn call to repentance, and to self-examination, along with a resolution to improve one's ways. It is customary to eat apples dipped in honey as a symbol of hope for a sweet new year. In addition, other sweet foods are eaten (sweet carrot dish, called tzimmes; honey cake; round challah bread). It is traditional on the afternoon of Rosh Hashanah to go to a body of water and cast small stones or pieces of bread into the water as symbolic of one's sins being taken away through the forgiveness afforded by God through His Messiah, Yeshua. This ceremony is called tashlich. It is also traditional to send greeting cards to friends wishing them a good and sweet new year. The days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are consider "days of awe and repentance."

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Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)

This is the most solemn of days in the Jewish calendar. It is a complete fast days for those who are able. It is traditional to wear all white clothing, including a white kippah or yarmulke for males. In MJ, some females also wear a kippah or yarmulke. The day is marked by attendance in the synagogue, with services of prayer throughout the day. At the concluding service, the shofar is blown one last time. This is a reminder that the time of for repentance will come to an end. It also is a vivid reminder that Yeshua promised to return, and that His coming would be with the sound of the trumpet. After sunset, when the day has ended, it is traditional to break the fast together with a meal of rejoicing for the atonement that has been accomplished through the sacrifice of Yeshua upon the execution stake (cross). This time of rejoicing leads into the festival of Sukkot which comes next.

Sukkot

Sukkot is the "season of our rejoicing." Its name means "booths" or "huts," (Hebrew "Sukkot) and is a reminder that when Israel came out of Egypt, she dwelt in temporary huts. Though she had only humble means of shelter, the freedom from the slavery of Egypt was a possession of untold worth. The festival as a whole anticipates the coming of Yeshua to dwell with us upon the earth as He reigns from His throne in Zion. Traditionally, huts are built on porches, roofs, or in yards, and meals are eaten in these huts. Some sleep in the huts as well. Four species of plants, the citron (Etrog), palm branches (Lulav), myrtle branches (Hadassim) and willows (Aravot) are bound together (the Etrog is held in the hand) and are brought into the sukkah in accordance with the Scriptural command. This symbolizes the ingathering of the nations from the four corners of the earth to confess the one God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Shemini Atzeret

This is the eighth day of Sukkot, but is a festival unto itself as well. It is the final day of feasting and celebration

Simchat Torah

This day follows Shemini Atzeret, and commemorates the joy of the Torah. It marks the end of the yearly reading cycle, and beginning of the new cycle. It is traditional to dance around the Torah Scroll, and to parade the Torah Scroll(s) throughout the synagogue.

Hanukkah

Hanukkah, the Feast of Dedication, commemorates the rededication of the Temple in 165 BCE when the Temple was recaptured from the Assyrian-Greek oppressors. Tradition has it that when the Jewish priests re-entered the Temple, they found only one cruse of oil which remained unopened. This oil should have lasted only one day in the lighting of the Temple Menorah. A miracle occurred, however, in which the oil lasted for the complete eight days needed to cleanse the Temple. In honor of this miracle, an eight branch menorah (called a "hanukkiyah") is utilized for the eight days of Hanukkah.

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Each evening an additional candle in the menorah is lit, until all eight (plus a ninth candle used for lighting the others) burn on the final day. Children are given money, and play a traditional game with a spinning top (called a dreidel). Since the festival centers around the miracle of the oil, it is also traditional to eat potato pancakes (fritters) fried in oil (called latkes) during the holiday, as well as small donuts fried in oil (called sufganiot).

Purim

This day commemorates the victory of the Jewish people over their enemies during the Persian rule in 450 BCE, as told in the book of Esther. It is traditional to read the book of Esther (megilat Esther) publicly on this day. It is a day of rejoicing and fun. Children traditionally dress up as one of the characters in the Esther story. Cookies made in the shape of the hat of Haman, the villain, are eaten (called Hamentashin).

Holy Books

Bible

the Torah (Pentateuch), Nevi'im (Prophets) and Ketuvim (Writings, including Psalms) in Hebrew, (a daily prayer book, a Sabbath prayer book, and Festival prayer books (or a combination of the preceding).

CALENDAR

MJ follows the lunar calendar of normative Judaism, though some groups within MJ may differ as to the exact interpretation of calendrical issues. Published calendars which list both the biblical as well as the Gregorian dates are available from most Messianic congregations and organizations.

Holy Days/Festivals

MJ keeps the prescribed holy days as given in the Bible. The most important of these is the weekly Sabbath (Shabbat, pronounced Shabbos by Ashkenazi Jews). As is the case for all holy days, the Sabbath begins just prior to sunset Friday evening, and ends when three stars are visible on Saturday evening (approximately 42 minutes after sunset). On Sabbath common work and commerce are forbidden. It is to be a day set apart as different than the six days of work.

Religious services commence on Friday evening before sunset, and are held throughout the day on Sabbath.

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The other observed holy days are:

The Appointed Times of the Torah (with further explanation below)

Rosh HaShanah	The Day of Blowing the Shofar (Yom Teruah) commemorates the Kingship of God as the Creator of the world, and anticipates the future reign of Yeshua upon the earth. It is celebrated on the 1st of Tishri.
Yom Kippur	Day of Atonment, is the most solemn day of the yearly calendar, and is a day of reflection on one's own sin and failings, as well as the great price that was paid for sins by the Messiah's death. It is celebrated on the 10th of Tishri
Sukkoth	Festival of Booths, is celebrated from the 15th through the 22nd of Tishri, of which the first day is reckoned as a Sabbath on which common work and commerce are forbidden.
Shemini Atzeret	a special celebration ending the festival of Sukkot, on the 22nd day of Tishri. This day is reckoned as a Sabbath on which common work and commerce are forbidden.
Simchat Torah	Rejoicing in the Torah, a day of celebrating the gift of the Torah, on the 23 rd day of Tishri.
Pesach (Passover)	The Festival of Freedom, is also called the Feast of Unleavened Bread (Chag HaMatzot) and is celebrated from the 15th to the 23rd of Tishri. The first and last days are reckoned as Sabbaths on which common work and commerce are forbidden. It is the festival that commemorates the redemption from Egypt, and ultimate the eternal redemption of God's people through the death, burial and resurrection of Yeshua.
Shavuot (Festival of Weeks, or Pentecost)	commemorating the giving of the Torah and the special outpouring of the Spirit. Shavuot is normally celebrated on the 6th of Sivan, though some groups will celebrate it fifty days from the first Sunday following Pesach.

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The following post-biblical holidays established by Rabbinic law do not require absence from work or school.

Hanukah	Festival of Lights, celebrates the victory of the Maccabees in recovering the Temple and sanctifying it for worship, as recorded in the books of Maccabees. It is celebrated
Purim	celebrates the divine rescue of the Jewish people during the time of Esther, as recorded in the book of Esther. It is celebrated on the 14th of Adar.
Lag B'Omer	The 33rd day of counting the omer, commemorates the end of a plague suffered by the students of Rabbi Akiva. This minor festival is celebrated by some groups within MJ. It is celebrated on the 18th of Iyar.
Tisha B'Av	The 9th of Av, a day of mourning for the destruction of the First and Second Temples.

Work Proscription Days

Within the Messianic faith, the Sabbath (Shabbos) is considered to be the most important of all religious holidays. On the Sabbath, which is observed from 18 minutes prior to sunset Friday until three stars are visible (approximately one hour) past sunset Saturday, the observant Jew does not engage in such weekday pursuits as work, business transactions, or travel. Religious services commence on Friday evening before sunset and are also held on Saturday morning, afternoon, and again at sunset.

also

The first two days and the last two days of Pesach (Passover) are work proscription days. And the first two days and the last two days of Succoth are work proscription days.

Fast Days

In addition to the complete fasting on Yom Kippur and Tisha B'Av, there are minor fast days in the Hebrew calendar. Complete fasting is from sunset to sunset. Minor fast days are from daybreak until sunset. These minor fast days are: the 10th of Tevet, the 17th of Tammuz, and the 3rd of Tishri, all of which are associated with mourning the destruction of the Temple. The 13th of Adar commemorates the fast called by Queen Esther, and the 14th of Nisan is a minor fast day for first-born males commemorating the killing of the first-born during Pesach.

While MJ generally observes the complete fast day of Yom Kippur, some groups may also observe the complete fast day of Tisha B'Av as well as the minor fast days noted above. On complete fast days eating and drinking are prohibited, while on minor fast days liquids are allowed. Fasting should not be observed by pregnant or nursing women, nor by people requiring special medical care. Fasts are observed by males over 13 years of age, and females over 12 years of age.

Yom Kippur - 10th of Tishrei (25 hour fast)

Tisha B'av - 9th of Av (25 hour fast)

10th of Tevet - Daybreak through nightfall fast.

17th of Tammuz - Daybreak through nightfall fast.

3rd of Tishrei - Fast of Gedaliah - Daybreak through nightfall fast.

13th of Adar - Commemorating Esther's own Purim fast - Daybreak through nightfall fast.

14th of Nisan - For first-born males only commemorating the killing of the first-born during Pesach. - Daybreak through nightfall fast.

Any Messianic inmate, whether or not participating in a regular Messianic religious and/or Passover diet program, must be permitted to fast on any religiously prescribed fast day, provided that such fasting would not be detrimental to his or her medical condition. Any Messianic inmate observing a prescribed religious fast must be provided with adequate nourishment directly following the end of any such fast

Dietary Restrictions

MJ groups observe various degrees of kosher eating. The more strict groups follow a traditional rabbinic kosher diet which require that milk and meat not be eaten together. Foods marked pareve (neither milk nor meat) may be eaten with either. Many MJ groups do not separate meat and milk, but abide by the kosher food laws explicitly given in the Torah. The kosher food laws are given in Leviticus and Deuteronomy. Only meat from kosher animals is permitted. These are those that chew the cud and have divided hooves (e.g., cows, goats, sheep, etc.). Kosher fowl are primarily those which are not birds of prey (e.g., chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys). Kosher meat must be slaughtered in such a way as to allow the blood to be entirely drained off. Meat which contains blood is not kosher. Kosher seafood are from fish that have scales and fins. All other seafood is non-kosher (e.g., lobster, crab, and all shellfish). All vegetables and fruit are kosher. Many prepared products have kosher symbols, though some symbols are less reliable than others. Where strict kosher diet is being observed, the highest kosher symbols (those of the Orthodox) should be used since these are the most consistent and reliable.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

Preferably a rabbi is required to be present with a minyan (10 males) when the Torah is brought out. All other services, may be held by members together.

Sources:

Beth Ha Shofar Congregation, 206/246-5345
Union of Messianic Jewish Congregation, 800/692-8652
Messianic Jewish Alliance, 800/225-6522
International Messianic Jewish Alliance, 757/495-8246
Messianic Jewish Movement International, 800/4-Yeshua
Messianic Jewish Resources International (Catalog),
6204 Park Heights Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215-3600
(410/358-5687, www.MessianicJewish.net)

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REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

Because they are not in control of their circumstances, those who desire to worship within the context of MJ may be exempted from certain religious law requirements. However, before any such exemption might apply, every effort must be made to seek a religiously acceptable alternative.

In determining minimum standards, levels of observance of individual inmates must be taken into account. Previous sections and/or proper authority should be consulted regarding specific practices.

Depending upon level of observance, the individual inmate may require all or some of the following:

- **HOLY BOOK**

Bible

the Torah (Pentateuch), Nevi'im (Prophets) and Ketuvim (Writings, including Psalms) in Hebrew, (a daily prayer book, a Sabbath prayer book, and Festival prayer books (or a combination of the preceding).

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

All Biblical and High Holy Days (Leviticus 23).

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

Within the Messianic faith, the Sabbath (Shabbos) is considered to be the most important of all religious holidays. On the Sabbath, which is observed from 18 minutes prior to sunset Friday until three stars are visible (approximately one hour) past sunset Saturday, the observant Jew does not engage in such weekday pursuits as work, business transactions, or travel. Religious services commence on Friday evening before sunset and are also held on Saturday morning, afternoon, and again at sunset. also

The first two days and the last two days of Pesach (Passover) are work proscription days. And the first two days and the last two days of Succoth are work proscription days.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

A devout Messianic is required to pray three times a day—morning, afternoon, and evening—either in the home or synagogue. An additional morning prayer service is added on the Sabbath and Festivals; these prayers can be private or corporate, but corporate worship is preferable.

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- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

Preferably a rabbi is required to be present with a minyan (10 males) when the Torah is brought out. All other services may be held by members together.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

Any one wishing to worship within the context of MJ must, upon request, be provided with a religiously acceptable (kosher) diet. These must also be permitted to purchase religiously acceptable food items from inmate stores and outside vendors, consistent with that allowed for other inmates. Any one wishing to worship within the context of MJ, must, upon request, be provided with a diet during the seven (or eight) days of Passover that meets all the religious requirements of that period (i.e., no leavening, etc.). Any inmate wishing to worship within the context of MJ must be permitted to fast on any religiously prescribed fast days, providing that such fasting would not be detrimental to his or her medical condition. Any inmate worshipping within the context of MJ, and who is observing a religiously prescribed fast day, must be provided with adequate nourishment directly following the end of any such fast.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

Preferably a rabbi is required to be present with a minyan (10 males) when the Torah is brought out. All other services, may be held by members together.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

Head-coverings

All who desire to worship within the context of MJ must be permitted to possess a headcovering, preferably a skullcap (kippah or yarmulke) for use during prayer. Those who desire a more observant lifestyle must be allowed to wear their head-covering at all times (outdoors and indoors).

Roman Catholic

History/Background

Catholicism is a Christian tradition comprised of faith theologies and doctrines and is characterized by specific liturgical, ethical, and spiritual operations and behaviors. It is related to other particular ecclesial traditions that are also in communion with the Bishop of Rome in Italy. The Roman Catholic Church is a Christian church in communion with the Eastern-rite Catholic churches such as Armenian, Byzantine (includes Greek Catholic Church), Coptic, Ethiopian, East Syrian (Chaldean), West Syrian, and Maronite.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

Catholic Christians believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and are part of the larger Christian group of believers. Catholics believe in one God in three persons, which is referred to as the Holy Trinity. They also believe that Christ was born of the Virgin Mary, died, was buried, rose again, ascended into heaven, and will come again to judge the living and dead. Through the death of Christ, all humankind has been offered eternal life.

Catholic beliefs are contained in the Nicene and Apostles' Creed, and the Church Councils.

The Roman Catholic Church is a community of believers who have been incorporated into Christ through Baptism. The power of this faith centers on the belief that Jesus Christ was sent by God to be their Redeemer. As such He is the head and founder of the Church. As an organization and visible society, this people of God share the same faith and are governed by the successors of Peter (the Popes), and the Bishops in communion with the Pope. The doctrine and practices of the Church significantly affect the religious life of its people, none more significantly than the seven sacraments described under the title of Worship.

The Roman Catholic Tradition is an inherited pattern of thought, action, or behavior, which connects Catholics to Christ. Catholic Tradition may be defined as the Word of God, given to the Apostles by Christ and the Holy Spirit, and handed down to their successors through the Church. Scripture, Apostolic Tradition, and the Magisterium (the teaching authority of the Church) guided by the Holy Spirit, combine to bring Catholics God's revelation at any particular moment of time.

The Six Traditional Precepts of the Catholic Church

The following are the basic requirements for being a Catholic:

1. To assist at Mass on all Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation:
 - a) In the United States the Holy Days of Obligation are:
 - i. Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God – January 1st

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- ii. The Assension of Jesus—(40 days after Easter or can be moved to the following Sunday by the local Bishop)
 - iii. Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven – August 15th
 - iv. Feast of All Saints – November 1st

 - v. Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (That she was conceived without Original Sin) –December 8th
 - vi. Christmas – December 25th
3. To Confess One's Serious Sins:
- a) The Church advises a Catholic to go to confession whenever one has a serious sin on one's soul, especially prior to receiving communion.
4. To Receive Holy Communion During Easter Season:
- a) The Easter season begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Trinity Sunday (57 days after Easter).
5. To Contribute to the Support of the Church:
- a) Catholics should give financial (money) support to the church according to one's means and/or donate time and/or talent to one's parish.
6. Observe the laws of the Church concerning Marriage:
- Catholic marriages must be witnessed by a priest or deacon. If an individual is married not in the Catholic Church, they can ask a Priest about getting the marriage blessed. If a Catholic has been married before, it is important to seek an annulment prior to marrying a second time. To be married in the Church, a Catholic should promise to raise their children in the Catholic Faith and avoid artificial methods of birth control. Natural family planning is 98.6% effective in avoiding pregnancy. For further information contact: The local catholic parish and/or your facility catholic chaplain.
7. Participate in the missionary activity of the Church.

The doctrine and practices of the Roman Catholic Church significantly affects the religious life of its people. Therefore, this section will simply outline a few concepts that are important to know when working with an individual from this faith group.

Blessed Virgin Mary:

Because she is the Mother of Jesus, Mary is the Mother of God. As the document on "The Church, Paragraph 53, from Vatican II puts it: "At the message of the angel, the Virgin Mary received the Word of God in her heart and in her body, and gave Life to the world. Hence, she is acknowledged and honored as being truly the Mother of God and the Mother of the Redeemer" (The Church, 53).

As Mother of the Lord, Mary is an entirely unique person. Like her Son, she was conceived as a human being (and lived her whole life) exempt from any trace of original sin. This is called her Immaculate Conception. Before, during, and after the birth of Jesus her Son, Mary remained physically a virgin. At the end of her life,

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Mary was assumed – that is, taken up – body and soul into heaven. This is called her Assumption.

The Saints:

The Church also honors saints who are already with the Lord in heaven. These are people who have served God and their neighbors in so outstanding a way that they have been canonized. That is, the Church has officially declared that they are in heaven, holds them up as heroic models, and encourages us to ask their intercession with God for us all.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Private:

Individual worship for the Catholic encourages daily prayer and meditation, spiritual reading, and a desire to put into practice God's will in one's daily life. Common catholic practices include praying the Rosary, Liturgy of the Hours, and Stations of the Cross to name just a few.

Corporate – Communal:

Community worship is the most important aspect of the Catholic faith. As a people of God they worship together. They usually prepare for and celebrate the seven sacraments. A sacrament is an outward sign of inward grace, instituted by Jesus Christ, to give grace. The seven Sacraments of the Catholic Church are:

Baptism – Baptism is the sacrament which cleanses one from original sin and makes one a member of the Body of Christ. (John 3:5)

Confirmation – Confirmation is the sacrament by which a Catholic receives the Holy Spirit in a unique and special way. (Acts 1:8)

Eucharist – The bread and wine are changed into the Body and Blood of Christ when the words of consecration are pronounced by the priest at Mass. (Matthew 26: 26-28)

Reconciliation – The sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is the sacrament whereby all sins committed after Baptism are forgiven. Jesus Christ instituted the Sacrament of Reconciliation when He breathed on his Apostles and gave them power to forgive sins, saying: "Whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven." The priest forgives sins by the power of God when he pronounces the words of absolution. The words of absolution are: "I absolve you from your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." (John 20:23)

Anointing of the Sick – The authority in Scripture for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is in the fifth chapter of St. James, where it is said: "Is any one sick among you? Let him bring in the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith shall save the sick man; and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he be in sin they shall be forgiven." The priest anoints the sick person with holy oil, accompanied with prayer. (James 5:14-15)

Matrimony – Matrimony is the Sacrament which sanctifies the contract of a Christian marriage, and gives a special grace to those who receive it worthily. Catholic marriages

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must be witnessed by a priest or deacon after completing 6 to 12 months of marriage preparation. (John 2:1-10)

Holy Orders – The imposition of hands by a bishop which confers on a candidate the spiritual faculty to sanctify others through the holy and proper administration of the sacraments of the People of God. (Luke 22:19)

Adults seeking admission to the Catholic Church must go through a period of formation called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). The journey of conversion leading to Baptism has four stages:

1. Pre-catechumenate – a time for initial inquiry by the candidate and evangelization by trained and designated Church leaders.
2. Catechumenate – a time for serious instruction and formation in Christian belief and lifestyle.
3. Period of Election – occurs at the beginning of the lenten season when a catechumen decides that he/she is ready for initiation. The Lenten season becomes a time of prayerful reflection and discernment. This stage leads directly to the celebration of the initiation sacraments (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) at the Easter Vigil.
4. Mystagogia – The newly initiated continue their reflection and instruction on the recent sacramental experiences. This occurs mainly between Easter and Pentecost and can continue up to a whole year.

Holy Books

Catholic Bible New Jerusalem New American American Standard Version Revised Standard Version (Catholic Edition)

Holy Days/Significant Celebrations

Ash Wednesday	This is to remind Catholics to turn away from sin and live in the example of Christ. This begins the Lenten season.
Holy Thursday	The Thursday before Easter Sunday. This liturgy includes washing the feet as Christ did at "The Last Supper".
Good Friday	This is the Friday before Easter Sunday. This celebration includes veneration of the cross.

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Palm Sunday	This is the Sunday before Easter. Palm leaves are used to celebrate the entry of Christ into Jerusalem.
Easter Sunday	The most important celebration of the year celebrating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead and ending the Lenten, Holy Week season.
Our Lady of Guadalupe	The celebration of the Mother of the Americas. This celebration is especially important to Hispanics.

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith or practice.

Fast Days

Ash Wednesday & Good Friday- Fasting means limiting oneself to one full meal, and two smaller meals, which together do not exceed the main meal for those aged 14-59.

During the Lent season Catholics are required to abstain from eating meat on all Fridays (including Good Friday). They may however eat fish on those days.

Dietary Restrictions

The Catholic laws of fasting and abstinence impose most Catholics a serious obligation to refrain from eating meat on certain days and to limit the quantity of food on other days. (see above Fast Days)

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

In accord with Catholic belief, the Mass is not valid in the Catholic tradition unless celebrated by a priest. Services of "The Word and Communion" may be lead by designated lay persons or deacons.

Sources:

Catechism of the Catholic Church and Roman Catholic Canon Law, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, United States Catholic Conference, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. 1994, Washington D.C.; *Handbook For Today's Catholic*, A Redemptorist Pastoral Publication, Liguori, Publications, 1994, Washington D.C.; *Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices*

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REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

The Bible. RSV, New American Bible, Jerusalem Bible.

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

Mass or Communion Service available on Holy Days when possible. Special services available on other feasts and seasons of importance to the Church at large, and/or a particular culture, ie, the Hispanic community.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

Access to religious items (such as, but not limited to, crosses, medals, rosaries, bibles, prayer books, scapulars, holy cards) which enhance individual private prayer.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

Mass or Scripture/Communion Service on a weekly basis is expected. Also, access to all the Sacraments—except Holy Orders & Marriage—should be available for those who are in segregation and/or IMU.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

Accommodation for fasting and abstaining from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all and Fridays during the Lenten season.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

Access to those ministers assigned by the Church to work with offenders.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

Access to the Sacraments of Reconciliation (Confession) and Anointing of the Sick upon request.

Access to the RCIA process for those seeking initiation into the Roman Catholic Community upon request.

Seventh-Day Adventist

History/Background

The Seventh-Day Adventist Church is a Christian church with roots common to all Christendom. They are strict religionists who base their faith on the Bible, emphasize a Second Coming of Jesus Christ, and observance of Saturday as their day of worship. They are evangelistic, conducting missionary activity in 184 countries of the world. The church was organized in 1863.

An important figure in the formation of the Adventist Church organization was Ellen G. White, who gave guidance to the group of men studying out what would become the doctrines of the church, as she received visions of instruction from the Lord. She and her husband, James, began the publishing work, now expanded into close to 100 publishing establishments scattered around the world. Mrs. White's inspired guidance and encouragement also were instrumental in starting the vast medical program and extensive elementary through university level educational systems now carried on worldwide.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

Seventh-Day Adventists teach that Christ entered into the Holy of Holies in the heavenly sanctuary in 1844, to make an investigation of His people, with the purpose of cleansing all sin and revealing those who will be safe to save when He returns. They believe that "the dead know not anything," and accept the literal statement that "in death there is no remembrance of Thee." When death occurs, man's "breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth: in that very day his thoughts perish." (see Ps. 6:5, 146:4, Eccl. 9:5) The condition between death and resurrection is referred to as sleep, from which only the Life Giver, Christ, can awaken the "sleepers" as with Lazarus. This, Christ will do at His second coming. The wicked will be slain by the brightness of His coming, the righteous dead will be raised from their graves and join the righteous living with Jesus for the journey to heaven. There they will remain for 1000 years. When the thousand years is ended Christ and his followers will descend from heaven in the New Jerusalem, "the Holy City," and the final destruction of the wicked and Satan will take place. Then the Lord will create the earth anew, for an eternal habitation for the righteous.

Seventh-day Adventists believe that the Bible teaching that our bodies are "the temple of the Holy Spirit," means that they should follow a healthful life style. They thus teach abstinence from alcoholic beverages, tobacco in all its forms, narcotic drug use, (unless prescribed by a physician for medicinal purposes), and all other foods and beverages which debilitate the mind and body. Adventists emphasize the eating of grains, nuts, fruits, vegetables, and do not use flesh foods listed as "unclean" in Leviticus 11 in the Bible. They operate 26 food factories specializing in food acceptable to Seventh-day Adventist diets.

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While it is not mandated, Seventh-day Adventists recommend that their members do not bear arms in time of war, but encourage that they chose rather to serve in non-combat branches of the military as medics and other related specialties. They prefer to be called "conscientious cooperators."

They teach that the Sabbath must be observed on the seventh day of the week (Saturday). They observe the Sabbath from sundown Friday night to sundown Saturday night, by refraining from all unnecessary work and spending the sacred hours in worship, Bible and nature study, and missionary endeavors.

Adventists believe that salvation is by grace through the righteousness of Jesus Christ. They also believe that the Ten Commandments are a reflection of God's character and are to be observed as an expression of their love for God and their fellow men, as directed by Jesus in John 14:15, when He admonished, "If ye love Me, keep My commandments." They accept the gifts of the Holy Spirit including the Spirit of Prophecy. As followers of Jesus, Adventists believe that they should manifest true modesty in dress and behavior. They firmly oppose any explanation of creation other than the literal account in the Book of Genesis in the Bible.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

The weekly Sabbath is celebrated from sundown Friday to Sundown Saturday. During Sabbath hours, only those duties relating to works of mercy, alleviation of suffering, or the protection and preservation of human life are performed; labor and secular activities are avoided. Any able bodied SDA should be willing to work in situations as just listed. There are no other doctrinally required holy days specific only to Seventh-Day Adventists. **Seventh-day Adventists should not be required to work on the Sabbath.**

Private:

The Seventh-Day Adventist Church does not hold its members to a formalized requirement in the matter of worship, other than that the time must be provided for personal Bibles study and prayer. Observance of the Sabbath from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday is basic and mandatory.

Corporate:

In the formal aspect of group worship, a simple liturgy free of rituals is recommended. Seventh-day Adventists observe the Lord's Supper (communion) during corporate worship. This includes the Ordinance of Humility (Foot Washing ceremony), the symbol of servant-hood instituted by Christ.

Holy Books

Holy Bible

Books written by: Ellen G. White
Inspirational SDA writings

Holy Days/Festivals

Major Christian holy days.

Work Proscription Days

Seventh-day Adventists should not be required to work on the Sabbath.

Fast Days

None required by faith or practice.

Dietary Restrictions

An ovo-lacto-Vegetarian (allows eggs and milk) or a Vegetarian – no eggs, no milk, and no animal products at all diet is suggested as ideal for health, but “clean” meats (from animals that have split hoof and chew the cud, as outlined in Leviticus 11 of the Bible) may be eaten according to the individual decision. Unclean meats (pork, shellfish, and others outlined in Leviticus 11) and food containing unclean meats are not allowed. No alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or non medical narcotics are allowed.

Also recommended is to stay away from food stimulants and leavening agents.

Food Stimulants – the most common of these stimulants identified as harmful are vinegar (contained in most pickles, salad dressing, barbeque sauce, ketchup, mayonnaise, and all relishes) and spices (especially all peppers, cinnamon, cloves, ginger and mustard).

Leavening Agents – There are objections to using baking powder and baking soda – especially in breads. The ideal is to eat only breads leavened with yeast or to eat unleavened bread.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

Within the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, spiritual leadership is provided by ordained ministers, who are given their credentials and are under the direction of the conference organization, are in the employ of the Church and can serve and minister anywhere. Additional leadership is provided by lay elders who serve in the local congregation. Church members expect free access to the pastoral ministry of the Church for spiritual counsel and advice.

Sources:

Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices; *Religions* By: Myrtle Langley; *Inmate Religious Beliefs and Practices* By: Us Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons

HANDBOOK OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

The Bible plus writings of Ellen G. White.

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

Major Christian holy days.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

Adventists do not work on the Sabbath (Saturday). Adventist inmates should only be required to work on Saturday if the job is essential to the prison operation and the work assignment cannot be accomplished on another day.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

Daily Bible study, prayer, study of the Quarterly Bible Study Guide B

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

Saturday group worship with a simple liturgy free of rituals. Adventists observe the Lord's Supper (communion) during corporate worship. No special equipment is required other than grape juice and communion bread.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

An ovo-lacto-Vegetarian (allows eggs and milk) or a Vegetarian – no eggs, no milk, and no animal products at all diet is suggested as ideal for health, but "clean" meats (from animals that have split hoof and chew the cud, as outlined in Leviticus 11 of the Bible) may be eaten according to the individual decision. Unclean meats (pork, shellfish, and others outlined in Leviticus 11) and food containing unclean meats are not allowed. No alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or narcotics are allowed.

Those offenders who meet the requirements of DOC 560.200 will be provided with an Ovo-lacto vegetarian diet or a Vegetarian diet as requested.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

Within the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, spiritual leadership is provided by ordained ministers. Additional leadership is provided by lay elders who serve in the local congregation.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST (CHRISTIAN SCIENCE)

History/Background

Christian Science was founded by Mary Baker Eddy (1821-1910) in 1879 in Lynn Massachusetts. It was based upon her strong belief in healing from the "Divine mind, God". Mrs. Eddy asserted that her beliefs were derived from, "new interpretations of Biblical passages not from human sources." Mrs. Eddy authored the book Science and Health in 1875, which later became Science and Health with Keys to the Scriptures.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

The church was founded to, "commemorate the word and works of our master Jesus Christ which should reinstate primitive Christianity and its lost elements of healing." (from the manual of the Mother Church by M.B. Eddy) The major teachings of the church include the following:

1. To take the inspired word of the Bible as our sufficient guide to eternal life.
2. Acknowledge and adore our supreme God, His Son and Christ, the Holy Ghost or divine comforter and man in God's image and likeness.
3. We acknowledge God's forgiveness of sin in the destruction of sin and the spiritual understanding that cast out evil as unreal. But belief in sin is punished so long as the belief lasts.
4. The atonement of Jesus Christ is evidence of divine, efficacious love, unfolding man's unity with God through Jesus Christ, through Truth, Life, and Love as demonstrated by the Galilean Prophet in healing the sick and overcoming sin and death.
5. The crucifixion of Jesus and His resurrection served to uplift faith to understand eternal life, even the allness of Soul, Spirit and the nothingness of matter.
6. The adherent solemnly promises to watch, and pray for that "Mind" to be in us which was also in Christ Jesus; to do unto others as we would have them do unto us; and to be merciful, just and pure.

Seeking and finding God is central to the practice of a Christian Scientist. Generally, Christian Scientists do not use medicine or go to doctors. Central to Christian Science are the teachings of Christ, and His healing work provide an example of how His followers can also turn to God and recognition of one's identity as God's reflection.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Private

Individual worship for the Christian Scientist includes prayer and daily study of the Bible and Science and Health With Key to the Scriptures.

Corporate (Public)

There is no ordained clergy to conduct services. Services are conducted by "readers" who read from the Bible, Science and Health and from Lesson-sermon notes sent from the Mother Church. The Bible and Science and Health are considered the dual and impersonal pastors of the Church.

Churches of Christ, Scientist, have open meetings on Sunday. Lesson-sermons from the Christian Science Quarterly are read throughout all of the churches. Hymns, silent prayer, and the Lord's prayer are included in the one-hour service. Readers for these services are elected by members of each church.

Christian Scientists also gather for a Wednesday evening meeting that includes the sharing of healing and spiritual insights by the congregation. While there is uniformity in the Sunday lessons, the readings at the Wednesday service vary from church to church, having been selected by the individual conducting the service.

Holy Books

Christian Scientists hold the Bible as their Holy Book. The denominational textbook, Science and Health

With Key to the Scriptures, is the definitive statement of the teachings of Christian Science

Holy Days/Festivals

Christmas and Easter are felt to have deep spiritual significance, but the church holds no special services on these days.

Thanksgiving services are held by the church and are conducted the same as the Sunday service but with the congregation being invited to share testimonies of gratitude as a part of the service.

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith and practice.

Fast Days

None required by faith and practice.

Dietary Restrictions

There are no required restrictions or days of fasting, but the members of the Church of Christ, Scientist refrain from the use of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

The public healing ministry of the church is carried out by Christian Science Practitioners who, through prayer, help to restore those who call for help, such as sickness, troubles, or need of compassion. Patients who receive this help usually reimburse the Practitioners as gratitude for their service of healing.

Practitioners are listed in the *Christian Science Journal* and have shown their ability and knowledge of Christian Science, sufficiently, to go into the public practice of Christian Science. They are available for those who request help.

Sources:

Lyle Young, Christian Science Committee on Publications for Ontario
Connie Banko, Christian Science Reading room volunteer, Walla Walla, WA

REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

The Bible. *Science and Health With Key to the Scriptures* is the definitive statement of the teaching of Christian Science.

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

This church is not inclined towards festivals or special religious holidays. There are no mandatory requirements.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith and practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

No mandatory requirement but the majority of Christian Scientists pray and study the Bible and *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* daily.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

No mandatory requirement but the majority of Christian Scientists meet on Sunday for group worship.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

None required by faith and practice.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

Christian Scientists have no ordained clergy. There should be access to a Christian Science Practitioner who is a lay member of the local congregation and recommended by the church for volunteer work in prisons.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

Members of this faith group do not use medical services.

LATTER-DAY SAINTS (MORMONS)

History/Background

Mormonism had its beginnings in New York in the 1820's. Joseph Smith had a vision in his early teens that was the basis for the founding of the Mormon Church. As he matured, he had a number of visions and revelations that caused him to believe that he was chosen to restore the true church of God. He was directed by an angel, Moroni, to unearth a set of ancient golden records from a hill near his parents' farm. The book contained "the fullness of the everlasting Gospel". He translated these records and published them in 1830 as the "*The Book of Mormon*."

According to the Book of Mormon, a prophet named Lehi lived in Jerusalem about 600 BC. God commanded Lehi to lead his family and a small group of people to the American Continent. There they became a great civilization, who Latter-day Saints believe are the ancestors of the modern Indian. The Book of Mormon records that, following his crucifixion and resurrection, Christ visited these inhabitants of the Western Hemisphere, taught the gospel, and organized His church.

Joseph Smith had a number of visions and revelations that convinced him that he was to restore the true church of Christ. He believed that the authority of the church had vanished during the early days of Christianity. In 1829, the powers of the priesthood of the early church, which included the authority to baptize and confer the gift of the Holy Ghost, were conferred upon Smith and his associate Oliver Cowdery by John the Baptist and in a subsequent visit, the authority of the apostleship by Peter, James and John.

In 1832, Joseph Smith was instructed to build a temple in which Jesus, Moses and Elijah appeared to Smith and Cowdery and restored the authority to seal families for eternity.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

The following are some of the unique or basic beliefs of the LDS church.

The Godhead- Mormons believe that God the Father, Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost comprise the Godhead and are all separate and distinct beings. God the Father and Jesus Christ have physical bodies which are glorified and immortal. The Godhead are one in purpose but not in form.

Jesus Christ- Jesus Christ is the first born spiritual son of God and his only begotten son in the flesh. In the spirit world he distinguished himself by his perfect faith and obedience and became one with God. In the great council in Heaven before this earth was created he offered himself a sacrifice to satisfy justice and redeem all mankind. Jesus Christ was unique as a mortal being. He is literally the physical son of God. His mother, the virgin Mary, conceived the Son of God through the instrumentality of the Holy Ghost. As the Son of God, he had power over death, as the Son of a mortal

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mother he had the capacity to die. Thus his death and sacrifice was voluntary. He lived a perfect life. His voluntary atonement served to appease the demands of justice and provide mercy to the repentant sinner.

Fall of Adam- The most unique doctrine of Mormonism might just be their position on the Fall of Adam. Adam and Eve in their paradisiacally innocent state-not yet mortal-were unable to have children. Yet they were commanded to multiply and replenish the earth. This conflict provoked the fall. Eve was deceived; but Adam chose to partake of the forbidden fruit "that man might be." His disobedience brought severe punishment -- mortality with pain and suffering, physical death, sin, and separation from God. But in a divinely bizarre twist of logic, the punishment of mortality turns to a blessing. God was not surprised nor was he disappointed. "all things were done in the wisdom of Him who knoweth all things. Adam fell that men might be. Men are that they might have joy."

Original Sin- In the Mormon philosophy, Adam and Eve in their innocence, committed no sin but a transgression of commandment. Furthermore, a tenet of their faith is that "men will be punished for their own sins and not for Adam's transgression".

The Atonement of Christ – The atonement of Jesus Christ is the gospel. All other doctrines are merely appendages to it. The atonement was necessary because of the Fall and lifts man out of the bondage of death and sin. All mankind receives immortality or resurrection as a free gift through the atonement of Jesus Christ. Salvation from sin and eternal life (life with God) is made possible by Christ's atonement but must be earned by obedience to the principles and ordinances of the gospel. The Book of Mormon states "for we know that it is by grace, that we are saved, after all we can do."

Lucifer- Lucifer, also known as the devil, is also one of the spirit sons of God. But he rebelled against God and led a pre-existent rebellion in heaven in which 1/3 of the host of heaven fought against God. He was cast out of heaven and abides on earth with his hosts of rebellious followers. They will not receive physical bodies but sometimes attempt to possess the bodies of others. Mormons believe that his intent is "that all men might be miserable like unto himself."

Adam-ondi-Ahman. Before Jesus Christ descends openly and publicly in the clouds of glory, he will appear to a select group of prophets and leaders here on earth. Adam the father of all will be at the council and will address his posterity. All the great prophet leaders i.e. Noah, Moses, John the Baptist, Peter, James and John, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Elijah, Elias, etc. will all be there and give back to Christ the keys with which they served in the Kingdom of God here upon the earth and render an accounting of their stewardship. The gathering spot is where Adam blessed his posterity before his death.

Baptism- an essential ordinance required of all men to enter the kingdom of God. It must be performed by immersion by one having authority to baptize.

Church Organization and Modern Day Revelation- Mormons believe in the same organization that existed in the primitive church with apostles and prophets. God still speaks to man today through revelation and through a prophet just as He did in ancient times to reveal His will to man.

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Holy Scripture- “we believe the Bible to be the word of God as far as it is translated correctly”. Mormons accept the King James Version of the Bible as the most correctly translated version. They also include as canonized scripture *The Book of Mormon*, *The Doctrine and Covenants* (containing modern revelation to the church) *The Pearl of Great Price* (a compilation of selections from the Book of Moses, key teachings of the fall and pre-existence of man, and the history of Joseph Smith’s vision).

Eternal Family Relations- Family relationships can last forever-not just for this life. When a marriage is performed by the proper authority in the holy temple, it can last through eternity.

Pre-Existence in the spirit world- Men and women lived with Heavenly Father as His spirit children before they were born. In this setting, they had the opportunity to grow, mature and learn many eternal truths.

Purpose of Life on Earth- Coming to earth and gaining a body was an essential part of Heavenly Fathers’ plan of progression towards eternal life. When we are born a “veil of forgetfulness” is placed across our memory of our pre-existence. Our life on earth is an opportunity to grow and prove to ourselves that we can follow Him in faith.

Baptism by Proxy and Salvation for the Dead- Those who lived and died on the earth without the knowledge of the gospel are given the opportunity to accept and embrace it through teachings in the spirit world. The required ordinance of baptism is performed vicariously in temples here in mortality by faithful members of the church. They teach that such proxy baptisms once accepted are as though the departed spirits had accepted the gospel and received the baptism while in this life.

Restoration- The true Christian Church of Christ began dying late in the 1st century AD with the death of the apostles and the loss of the authority of God and the subsequent apostasy that followed as the religious leaders and followers changed many of the basic teachings of Jesus Christ. It was restored by Joseph Smith in the early 19th century, when he founded the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. They believe that revelation from God instructed Joseph Smith that the gospel of Jesus Christ had been corrupted and its authority lost. They believe a “restoration” was necessary to reestablish the divine authority and the truths of Christianity. Thus while they consider themselves Christian, they are neither Catholic nor Protestant but Restorationist.

Life after Death- the Book of Mormon teaches that “all the spirits of men, as soon as they are departed from this mortal body...whether they be good or evil are taken home to that God who gave them life...The spirits of those who are righteous are received into a state of happiness, which is called paradise...The spirits of the wicked....remain in a state of darkness, as well as the righteous in paradise” to await the time of their resurrection.

Salvation by Obedience- Mormons believe that salvation comes by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the gospel. The grace of God as manifested in the Atonement makes possible the gift of salvation but each person must choose to partake of that gift

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by exercising faith and obedience to the gospel of Jesus Christ. They teach that men will be judged by their works.

The Articles of Faith of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

1. We believe in God, the Eternal Father, and in His Son, Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Ghost.
2. We believe that men will be punished for their own sins, and not for Adam's transgression.
3. We believe that through the Atonement of Christ, all mankind may be saved, by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel.
4. We believe that the first principles and ordinances of the Gospel are: first, Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; second, Repentance; third, Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; fourth, Laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost.
5. We believe that a man must be called of God, by prophecy, and by the laying on of hands by those who are in authority, to preach the Gospel and administer in the ordinances thereof.
6. We believe in the same organization that existed in the Primitive Church, namely, apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers, evangelists, and so forth.
7. We believe in the gift of tongues, prophecy, revelation, visions, healing, interpretation of tongues, and so forth.
8. We believe the Bible to be the word of God as far as it is translated correctly; we also believe the Book of Mormon to be the word of God.
9. We believe all that God has revealed, all that He does now reveal, and we believe that He will yet reveal many great and important things pertaining to the Kingdom of God.
10. We believe in the literal gathering of Israel and in the restoration of the Ten Tribes; that Zion (the New Jerusalem) will be built upon this the American continent; that Christ will reign personally upon the earth; and, that the earth will be renewed and receive its paradisiacal glory.
11. We claim the privilege of worshiping Almighty God according to the dictates of our own conscience, and allow all men the same privilege, let them worship how, where, or what they may.
12. We believe in being subject to kings, presidents, rulers, and magistrates, in obeying, honoring, and sustaining the law.
13. We believe in being honest, true, chaste, benevolent, virtuous, and in doing good to all men; indeed, we may say that we follow the admonition of Paul—We believe all things, we hope all things, we have endured many things, and hope to be able to endure all things. If there is anything virtuous, lovely, or of good report or praiseworthy, we seek after these things.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

The LDS Church has the most highly developed liturgy of any Latter Day Saint church. It is expressed through the ceremonies conducted in its temples.

Holy Books

The Holy Bible

Mormons accept the King James Version of the Bible to be the most correctly translated copy of the Old and New Testament.

Book of Mormon

This is a history of the American Indians ancestors between 600 BC and 421 AD that tells the story of Christ's visit to the Western Hemisphere where he organized a church as he did in Palestine. It contains a record of God's dealings with the people and the recorded words of their prophets. In 1982 the church added a subtitle, "Another Testament of Jesus Christ" to the Book of Mormon.

The Doctrine and Covenants

This is a collection of 138 revelations and 2 declarations revealed to Latter-day prophets and is significant doctrinal scripture for Mormons. The Word of Wisdom is found in the Doctrine and Covenants.

The Pearl of Great Price

This is a small volume with five sections. In selections from the Book of Moses, key teachings include the necessity and benefits of Adams fall, Adam's baptism by immersion, and the preexistence of human spirits. Also included is a history of Joseph Smith' first vision, the Book of Abraham and the Thirteen Articles of Faith, which are thirteen concise statements of the core beliefs of the Latter-day Saints.

Holy Days/Festivals

As with all groups who claim affiliation with Christianity, the Latter-day Saints observe the major Christian holy days and Sunday is observed as a weekly holy day of worship.

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith or practice

Fast Days

Mormons fast monthly on the first Sunday of every month and attend a special worship as part of that fast. The money saved on the food which would have been consumed is donated to the needy as a charitable offering.

Dietary Restrictions

As a result of adherence to a health code, included in the revelations of the Doctrine and Covenants, Latter-Day Saints eat meat sparingly, encourage the use of wholesome herbs, fruits and grains; and totally abstain from the use of tea, coffee, tobacco, alcohol and drugs. Drugs by prescription are allowed.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

Groups of congregations form a ward, or geographical area, over which a Bishop (called by revelation) presides. Bishops through revelation call persons to serve in other leadership responsibilities in the ward, regarding the ward as an extended family. Wards are grouped into stakes. Over all are the prophet and president with two counselors, and the Council of the Twelve Apostles. Church leadership at all levels serve without compensation. Each leader is entitled to personal revelation regarding his stewardship. Male members in good standing constitute a non-professional priesthood and share responsibility for individual congregations.

Sources:

The Holy Bible; Doctrine and Covenants; Book of Mormon; Encyclopedia of Mormonism, Salt Lake, Desert Book Co. 1964, Doctrines of Salvation; Marvelous Work and a Wonder, Salt Lake Desert Publishing Co.; The Articles of Faith, The Pearl of Great Price; Alan and Deanne Fielding, Public Affairs consultants for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

The King James Version of the Bible
Book of Mormon*
The Doctrine & Covenants*
The Pearl of Great Price*

* These three items are frequently contained in one volume.

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

As with all groups who claim affiliation with Christianity, the Latter-day Saints observe the major Christian holy days and Sunday is observed as a weekly holy day of worship.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

Prayer in the morning and evening.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

Group worship on Sunday is expected and required for full fellowship and privileges. The Sacrament of Communion (using bread and water) is observed every Sunday.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

No mandatory requirement other than abstaining from the use of tea, coffee, tobacco, alcohol, and drugs. Drugs by prescription are allowed.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

Latter-Day Saints have a lay leadership in which all worthy males are ordained to various offices within the priesthood. These persons are approved for service through the Church headquarters in Salt Lake City, Utah.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

Unity

History/Background

Unity is a religious movement that does not require its followers to become members or to hold a fixed set of beliefs. Unity describes itself as “the religion of the written word.” In the 1880’s, Charles and Myrtle Fillmore, co-founders of Unity, discovered new truths about life and health. After the both experienced healings from limiting physical conditions, they began a ministry of praying for the sick and teaching classes in their Kansas City home. Thus Unity was born.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

Students of Unity generally regard the Bible highly, while believing that other sacred books also contain imminent truths. In the view of Unity, authority lies partly in a special understanding of the Bible. Unity makes a distinction between the “outer” Bible and the “Inner” Bible. The words of the outer Bible have inner meanings, inner applications and implications, which portray the divine constitution of humankind and the unfolding of the individual Soul. Authority lies also in one’s personal communion with God, and the Bible is helpful in this process. Unity does not claim that its interpretations of Biblical statements are infallible or final. It holds that as human spiritual consciousness expands, individuals will receive ever-increasing revelations of truth. Unity desires that its teachings may afford additional light to those who are seeking God.

The ideas of Unity are centered around two basic propositions:

God is good, and;
God is available. In fact God is in you.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Private Worship – Daily prayer and meditation

Corporate Worship – Weekly worship

Holy Books

Bible

Other sacred books containing eminent truths.

Holy Days/Festivals

None required by faith or practice.

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith or practice.

Fast Days

None required by faith or practice.

Dietary Restrictions

None required by faith or practice.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

Worship is led by a minister and lay participation is encouraged.

Sources:

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REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

Students of Unity generally regard the Bible highly, while believing that other sacred books also contain eminent truths.

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

Daily prayer and meditation.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

Weekly worship centered around two basic propositions:

God is good, and;

God is available. In fact God is in you.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

Ordained clergy.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

World Wide Church of God

History/Background

The World Wide Church of God is a study in transition, progression and change. It was founded in the 1950s and 1960s by Herbert W. Armstrong who strongly opposed traditional doctrines and teachings of the protestant church. Following the death of Armstrong in 1986, Joseph Tkach Sr. became head of the WCG. Mr. Tkach would usher in sweeping doctrinal and theological changes to WCG. Under Tkach leadership the focus of the church became the Gospel of Jesus Christ and grace and not prophesy , or the millenium, issues heavily emphasized by Armstrong. Today, Jesus Christ is recognized as Lord and Savior who gives instruction for all areas of life. Additionally there is a very strong emphasis placed on prayer and individual study of the scriptures as dynamics for spiritual growth.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

At this point in the history of the WCG, there appears to be no major divergent teachings from evangelical Christianity.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

WCG utilizes a conservative, evangelical form of worship and teaching in their church services

Holy Books

The Holy Bible

Holy Days/Festivals

December 25th – Christmas
Easter

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith or practice.

Fast Days

None required by faith or practice.

Dietary Restrictions

None required by faith or practice.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

The World Wide Church of God utilizes ministers and lay leaders.

Sources:

World Wide Church of God website at www.wcg.org,
Christianity Today article, "From the Fringe to the Fold," by Ruth Tucker

REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

The Holy Bible

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

The Worldwide Church of God keeps the annual festivals as given to ancient Israel by God and recorded in Leviticus 23. The observance of these special days is encouraged but not required if it would cause undue hardship on other people or create a security problem.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

Daily prayer and study of the Bible.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

Sabbath worship. The Sabbath begins at sunset on Friday and continues through sunset on Saturday. No work is to be done on the Sabbath.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

The World Wide Church of God utilizes ministers and lay leaders.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

None

HINDU

History/Background

A 'Hindu' is an Indian and 'Hinduism' is the religion of the peoples of India. Precise definition, however, is not so simple. Hinduism is a vast subject and an elusive concept. It has no founder and no creed. But it does possess scriptures, and the most ancient of these, the *Rig Veda*, provides a key to understanding Hinduism as a whole.

Some time between the year 1500 and 1200 BC wild charioteering Aryan tribes invaded India from the north-west and settled in what is today the Punjab. They had an important class of priests who composed hymns to their gods for use at sacrifices. Over the years these hymns were committed to memory and remarkably preserved until in later centuries 1,028 of them were enshrined in writing in the *Rig Veda*, the world's oldest living religious literature and Hinduism's most sacred book.

However, as Aryan religion spread, it absorbed elements from the cultures already present, for example from the Indus Valley in the north and the Dravidian in the south. So Hinduism as we know it today is like a great, deep river unto which, over a period of more than 3,000 years, many streams have flowed. The streams are the beliefs and practices of the numerous races, ethnic groups and cultures of the Indian sub-continent. This means that there are almost as many versions of Hinduism as there are villages or groups of Hindus.

The underlying and dominant current providing unity is the religion which grew out of the *Rig Veda* and later Vedic scripture. This means that Indian religion has certain discernible features. One of these is the doctrine of reincarnation: the belief that at death the soul always passes into another body until released from the continuous wheel of rebirth.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

Hinduism is the religion followed by approximately 70 percent of the 700 million people in India.

This religion is polytheistic with 33 gods.

Early sacred literature has the title of Veda (knowledge) and is also known as Sruti (that which is heard).

Four types of texts fall under Veda-Sruti heading:

- Simhitas
- Brahmanas
- Aranyakas
- Upanisads

HANDBOOK OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

Hindus are monotheists at heart; they believe in one High God – Brahman, 'the Absolute' – who rules over the world with the aid of many lesser gods.

The religion of these people – popular Hinduism – may be divided into three branches or sects, each with its own view of the nature and name of the High God: Vishnu, Shiva or Shakti. Families, by long tradition, support one branch or another. All branches are to be found in every part of India, though Shaivism is particularly strong in Kashmir in the north and Tamil in the south, and Shaktism in Bengal and Assam. The three sects continue together more or less in harmony, with devotees of Nehemiah god occasionally worshipping at the shrine of another. Educated Hindus believe that the three gods are merely differing ways of looking at the same High God or Ultimate reality.

The three sects: Vishnu is generally worshiped in the form of one of his ten incarnations. Wholly of goodwill, he sits enthroned in heaven beside his wife, the goddess Lakshmi. But because of his concern for the world he descends from time to time in the form of an incarnation.

Shiva differs in character from Vishnu. He has a dark grim side of his nature, which seems to be derived from Rudra, The Vedic god of mountain and storm. Shiva is often described as lurking in horrible places such as battlefields and cemeteries. In sculpture he is often shown wearing a garland of skulls and surrounded by evil spirits as he dances the grim dance by which he destroys the world. At other times he is seen as the great ascetic, rapt in continuous meditation in the Himalayas. Devotees worship Shiva in the form of an image and also in his emblem, the *linga*, a short, rounded, phallic pillar which represents the creative power of God. Shaivism has its pleasant side too. There is animal sacrifice, and some ascetics deliberately inflict pain on themselves. Most devotees, nonetheless, look on their god as loving and gracious.

To her devotees. Shakti, the great Mother Goddess, is the supreme deity. From their point of view the god in his male aspect is not active in the world and does not need worship. His wife Shakti is worshiped instead, in the fierce form of Durga or Kali and in the mild form of Parvati or Uma. In her fierce form Shakti is often depicted as a repulsive Haggai, bearing an assortment of weapons and trampling on a demon. Even today her worship is often accompanied by animal sacrifice. In the past, human sacrifice to Durga was not unknown. In her mild form Shakti appears as a beautiful young woman. For although she may unleash her fury on sinners she is loving and benevolent to her devotees.

Other major gods are also worshipped, for example Brahma the Creator, Ganesh the elephant-god, Hanuman the monkey-god and Surya the sun-god.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Hinduism is a way of life. It is a path of duty to be followed within a divinely ordered society. The basic unit of society is the family. And so an individual's life is marked at every stage by domestic ritual. Birth, initiation, marriage and death – each has a ritual, as well as rites of daily worship and annual festivals. The individual is reminded that he

HANDBOOK OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

is part of a family. He is also made aware that the family is part of a caste and the caste part of the social class.

There are four great classes: the priests (*brahmins*), the nobles (*kshatriyas*), the merchants and peasants (*vaishyas*), and the manual laborers (*shudras*). There are also outcastes and unclassified peoples. All are divided into several castes or sub-classes, each with its appropriate duty. Traditionally, the four classes were looked on as totally separate species. A member of one class would not marry a member of another class –or not even eat a meal with him. Nowadays, however, at least theoretically, such distinctions have been abolished.

A man of the upper three classes, goes through four stages in his life. There is the stage of the celibate student, the householder, the hermit, and the homeless religious beggar. The first stage is entered at the time of initiation. From then on the man will wear the sacred thread which passes over his left shoulder and under his right arm. Marriage is important, and the wedding ceremony one of the most solemn and complicated rites in Hinduism, because it ensures not only the continuity of the family but also the welfare of its dead members in the other world. Only a son can perform the funeral rites which provide the soul of his dead father with a new spiritual body with which to pass to the next life.

All the most important Hindu rites are performed in the home, not least worship (*puja*). Hindus worship as individuals and families, not as congregations – except in modern reform sects. Most houses have either a room or a corner in which there is a family shrine. The shrine contains an image or emblem of the deity. It may be the spiral marked stone representing Vishnu or the stone pillar representing Shiva. There are brightly-colored pictures illustrating Hindu mythology or depicting the exploits of the gods. First the worshipper anoints the gods, while reciting texts. Incense or joss sticks are lit and flowers and food are placed in front of the shrine. Worship in the temple follows a similar pattern.

The path of duty is the way to salvation: it obtains the release of the soul from the continuous cycle of life, death and rebirth.

Holy Books

The Vedas (The Sama Veda; The Yajur Veda; The Atharva Veda: The Brahmanas; The Upanishads) The Law Codes The Great Epics The Puranas
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Holy Days/Festivals

Temple Festivals	At least once per year.
The Holi Festival	Held at the beginning of spring. February/March.
The Dasera Festival	A popular ten day event held in honour of the goddess Durga. Its origins go back to Rama's victory over Ravana, as told in the Ramayana. September/October.
The Divali Festival	The four-day New Year festival; associated with Rama, spirits of the dead, and Vishnu and his wife Lakshmi, goddess of wealth and prosperity.

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith and practice.

Fast Days

None required by faith and practice.

Dietary Restrictions

Hindus are lacto-vegetarians who use no eggs, no meat of any kind, no onions, and no garlic. Milk or dairy products can be used.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

No formal clergy. Hindus worship as individuals and families, not as congregations – except in modern reform sects.

Sources:

Religions by; Myrtle Langley; Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices; *Inmate Religious Beliefs and Practices* By: Us Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons

HANDBOOK OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

Offenders from this faith background should be allowed to have Veda or Sruti sacred literature.

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

None required by faith and practice.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith and practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

None required by faith and practice.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

None required by faith and practice. Hindus worship as individuals and families, not as congregations – except in modern reform sects.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

Hindus are lacto-vegetarians who use no eggs, no meat of any kind, no onions, and no garlic. Milk or dairy products can be used.

Those offenders who meet the requirements of DOC 560.200 will be provided an lacto-vegetarian diet.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

No formal clergy. Hindus worship as individuals and families, not as congregations – except in modern reform sects.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KRISHNA CONSCIOUSNESS

History/Background

Krishna consciousness means to be conscious of God. It is recorded in the Vedic scriptures (Veda means knowledge), many of which are acknowledged to be at least 5,000 years old (3,000 B.C.) in written history alone. Previous to 3,000 B.C. there was a disciple succession of spiritual masters who passed on Krishna consciousness and this disciple succession continues until the present day. Historically, the Movement is known as the Vaishnava religion. Vaishnava means personal servant of God, the same God of the Bible and Koran. The modern spread of Vaishnavism outside of India was first due to the inspiration and teachings of Lord Chitanya Mahaprabhu (1486-1534 A.D.), which were later taken up in the mid-19th century by Bhaktivinode Thakur, who translated Vaishnava works intended for the English-speaking countries.

Current world leader is His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupade (Srila Prabhupada). He came to the United States in 1965, having been especially commissioned by his spiritual master to bring Krishna consciousness to the Western countries, and founded the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) in New York City the following year.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

Devotees of ISKCON believe that humanity, fallen from original intention, needs to return to "Krishna Consciousness." Devotees strive for "self-realization," that is, to become lovers of God. Chanting is the means. Faithful Krishnas chant the mantra (repetitious names for God) at least 1,728 times a day, believing that to do so is to cry out for God, who will not ignore such pleas.

Krishna devotees demonstrate a high level of commitment. Materialism is rejected and austerity is espoused. Most possessions are turned over to the temple. Physical pleasures are abhorred, clothing and hairstyles are altered, all for the sake of gaining Krishna consciousness. A major teaching is the belief in reincarnation. To the Krishna follower, the soul is eternal and only inhabits a physical body on its way to perfect Krishna consciousness. Each soul has been engaged in a lengthy cycle of reincarnations based upon behavior in past lives. Devotees believe that if enough spiritual enlightenment is attained during their human lives, they may break the cycle of reincarnations and achieve a perfect, eternal relationship with Krishna.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Group worship is required at least twice a day for full disciples. Each devotee is required to arise before sunrise for worship and chanting. The program includes chanting the holy names of God before the Deities (representations of the Supreme Being and pure devotees or saints), similar to the images often utilized in Catholic Churches. The evening ceremony is similar. Worship is usually performed in a Temple with an altar, Deities and a seat for the spiritual master. Japa (prayer) beads, kunti or sacred bead necklace and telok (marking on the forehead) constitutes minimum equipment for worship.

Holy Books

Sacred writings – Bhagavad – Gita
Bhagovata Purana

Holy Days/Festivals

All holy days of the ISKCON are reckoned according to the lunar calendar and occur on different days each year. Major festivals are:

0 Jagannatha or Rathayatra	July
Janamastami	Krishna's Birthday August.
Vyasa Puia	The spiritual master's birthday. August.

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith and practice.

Fast Days

None required by faith and practice.

Dietary Restrictions

Devotees eat no fish, meat, eggs, garlic or onions. Alcohol, drugs, coffee, tea and smoking are not permitted. A vegetarian diet is required.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

A president, discipled by Srila Prabhupada, serves each local facility as its spiritual leader and administrator. In the Temple, the brahmins (second initiates) are responsible for worship, instruction, ceremonies, etc., and are expected to preach.

Sources:

Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices; *Inmate Religious Beliefs and Practices*
By: Us Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons

REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

Sacred writings – Bhagavad – Gita
Bhagovata Purana

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

No mandatory requirements but the major festivals are: Jagannatha (July); Janamastami (August) and Vyasa Puja (August). The observance of these special days is encouraged but not required if it would cause undue hardship on other people or create a security problem.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith and practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

Each devotee is required to arise before sunrise for worship and chanting.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

Group worship is required at least twice a day for full disciples.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

No fish, meat, eggs, garlic, or onions. Alcohol, drugs, coffee, tea, and smoking are not permitted. A vegetarian diet is required.

Those offenders who meet the requirements of DOC 560.200 will be provided a Lacto-vegetarian diet.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

A president, discipled by Srila Prabhupada, serves each local facility as its spiritual leader and administrator. In the Temple, the brahmmins (second initiates) are responsible for worship, instruction, ceremonies, etc., and are expected to preach.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

Islam

Muslim

Moorish Science Temple

ISLAM

History/Background

Islam traces its origin to the Prophet Muhammad who was born in the city of Mecca, Arabia, about AD 571. At the time a power vacuum existed between two great empires of East and West, Persia and Byzantium; Mecca was a centre of the prosperous caravan trade between Southern Arabia and the Mediterranean.

Orphaned at an early age, Muhammad was looked after by a succession of relatives. Eventually a rich uncle sent him on trading excursions to the north where it is reported that he met Christians. At the age of 25, to his surprise, he was proposed to by a wealthy widow of 40 named Khadija. She bore him three daughters but no son.

In middle life, Muhammad began to show mystical traits and developed the habit of withdrawing to the hills for contemplation. On one such occasion, at the age of 40, he received a revelation calling him to denounce the paganism and polytheism of Mecca and preach the existence of one God, Allah. He was encouraged by his wife, but in the first years only a few others followed him. Some of these were prominent citizens, who are known as the 'the Companions'.

Then in AD 622, at the request of the citizens of nearby Medina, he left Mecca for Medina, accompanied by a few followers. This is the celebrated *hijra* or 'emigration', the event from which the Muslim calendar begins. Over the next few years Muhammad organized his followers and the citizens of Medina as a religious and political community and began to attack the trade caravans from Mecca. Meanwhile, he had expelled most of the Jewish tribes, whom he had hoped to win, and gradually incorporated the Bedouin tribes of Western and Central Arabia into the Muslim community. In 630, he massed an attack against Mecca, which finally surrendered. Muhammad immediately set about eliminating the polytheists. He rededicated the ancient sanctuary of the Ka'aba to Allah, making it the central shrine of pilgrimage for Muslims. It remains so to the present day.

The next two years were spent consolidating the tribes of Arabia. Then, suddenly, in 632 Muhammad died without naming a successor. He was succeeded by a series of caliphs ('successors'), the first two of whom were the Companions, Abu Bakr and 'Umar.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

Islam is the religion of the Oneness of God and the equality and unity of humanity. It is, in essence, the same monotheistic message throughout the history of mankind. Islam is an abstract word which means "submission" and is derived from "salaam" meaning "peace." In a religious context, Islam means achieving peace of heart and mind through complete submission to the good will of God and obedience to His beneficial laws. An

HANDBOOK OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

adherent of Islam is called a Muslim (submitter), one who submits to the will of God and behaves in accordance with His sublime teachings. The basic creed of Islam is expressed in the Shahadah, the declaration of faith, "There is no god but Allah and Muhammad is His Servant and Messenger."

The concept of God in Islam describes Him as the Almighty, the Eternal, the Compassionate, the Merciful, the Creator and Sustainer of the Universe. His will accordingly, is a will of Benevolence and Goodness and His laws are prescribed for the well-being and best interest of humanity. As a universal message of One God, Islam was revealed by Allah to many prophets of different nations and different times including Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, David, Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad (Peace be upon them). Muslims, thus, accept all the prophets of God previous to Muhammad without distinction to any of them. Muhammad however, is the final prophet from Allah with the final revelation, the Holy Qur'an, which came to restore the authenticity and purity of monotheism; the message of One God and the Unity of Mankind.

The Qur'an is the holy book of Islam, its primary source of teachings and sacred laws (Shari'ah). It is highly recommended that every Muslim man and woman recite a portion of the Holy Qur'an every day. Recitation of the Qur'an in Arabic is a form of worship and a daily reminder for practicing its noble teachings. The other sources of religious laws include the Hadith or the Sunnah, which includes the sayings, actions, and approval of prophet Muhammad, the Consensus (Ijma') of the Muslim scholars and jurists, and the analogy (Qiyas) derived from the interpretation and exposition of the Qur'an, Hadith, and Ijma'.

The Cardinal articles of faith in Islam are:

- the belief in One God, Supreme and Everlasting, Infinite and Mighty, Merciful and Compassionate, Creator and Sustainer of the Universe;
- the belief in Allah's Angels as purely spiritual and splendid beings in the service of God;
- the belief in all the prophets/messengers of God without any discrimination among them;
- the belief in the Holy Books of God including the Qur'an, the Torah, the Psalms of David, and the Gospel;
- the belief in the Divine Decree of God (Qada'and Qadar); and
- the belief in life after death and the individual's accountability before God on the Day of Judgment.

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These fundamental articles of faith are expressed and enacted through acts of worship contained in the Five Pillars of Faith. Islamic worship, religious requirements, and daily life are enunciated and regulated by sacred laws, called the Shari'ah, that are based on divine revelation and derived from the Qur'an, and the Sunnah, the tradition of the Prophet Muhammad. There are two basic groups within Islam, the Sunni and the Shi'ite, who differ on two fundamental issues:

- the line of succession following Muhammad; and
- religious authority.

The overwhelming majority of Muslims are Sunnis. Sunnis believe that all authority should be elected by the consensus of the community. They maintain that the Qur'an and Hadith, as interpreted by Muslim scholars, are the only authoritative basis of Islam. The Shi'ites, in comparison, believe that the line of succession is through the family of Muhammad. They believe that religious authority rests in an Imam, whose interpretations and pronouncements regarding the Qur'an, doctrine, and practice are divinely inspired and infallible.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Private

The most important aspects of Islamic practices are the five Pillars of Islam. In order to be a practicing Muslim, the individual has to observe these fundamentals with devotion:

- The Shahada or the declaration of faith: The individual Muslim is to believe and pronounce that "There is no god worthy of worship except Allah (God) and Muhammad is His Servant and Messenger."
- Prayer (Salat), is the obligatory (Fardh) worship which is observed five times a day: at dawn, noon, mid-afternoon, sunset, and nightfall. Before the Prayer is held, ablution or ritual washing is required. The prayer has to be performed in a clean place; i.e., no dirt or toilet. Standing on a clean surface (e.g., a mat, carpet, blanket, or towel) a Muslim faces Mecca (northeast direction) and prostrates himself/herself before God in prayer as prescribed by religious law. These prayers are preferably said within a congregation if it is possible. The Friday Prayer, which will be explained later, is a mandatory congregational prayer, conducted by an Imam who is chosen on the basis of his knowledge, practice, and piety.
- Charity (Zakat) is a religious tax that entails payment of two and one-half percent of one's annual savings or capital. It is to be used primarily for aiding the poor and the needy.
- Fasting (Saum) the month of Ramadan, is obligatory for every Muslim man and woman. In Islam, fasting means abstaining completely from food, drink, smoking, and marital relations every day of Ramadan before the break of dawn until sunset.

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Ramadan, the holy month of fasting, is the ninth lunar month of the Islamic calendar. Fasting infuses the individual with a genuine virtue of deprivation, vigilance and sound conscience, discipline, patience, self-control, and sympathy to the needy and poor. Adequate, suitable food and drink should be provided at the commencement and the conclusion of the fast each day to prevent ill health. A Muslim may be exempt from fasting if he/she is ill. Women are exempt when they are pregnant or when menstruating. All missed days, however, have to be made up on other days. It is highly recommended that Muslims increase the recitation of the Holy Qur'an and observe the nightly prayers called Taraweeh.

- Pilgrimage (Hajj) to the holy city of Mecca, in which the Ka'ba, the holiest shrine of Islam is located. The sacred Ka'ba, toward which all Muslims turn their faces in prayer, was built by the Patriarch Prophet Ibrahim as the First House of God. The performance of Hajj is obligatory, at least once in a lifetime, upon every Muslim, male or female, who is financially and physically capable.

Corporate

Friday (Jum'ah) is the most important day of worship in Islam. It is the weekly occasion earmarked by God for Muslims to express their collective devotion. A quorum (Jama'a) of three or more adult Muslims is usually required to hold the Friday congregational service. Ritual washing (ablution) is required before the prayer. The prayer is held at noon and led by an Imam from among the worshippers. He is to be chosen on his merits of piety and knowledge of the Holy Qur'an. The prayer starts with a formal sermon (Khutbah) and is followed by the prayers. All kinds of normal work are allowed on Friday as on any other weekday.

Festivals

Eidul-Fitr- The Feast of Breaking the Fast, marks the conclusion of Ramadan, the month of fasting. Eid means recurring happiness or festivity. Eidul-Fitr is a day of giving thanks where Muslims assemble in a brotherly and joyful atmosphere to offer their gratitude to God for helping them to fulfill their spiritual obligation of fasting. On this day, a Muslim does not work, but dresses in new or clean clothes and attends the congregational prayers of the Eid. The Alms of Fasting (Fitrah) is to be given before the prayer. Eidul-Fitr prayer is obligatory where Muslims assemble at any time from sunrise to noon to say Takbeer, a certain verbal prayer which is said before the actual prayers begin, perform the prayer, and listen to the sermon. A celebration with food or without may be held and greetings and gifts are exchanged. Non Muslims are welcomed to the celebration.

Eidul-Adha- The Feast of Sacrifice coincides with the conclusion of the annual pilgrimage to Mecca. Eidul-Adha is the greatest festival in Islam when about 2 million people assemble in the Grand Sacred Mosque (Al-Masjidul Haram) to renounce the mundane concerns and glorify God for His grace and bounties. As on the Feast of Breaking the Fast, Muslims go to the congregational Eid prayer after sunrise in their best clothes, tidy, and high spirits. A certain verbal prayer is said before the actual prayers begin. This is known as Takbeer. The main prayer is led first by an Imam

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followed by the sermon. A celebration with food may be held, gifts and greetings are exchanged and non Muslim guests are welcomed. On this day, Muslims do not engage in any work. The Observance of Eidul-Fitr and Eidul-Adha are religiously required.

The Day of Hijrah-A Muslim works on this day but takes additional time in the leisure hours for study (no standard observance is required).

Meeldun Nabi-The birthday of the Prophet Muhammad is marked by extra study, the narration of accounts of the Prophet's birth, life, and teachings, and Muslims are encouraged to emulate his character. A Muslim works on this day (religiously sanctioned but is considered controversial).

Lailatu-Isra'wal-Mi'rai--The Night Journey and Ascension of the Prophet are commemorated by the Muslims by spending a portion of this night in reading and studying the Qur'an and performing optional worship. A Muslim works on this day (no standard observation is required).

Ramadan-The period of disciplined fasting between dawn and sunset that lasts 29 or 30 days, depending on the position of the moon (i.e., from the sighting of one new moon to the next). Special additional

worship in congregation (Taraweeh) is recommended before retiring each night during the month of fasting. Reciting parts of the Holy Qur'an is recommended during each day of Ramadan.

Lailat-UI-Qadr-The night when the Prophet first received Allah's revelation through the Angel Gabriel is marked by the Muslims spending a portion of the night offering optional worship, supplications, and studying. A Muslim works on this day.

Holy Books

Holy Qur'an (Sunni)

Noble Qur'an -with Arabic and translation (Shi'a)

Holy Days/Festivals

Muslims are required to observe the following two obligatory festivals.

Eidul-Fitr	The festival marking the Breaking of the Fast of Ramadan, celebrated at the end of the month of Ramadan. The Islamic date for this festival is Shawwal 1. The first day of Eidul-Fitr is work
Eidul-Adha	The Feast of Sacrifice commemorating the intended sacrifice of the prophet Abraham is celebrated at the end of the annual pilgrimage. The Islamic date for this festival is Zul-Hijjah 10. The first day of Eidul-Adha is a work proscription day.

There are a number of additional religious occasions on which observances are marked.

The Day of Hijrah	New Year's Day-the immigration of the Prophet Muhammad from Mecca to Medina. The Islamic date is Muharram 1.
Meelaclun-Nabi	The celebration of the birthday of Prophet Muhammad. The Islamic date is Rabi Al Awwal 12.
Lailatul-Isra' and Mi'raj	The night of the Journey and the Ascension of Prophet Muhammad to Heaven. The Islamic date is Rajab 27.
Ramadan	The month of fasting when the Qur'an was revealed to Prophet Muhammad. The Islamic date begins on Ramadan 1.
Lailatul-Qadr	The night Prophet Muhammad first received the message of Allah through the Angel Gabriel. The Islamic date is Ramadan 27, starting with the night of the 26th.
Martyrdom of Husain the son of 'Ali or Ali Abdul Talib	Shi'ites celebrate/commemorate this event

The Islamic calendar is lunar-based, with the month being counted from the new moon to the new moon on a lunar calendar. The dates of the Islamic festivals move eleven days backward through the seasons each year (since it is eleven days shorter than the solar calendar followed in the U.S.) The Islamic holy days start from the sunset of the day before to the sunset of that holy day.

Work Proscription Days

The first day of Eidul-Fitr is work proscription day.
The first day of Eidul-Adha is a work proscription day.

Fast Days

Ramadan-The period of disciplined fasting between dawn and sunset that lasts 29 or 30 days, depending on the position of the moon (i.e., from the sighting of one new moon to the next).

Fasting begins just prior to the morning prayer (Fajr) and ends after the evening prayer (Maghrib) on each day of Ramadan.

For those offenders who meet the requirements of DOC policy 560.200 Washington State DOC will provide a Ramadan sack lunch that is religious program approved.

Dietary Restrictions

Muslims are forbidden to consume the following.

Pork, pork by-products, and pork derivatives. This includes bacon, ham, pork chops, spare ribs, and lard/shortening.

All types of blood, (except in the liver and spleen, or insignificant amounts of blood that are impossible to drain even in proper slaughtering.)

The meat of any animal that has died naturally; has been killed by strangling, a violent blow, or a headlong fall; has been gored to death; has been partly eaten by a wild animal unless it can be slaughtered (in the prescribed manner) before it is dead; or has been sacrificed as an offering to idols.

All intoxicating liquors, food that is mixed with alcohol, and any harmful drugs.

Shi'a Muslims – Are only allowed to eat Halal meats. They are not allowed to eat kosher meats nor are they allowed to eat any other meat not slaughtered according to the methods prescribed by the Qur'n and Sunnah of the Prophet.

Muslims are not allowed to touch anything made with pork content. This includes such products as soap, or any food that contains pork products. Utensils used for the preparation of pork and its products may not be used before a complete washing.

The requirements for obtaining wholesome meat are as follows:

The animal should be inspected by an Imam before it is slaughtered, and found to be healthy.

HANDBOOK OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

The animal should be slaughtered in such a way as to allow its blood to flow out freely and completely, (i.e., with a sharp tool cutting the main veins and throat).

No other than the name of Allah is to be invoked at the time of slaughtering. The name of Allah should be invoked over the animal at the time of slaughter (e.g., "In the name of Allah the most Great").

The meat should be inspected to ensure that it is wholesome and does not contain any matter injurious to human health.

The person who slaughters the animal may be a Muslim, Jew, or Christian, but not an atheist, pagan, or polytheist. Muslims would eat meat slaughtered by Christians or Jews who invoke the name of God upon slaughtering the animal.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

An Imam must be permitted to conduct the prayers and worship service and to attend to the religious needs of Muslim inmates. The need for an Imam is more pressing when there are large numbers of Muslim inmates in a correction center. A learned and practicing inmate can be approved to assist in worship services.

Sources:

Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices; *Religions* By: Myrtle Langley; *Inmate Religious Beliefs and Practices* By: Us Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons; Islamic Humanitarian Service, 81 Hollinger Crescent, Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, N2K-2Y8,

HANDBOOK OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

The standards for the Islamic practices of the Muslim inmates depends on what constitutes an Islamically acceptable observance in the controlled environment of a corrections center.

Muslim inmates require the following religious standards.

- **HOLY BOOK**

All Muslim inmates must be permitted to have the Holy Qur'an or be given access to it. Books for learning the formal prayer or supplication must be permitted also.

Religious Materials

All Muslim inmates must be permitted to have a Prayer rug or clean sheet for daily prayers.

All Muslim inmates must be permitted to have knit or sewn caps, an individual carpet, perfume (musk or rose), beads, and incense for the congregational prayers. Scarves and loose clothes may be possessed by the women.

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

The two most important holy days/festivals which require observance are Eidul-Fitr, the Festival of Breaking the Fast, and Eidul-Adha, the Festival of Sacrifice. All Muslim inmates should have a work-free day on those holidays. They should be permitted to wear new clothes and attend the obligatory Eid prayers after sunrise. A time for gathering and celebration with food must be permitted.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

The first day of Eidul-Fitr is work proscription day.
The first day of Eidul-Adha is a work proscription day.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

All individual Muslim inmates must be permitted to take the time from assigned duties to pray five times a day (before sunrise, noon, afternoon, sunset and at night). All prayers are to be performed at a clean place, which contains no toilet. A Prayer rug or clean sheet of cloth must be permitted.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

Friday congregational prayer is obligatory for all Muslim inmates, both male and female. All inmates should be permitted to observe the prayer and take the necessary materials, such as rugs, caps, scarves, and perfumes or incense necessary for the proper observance of the congregational prayers.

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Fasting the Month of Ramadan

This obligatory practice requires a change in regulating the daily diets and meals. No food or drinks are taken from just prior to the morning prayer (Fajr) until after the evening prayer (Maghrib).

For those offenders who meet the requirements of DOC policy 560.200 Washington State DOC will provide a Ramadan sack lunch that is religious program approved.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

Depending on the level of religious observations, any Muslim inmate must, upon request, be provided with religiously sanctioned meals. Pork and all its derivatives are not permitted. Utensils with which pork products are prepared should not be used to prepare a Muslim's food unless completely washed. All intoxicating liquors and harmful drugs are forbidden.

Those offenders who meet the requirements of DOC 560.200 will be provided with an Ovo-lacto vegetarian diet.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

An Imam must be permitted to conduct the prayers and worship service and to attend to the religious needs of Muslim inmates. The need for an Imam is more pressing when there are large numbers of Muslim inmates in a correction center. A learned and practicing inmate can be approved to assist in worship services.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

Head Covering

Observant Muslim inmates must be permitted to have a head covering (knit or sewn caps for men and scarves for women). The head covering may be used during the prayer or all the time, especially for women when they are around men.

Moorish Science Temple of America

History/Background

The Moorish Science Temple of America (MST of A) was founded by Prophet Noble Drew Ali, who was considered by the members to be Allah's last Prophet in these days. It was founded in Newark, New Jersey in 1913. The Prophet taught his revelation to the true and divine creed of Islam to his followers, and all that attend the meetings.

In 1925, The Holy Prophet moved to Chicago, Illinois, and set up the headquarters of the Moorish Science Temple of America at the Supreme Grand Major Temple. He incorporated the MST of A in the state of Illinois in 1926. The MST of A has grown to over 260 Temples and Branch Temples around the country since its conception.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

Allah and Islam: Member of the Moorish Science Temple believe in the Old Time Religion and Everlasting Gospel of Islam. They worship Allah the Great God of the Universe. As Moslems, the members of the Moorish Science Temple worship Allah only, and are firm in that none is due worship, thanksgiving, adoration, and praise but Allah alone. Moorish-Americans (Moors) honor all true and divine Prophets of Allah: Jesus, Mohammed, Buddha, Confucius, etc. Moors honor and strictly adhere to the true and divine creed of Islam brought by Prophet Noble Drew Ali, who is the last Prophet in these days. The Moors believe in reincarnation, thus they honor Prophet Noble Drew Ali, Jesus, Mohammed, Buddha, Confucius, Noah and many of the Prophets of Allah as being the same person reincarnated.

Prophet Noble Drew Ali: As Jesus was the pattern for men in his day and Mohammed was the pattern for men in his day, the Moors are to pattern their lives after Prophet Noble Drew Ali. They are to live the divine Principles of Love, Truth, Peace, Freedom and Justice. The Holy Prophet Noble Drew Ali taught the Moors to learn to love instead of hate. Allah is Love, and men need to love to be in harmony with Allah.

Holy Koran: As Moslems, the Moors' Holy Days is Friday, which is the Holy Day for Moslems all over the world. The Holy book that the Moors study from is the Holy Koran of the Moorish Science Temple of America, which is united with the Holy Koran of Mecca.

Moorish American Prayer: Allah, the Father of the Universe, The Father of Love, Truth, Peace, Freedom and Justice, Allah is my Protector My Guide and my Salvation By night and by Day. Thru His Holy Prophet, Drew Ali. Amen.

Divine Constitution and By-Laws: The Moors believe that their Constitution and By-Laws are divinely inspired.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Private

Daily Observances

1. A good Moslem prays both day and night. All Moors, i.e. members of the Moorish Science Temple of America (MST of A), must keep their hearts and minds pure with love and bodies clean with water.
2. Moors do not eat pork or anything that will harm them. The Holy Prophet Noble Drew Ali did not drink or smoke and he told the Moors to imitate him. Moors are not to use anything that would serve to shorten their lives or destroy themselves.

Weekly Observances:

All Moors are required to attend congregational worship services on Friday, which is the Holy Day, and to attend Sunday School classes on Sunday.

Worship in congregation is very important to Moslems because the Prophet Mohammed said it is 27 times more valuable to worship in congregation than to worship alone. The congregation opens Holy Day service with the saying of the Moors prayer in unison. The chairman of the Temple leads this prayer. After prayer, the chairman reads the divine laws from the Holy Prophet Corporate

Holy Books

Holy Koran of the Moorish Science Temple of America

Member of the MST of A. honor all of the sacred books that Allah sent to man through His Prophets. Moors are taught to honor man, because when they honor man, they honor Allah.

Holy Days/Festivals

Friday	The Holy Day for Moslems all over the world
January 8th	Prophet Noble Drew Ali's Birthday
January 15th	Moorish American New Year
March 17th	Moorish-American Tag Day

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First Saturday in December	Anniversary of the Young People <i>Moorish National League</i>
Third Saturday in	Anniversary of the Sister's Auxiliary

Work Proscription Days

The first day of Eidul-Fitr is work proscription day.
The first day of Eidul-Adha is a work proscription day.

Fast Days

None required by faith or practice.

Dietary Restrictions

Moorish-Americans are prohibited from eating pork products.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

In prison those who care for the property of the Branch Temples of the Moorish Science Temple of America, Inc. are called "Acting mufti" unless designated otherwise by Brother R. Love El, Grand Sheik of the Moorish Science Temple of America, Inc.

The Acting Grand Sheik is in charge of the Branch Temple, and the Acting Muftis are selected by him. Regardless of rank, all acting Muftis must operate on a basis of discipline, carrying out the righteous instructions of the Grand Sheik.

Acting Muftis should have a meeting at least once per month where study is facilitated by an instructor or his assistant. There are to be no radical or criminal issues taught at any time.

Neither Muftis, nor any other members, are to hold court to resolve violations or issues. The acting Grand Sheik's solutions should be the teachings of our Holy Prophet Noble Drew Ali.

Sources:

Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices; *Inmate Religious Beliefs and Practices*
By: Us Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons

REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

The standards for the practices of the Moorish Science Muslim inmates depends on what constitutes an acceptable observance of this religion in the controlled environment of a corrections center.

Moorish Science Muslim inmates require the following religious standards.

- **HOLY BOOK**

Holy Koran of the Moorish Science Temple of America
Religious Materials

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

Friday- is the Holy Day for Moslems all over the world.
Prophet Noble Drew Ali's Birthday- January 8th
Moorish American New Year- January 15th
Moorish-American Tag Day- March 17th
Anniversary of the Young People- First Saturday in December
Moorish National League
Anniversary of the Sister's Auxiliary- Third Saturday in December

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

The first day of Eidul-Fitr is work proscription day.
The first day of Eidul-Adha is a work proscription day.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

A good Moslem prays both day and night. All Moors, i.e. members of the Moorish Science Temple of America (MST of A), must keep their hearts and minds pure with love and bodies clean with water.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

All Moors are required to attend congregational worship services on Friday, which is the Holy Day, and to attend Sunday School classes on Sunday.

An Imam must be permitted to conduct the prayers and worship service and to attend to the religious needs of Moorish Science Muslim inmates. The need for an Imam is more pressing when there are large numbers of Moorish Science Muslim inmates in a correction center. A learned and practicing inmate can be approved to assist in worship services.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

Moorish-Americans are prohibited from eating pork products.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

In prison those who care for the property of the Branch Temples of the Moorish Science Temple of America, Inc. are called "Acting mufti" unless designated otherwise by Brother R. Love El, Grand Sheik of the Moorish Science Temple of America, Inc.

The Acting Grand Sheik is in charge of the Branch Temple, and the Acting Muftis are selected by him. Regardless of rank, all acting Muftis must operate on a basis of discipline, carrying out the righteous instructions of the Grand Sheik.

Acting Muftis should have a meeting at least once per month where study is facilitated by an instructor or his assistant. There are to be no radical or criminal issues taught at any time.

Neither Muftis, nor any other members, are to hold court to resolve violations or issues. The acting Grand Sheik's solutions should be the teachings of our Holy Prophet Noble Drew Ali.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

Observant Moorish Science Muslim inmates must be permitted to have a head covering (knit or sewn caps for men and scarves for women). The head covering may be used during the prayer or all the time, especially for women when they are around men.

Jehovah's Witness

History/Background

The original Bible study group was founded in the 1870's by Charles Taze Russel, a Christian minister from Pennsylvania. The Jehovah's witnesses were spoken of by others as the Russellites or the Millennial Dawnites, names not now used. Zion's Watch Tower Tract Society was first incorporated in 1884, renamed the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society in 1896, then Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania in 1995. The Pittsburgh Bible House served as headquarters from 1889 to 1909. The name "Jehovah's Witnesses" was specified in 1942.

Jehovah's Witnesses are organized into 97 branches, each including at least one nation, around the world. Branches are composed of districts, districts of circuits, circuits of congregations. In the United States there are currently 32 districts and 337 circuits. Each circuit includes approximately 22 congregations.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

The Watchtower Society has emphasized the nearness of the end of the world. This belief is one reason Jehovah's Witnesses have been so zealous in outreach. It also explains why they are encouraged to avoid as many "worldly involvement's" as possible. Children are discouraged from participating in extracurricular school activities. Since they believe governments/social systems are a part of the satanic order, Witnesses do not vote, salute, or pledge allegiance to any flag, or sing national anthems. Witnesses reject the Trinity, stating that Jehovah is no Babylonish triad of Gods, no God of three persons in one individual. Jehovah is only one God, one person. God is a personal being who cannot have any being equal to him." Jesus, therefore, is a created being, known in his pre-existence as Michael the Archangel. Jesus gave up his divinity and lived as a perfect human being on earth. Jesus died on a "torture stake" as a corresponding ransom for Adam's sin. Witnesses reject Jesus' physical resurrection in favor of a spiritual resurrection with temporary visible manifestations. Christ may be called the Son of God but not God the Son. The impersonal "holy spirit" (Witnesses do not capitalize the name) "is the invisible active force of Almighty God which moves His servants to do His will." Three things are necessary for salvation: Faith in Jehovah, faith in Jesus' ransom sacrifice, and good works. Good works include immersion baptism by a male Witness, active association with the Watchtower Society, righteous conduct, and consistent proclamation of God's Kingdom. Most witnesses expect to "live forever in paradise on earth." Jehovah's Witnesses reject hell as a place of eternal punishment. They believe that a just loving Jehovah will simply annihilate individuals who reject him. Prior to annihilation at the final Judgment, most persons – it is believed – will have a final opportunity to accept Jehovah.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Corporate: Each Witness is expected to attend weekly group study meetings. The number of such meetings depends on availability of time, space, and supervision. Most Witnesses would prefer to meet in a room other than a Chapel because of the symbols that are usually present. If the Chapel has no religious symbols, it is acceptable place to meet. Each Witness is expected to attend several meetings each week designated for preparation of effective home missions. Meetings are held in the Kingdom Hall which serves both as a place of worship and education center. These meetings begin and end with song and prayer. No special equipment is needed.

Private: Daily study of the Bible is required. Before becoming a Witness, a person must study the Bible and learn Christian ways of living. Each Witness must devote time to spreading the word of Jehovah and the teachings of the Bible.

Holy Books

Witnesses accept the Bible as the infallible word of Jehovah. The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures, initially released between 1950 and 1960, is generally used.

The two periodicals of the Society, *The Watchtower* and *Awake*, serve both as a means of keeping Witnesses abreast of the understanding of the Scriptures and as a way of sharing the good news of Jehovah's Kingdom.

Holy Days/Festivals

The Lord's Evening Memorial Meal - A communion service celebrated on Nisan 14 (usually in late March or in April) is the only special holy day.

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith or practice.

Fast Days

None required by faith or practice.

Dietary Restrictions

None required by faith or practice.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

All trained, baptized, and fully committed Witnesses, men and women, share in giving Bible instruction, and are called "brother" and "sister" (the terms Reverend and Father are not used). Congregations are governed by a body of elders appointed by the governing body in New York. These local ministers (elders) serve without pay. Overseas missionaries and supervisory personnel are frequently full-time and are specially trained.

Sources:

Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices

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REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

The New World Testament translation of the Bible is an essential part of the Jehovah Witness religion. This one item is essential to the practice of the Jehovah Witness faith and the offender should be allowed to have this item at all times.

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

The annual Lord's Evening Meal, a communion service celebrated on Nisan 14 (usually in late March or in April), is the only special Holy Day. Jehovah's Witness inmates should be allowed to meet for a communion service on this day.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

Daily study of the Bible is required.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

Each Witness is expected to attend weekly group study meetings. The number of such meetings depends on availability of time, space, and supervision.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

Jehovah's Witnesses have no ordained clergy. All trained, baptized and fully committed Witnesses, men and women, share in giving Bible instruction. Congregations are governed by a body of elders appointed by the governing body in New York.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

Most Witnesses would prefer to meet in a room other than a chapel because of the symbols that are usually present. If the chapel has no religious symbols it is an acceptable place to meet.

Judaism

History/Background

Judaism is the religion of the Jews. There are an estimated 13.5 million Jews in the world, approximately 6 million in the United States, 4.8 million in Israel and the remainder dispersed throughout the world, many of them in Eastern Europe. In the Holocaust of World War II, some six million Jews were annihilated in Nazi-occupied Europe, as Hitler's armies sought to "purify" the "Aryan race."

Early Jewish history is told in the Hebrew Bible, beginning with the "Pentateuch" [Five Books of Moses], also known as the "Torah" [written law], which is only complete with the inclusion of other holy writings *and* an oral tradition. The holy Torah is a compendium of history, law and ethical teachings. Beginning with the pre-history of Creation and the first humans, the Torah focuses on the Patriarchs [founding fathers] and Matriarchs [founding mothers] of the Jews, most notably the first patriarch Abraham who is said to have made a direct Covenant with G-d that would then extend to all of Abraham's descendents. To this day, Jewish prayer invokes the names of the Patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and of the Matriarchs, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah. In about 1800 BCE*, Abraham and his family settled in Canaan, roughly the same location as the present State of Israel. In biblical times, these Hebrew speaking people came to be known as the "Israelites" [Children of Israel], from the name given to Abraham's grandson Jacob by G-d, and then during the post-biblical Kingdom of Judah they became known as "Jews."

Facing famine, the tribal retinue of Jacob and his children entered Egypt, where their descendents became slaves. In 1312 BCE* [the Hebrew year 2448], the Israelites were led out of Egypt by Moses on direction from G-d. This singular event, called "The Exodus", freed the enslaved Israelites and enabled them to re-affirm their covenantal relationship with G-d, culminating in the receiving of Torah - symbolized by the first "Ten Commandments" - at Mt Sinai.

Though Moses himself was unable to enter "The Promised Land" [Canaan/Israel], the Israelites re-settled the land in 1272 BCE* and established a centuries long presence there, led by selected judges, priests, prophets and kings. Toward the turn of the millennium, rabbis [teachers] led the people's search for an understanding of the correct ways to serve G-d. By the second century CE*, Judaism as a faith system of prayer and commandments had become the binding experience for the people, particularly crucial in the aftermath of the 70 CE Roman destruction of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, which had been Judaism's holiest site and the center of post-biblical Jewish life. In about 500 CE*, the rabbis' teachings of written and oral law were compiled into the written volumes of the "Talmud". Conscious of their covenantal relationship with G-d, the Jews retained their religious, cultural, and communal identity wherever they went, and no matter what circumstances they lived, whether they were persecuted or prospered.

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The Judaism of today is based mainly on the Talmud and 613 Commandments derived from the Torah (by early renowned rabbinic scholars), several of which cannot presently be fulfilled without the existence of the Holy Temple. The central tenets of Judaism were well defined in the 12th century CE* by Rabbi Moses ben Maimon [the "Rambam" or "Maimonides"] in his *Thirteen Principles of Faith*, which include a belief in one G-d and the eventual coming of a Messiah [an "Anointed One"]. Judaism's tenets and practices have been further defined to varying degrees by various branches of the faith. In 1948, shortly following World War II, the tiny state of Israel was born. It was intended to create a secure, permanent homeland for the Jews. Israel's short history has been one of remarkable economic and artistic achievement, and of painful struggle for recognition, identity, and survival.

***As are also employed by most historians, the terms BCE [Before Common Era] and CE [Common Era] are generally used by Jews as they do believe that a Messiah has yet been revealed and they, therefore, do not use the Christian terms BC [Before Christ] or AD [Year of Our Lord].**

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

Judaism, is the religion of the Jewish people. Is the oldest of the three western monotheistic religions and so is the ancestor of both Islam and Christianity. The heart and underlining promise of Judaism is the belief that there exists only one eternal God who is the creator and the ruler of the universe and all that its in it; God is ranscendent and eternal, knowing and seeing everything. God has revealed the law (Torah), which is of utmost importance to the Jewish People, the chosen people, who are to be a light and example to all the world. Abraham, the biblical patriarch was the first to give expression to the Jewish faith, and it is through him that the blessing and the inheritance from God to the Jewish people comes, particularly the promise of the land, that has a central place in Jewish thought and practice.

The essence of the Jewish faith is contained in the "Shema" that is recited every morning and evening by a devote Jew: "Here O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is One. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might. And these words which I command you today shall be upon your heart." (In Deuteronomy 6:4-6). Basic to Judaism is the dynamic that God's revelation is contained in both written and oral Torah – scripture and its ever-growing body of commentary and interpretation.

In modern Judaism, Jews have disagreed on the binding role of written and oral Torah as religious law. Within the following major groupings there have developed variations with respect to religious belief and practice, ritual observance, lifestyles, and degree of acculturation.

Orthodox Judaism

The traditionalist approach that believes in the Divine origin of the Torah is seen as the changeless of revelation of God's eternal will and therefore fully authoritative. Following Halachah (i.e., Rabbinic Law) is obligatory, and thus, of all the branches of Judaism, Orthodox Judaism places the greatest and strictest demands on its adherents in its concern for preserving religious belief and observing strict religious codes of behavior.

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Hassidim—some times termed “Ultra-Orthodox Jews” —are considered the most pious of Orthodox Jews.

Conservative Judaism

The historic development of the Jewish tradition is emphasized. This allows it to make adjustments and changes since it views the basic Jewish theological and ritual concepts as objects of continuing and evolving change. With Conservative Judaism there is also a strong emphasis on preserving “the people of Israel” and on Zionism.

Reform Judaism

This variation of Judaism views Jewish religious law as guidance rather than as divine revelation. It emphasized ethical concepts more than the ritual Law. Reform Judaism believes that Judaism is still evolving, since revelation is thought to be a continuing process. Reform Judaism is, therefore, non- authoritarian.

Reconstructionist Judaism

The smallest and most recent branch follows an approach to Judaism developed by Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan who emphasizes human values and the centrality of Jewish peoplehood. In practice it is very close to Conservative Judaism.

In general, however, Judaism remains relatively constant in terms of basic beliefs and practices, and most Jews see themselves as members of the Jewish community rather than as members of a single branch.

Religious Law

Jewish life is guided by a total of 613 Godly commandments derived from the Torah. The Talmud (based on oral Torah), and the Code of Jewish Law (Shulchan Aruch), arranged rabbinic (i.e., scholarly) commentary on religious law, are highly specific about individual and community conduct.

Religious law defines a Jew as one who is born of a Jewish **mother** or one who has been properly converted to Judaism. Although most prison systems allow inmates to simply designate their own religious status, the Jewish community only recognizes those who meet the above criteria as being Jewish.

Conversion is a difficult process, requiring lengthy study of Judaism and confirmation by a rabbinic body (Beis Din). Jews do not proselytize and conversion is generally discouraged. It would be highly unusual for an inmate to be converted to Judaism while still incarcerated.

Consistent with the patriarch Abraham's covenant with God, all Jewish males must be ritually circumcised. Religious law specifies that this be performed when the male child is 8 days old. In the case of a convert, ritual circumcision would be done at the time of conversion.

Note: Elements of the Reform movement have recently broken with established religious law by affirming patrilineal descent, seeking converts, allowing women to practice certain liturgical duties and customs previously reserved for men (e.g.,

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ordaining women as Rabbis, women publicly reading from the Torah, and women donning items such as skull caps, prayer shawls, and phylacteries, etc.).

Mainstream Judaism does not recognize "Messianic Judaism" [i.e., Christian Jews], the "Hebrew Israelite", "Black Hebrew" and Yahweh ben Yahweh" sects or similar groups as being bona fide branches of Judaism.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Private

A devout Jew is required to pray three times a day—morning, afternoon, and evening—either in the home or synagogue. An additional morning prayer service is added on the Sabbath and Festivals; these prayers can be private or corporate, but corporate worship is preferable. A Hebrew or Hebrew/English book containing the prayer service is used during prayers. For all Orthodox, Conservative, Reconstructionist, and some Reform Jews, the head is covered during prayer with a skull-cap (yarmulke) or ordinary hat. **Note:** Most Orthodox Jews will continue to cover their heads all day as a sign of reverence to God. During morning prayer, a prayer shawl (tallit), which has fringes at the four corners (in obedience to a command found in the Torah), is worn by adult males. On weekdays, small black leather boxes, phylacteries (tefillin) may also be worn by adult males. They contain four passages of scripture—Exodus 13:1-10 and 13:11-16, Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and 11:13-21—and are strapped to the forehead and the arm. Although these items may be inspected, the Tefillin, in deference to correctional concerns is to be kept in the inmate groups cabinet located in the religious Activities center.(if handled with care), **only a qualified Rabbi or Scribe may open the sewn closed portion of the boxes. Whenever possible, a Jewish inmate should not be required to pray in a room that contains either a toilet or symbols of any other religious denominations.**

A mezuzah is a small parchment scroll on which is written the opening paragraphs of the Shema (which prescribes this practice). The scroll is placed within a protective container that is affixed to the upper right-hand doorpost of the front door of the home. In the homes of more observant Jews, mezuzahs are also placed on the doorposts of every other living room (except bathrooms). **A prison is not considered an appropriate place to post a mezuzah.**

Corporate

Although a quorum (minyan) of ten adults Jewish males is required to conduct a complete Jewish worship service, a lesser number of Jewish males (and females) can conduct corporate prayer with certain proscribed sections of the service being omitted. Those who are not properly Jewish cannot serve in a minyan. Likewise, non-Jews should not utter some particular Jewish liturgies or participate in certain Jewish liturgical functions.

The Torah (Five Books of Moses) is divided into weekly portions which are publicly read throughout the Jewish calendar year in synagogues each Sabbath.

Parts of these are further publicly read each Monday and Thursday. Related sections of the writings of the Prophets are also publicly read on the Sabbath. Certain other holy writings are publicly read on various holy days. A specially trained person is required to

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accomplish these readings and certain conditions would have to be met in order for these readings to be made in a prison setting.

The Sabbath and Festivals

As previously mentioned, observant Jews do not work on the Sabbath or Festivals—they worship together as a group on these days. The celebration of these holy days should be part of a shared religious experience by as many Jewish inmates as possible. Prayer books may be obtainable from local Jewish communities and/or Jewish prison outreach programs. See the Diet section for special dietary needs. Basic observances/customs for the Sabbath and individual festivals are as follows:

The Sabbath

This is a day of rest, devoted to God, during which some 39 categories of prohibitions are applied (e.g., no creative work, no cooking, etc.). The beginning of the Sabbath is marked by the lighting of candles—a minimum of two per household—which must be capable of burning for at least one-half hour and which must be allowed to burn out by themselves. A special prayer is recited over the candle lighting. Following evening and morning services, a special prayer (kiddish) is recited over wine. **Note:** It is permissible to use grape juice as a substitute for wine, provided that the grape juice meets religious dietary (i.e., kosher) standards. It is also traditional to say a prayer over and eat special braided bread (challah) before meals on the Sabbath. The end of the Sabbath is marked with a special service (Havdallah), during which candles, wine (or grape juice), and spices are used. **Note:** As Jews are not permitted to work on their Sabbath and certain festivals, it is appropriate to request that Jewish inmates work as substitutes for other inmates on non-Jewish holidays.

Death and Burial practices

Cremation, embalming and other defilements of the body are prohibited in Judaism. Autopsies are only permitted as required by law. Interment should be completed prior to sundown of the day following death (unless that day falls on the Sabbath or certain Jewish holidays). Internment must be in a Jewish cemetery. As proper preparation for burial and other procedures need to be followed, the Jewish chaplain and/or family rabbi should be notified as soon as possible following a Jewish inmate death.

Festivals/Holy Days

Biblically mandated festivals generally follow the same rules as the Sabbath, with the addition of particular observances and customs. Post-biblical holy days are generally not as restrictive and have their own observances and customs. The following are in sequential order as they occur through the Jewish calendar year, beginning in early autumn:

The Jewish calendar is a lunar one, as opposed to the solar or Gregorian calendar used by most of the world.

Published calendars that list the Gregorian and Jewish dates are readily available from most synagogues and other Jewish community organizations.

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Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur

The Jewish New Year is a period of self-examination and resolution. A ram's horn (shofar) is blown as a call to look into one's soul and improve one's ways. It is customary at the meal on the eve of Rosh Hashanah to eat apple dipped in honey and to wish others a "a good and sweet year." A new fruit (usually a pomegranate), a sweet carrot dish (tizimmes), honey cake, round challah bread, and other foods are traditional. It is also customary to send greeting cards to one's relatives and friends.

The ten days of Rosh Hashanah through Yom Kippur are considered to be the "days of awe and repentance."

Yom Kippur is the most solemn day in the Jewish calendar, a day of atonement and God's forgiveness. The day is spent fasting and praying. White garments are worn and the ram's horn is blown (as on Rosh Hashanah). On the afternoon prior to the fast, it is traditional to eat a special meal of pieces of dough filled with meat or chicken (kreplach).

Succoth

This is the "season of rejoicing" on which temporary shelters (tabernacles) of branches are built on porches, terraces, roofs, in the yard, etc., and observant Jews eat their meals and may sleep within these huts. Four species of plants—the citron (Esrog), palm branch (Lulav), myrtles (Hadassim), and willows (Aravos)—as enumerated in the Torah, are bound together and used by each Jew individually during services in the synagogue and huts.

Shemini Atzeres

This holy day corresponds to the 8th day of Succoth, but is a separate and complete holy day in its own right. It is a day of special feast and celebration.

Simchat Torah

This is a day of great rejoicing, corresponding with the end of Succoth and marking the completion of the annual reading of the Torah and start of the next reading cycle. Scholars and laymen alike "dance" with the Torah scrolls on this day.

Chanukah

This celebration commemorates the recapture of the Holy Temple in 165 B.C.E. from Assyrian-Greek oppressors. In preparation for rededication of the Holy Temple, which had been spoiled by the enemy, only one small jar of acceptable oil was found with which to rekindle the Temple's candelabra (menorah). This single day's supply lasted for the entire eight days required to prepare acceptably pure olive oil to burn. In honor of this miracle, Jews today light candles on each of the eight evenings of Chanukah, beginning with one candle on the first evening, two in the second evening, etc. Each evening an additional candle is used to light the others, requiring a total of 44 candles for the entire holiday. Children are often given gifts of coins and they play a traditional game with a spinning top (dreidel). Because of the significance of oil in the Chanukah miracle, it is customary to eat potato pancakes fried in oil (latkes) and/or jelly-filled donuts (suf ganiyot) during the holiday.

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Purim

This day commemorates the saving from massacre of the Jewish community under Persian rule in 450 B.C.E., as recalled in the Book of Esther, which is publicly read on this day. This is a particularly joyous holiday, during which gifts of food and charity are given. A festival meal is required and it is traditional to eat pastries shaped in the form of the hat of the villain in the Purim story.

Pesach (Passover)

This, the best known of all Jewish festivals, recalls the deliverance of the Jews from slavery in Egypt during biblical times and marks the beginning of the Jewish Nation. It lasts for eight days, beginning with the Passover feasts (Seder) on the first two evenings, during which the deliverance from Egypt is recounted from a special book (Haggadah). Certain ceremonial foods are eaten—including unleavened bread (matzah) and bitter herbs—and four cups of wine (or grape juice) are consumed. No products containing any leavening can be consumed during this period. The seders are required to be particularly festive and they are often the highlight of the year for Jewish inmates. A proper authority should be consulted regarding approved Passover foods.

Lag B'Omer

This holy day occurs during the 49 days that are counted to mark the time between the going out from Egypt and the giving of the Torah to the Jewish Nation. On the 33rd day of "Counting the Omer"—Lag B'Omer—Jews commemorate the ending of an epidemic that befell students of the great scholar Rabbi Akiba. It is also the anniversary of the passing of the great sage Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai. It is customary to take children on outings in parks and woods on this holiday.

Shavuot

Shavuot commemorates God's gift of the law (Torah) to the Jewish Nation. On the eve of Shavuot, it is customary for adult males (those over the age of 13) to stay up all night and study the Torah. **Tisha B'Av**

This is the final day of three weeks of mourning the destruction of the Holy Temple on the same date in 587 B.C.E. and 70 C.E. Work is discouraged on this fast day.

Holy Books

Torah

Nive'im (21 books of the Prophets)

Ketuvim (13 Books of Writings, including the Psalms)

Talmud

Holy Days/Festivals

Within Judaism, the Sabbath (Shabbos) is considered to be the most important of all Jewish religious holidays. On the Sabbath, which is observed from 18 minutes prior to sunset Friday until three stars are visible (approximately one hour) past sunset Saturday, the observant Jew does not engage in such weekday pursuits as work,

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business transactions, or travel. Religious services commence on Friday evening before sunset and are also held on Saturday morning, afternoon, and again at sunset.

Similarly, Jewish holy days are reckoned from sundown (of the prior evening) through sundown.

Dates are reckoned by the Jewish lunar calendar months and, therefore, will vary in relation to Gregorian calendar dates. Jewish holy days and festivals begin the evening prior to the specified dates.

Rosh Hashanah	The New Year – Day of Repentance and Judgement. Celebrated on the 1 st and 2 nd of Tishrei
Yom Kippur	Day of Atonement – the most solemn day in the Jewish calendar. Celebrated on the 10 th of Tishrei.
Succoth	The Festival of Tabernacles. Celebrated from the 15 th to the 23 rd of Tishrei (The first two days of Succoth and the last two days of Succoth [also know as Shemini Atzeres and Simchat Torah] are work proscription days).
Shemini Atzeres	Special celebration ending Succoth. Celebrated on the 22 nd of Tishrei.
Simchat Torah	The Rejoicing of the Torah. Celebrated on the 23 rd of Tishrei.
Pesach (Passover)	the Festival of Freedom. Celebrated from the 15 th to the 22 rd of Nissan (Only the first two days and the last two days of these holidays are work proscription days).
Shavuot	The Festival of Weeks – commemorating the giving of the Torah. Celebrated on the 6 th and 7 th of Sivan.
Chanukah	The Festival of Lights – Celebrated on the 25 th of Kislev through 2 nd of Tevet.
Purim	Commemoration of the saving from massacre of the Jewish community, as recalled in the Book of Esther. Celebrated on the 14th of Adar.
Lag B'Omer	Commemorating the ending of an epidemic suffered by the students of Rabbi Akiba. Celebrated on the 18th of Iyar.
Tisha B'Av	A day of mourning - commemorating the two destructions of the Holy Temple. Celebrated on the 9th of Av.

Work Proscription Days

Within Judaism, the Sabbath (Shabbos) is considered to be the most important of all Jewish religious holidays. On the Sabbath, which is observed from 18 minutes prior to sunset Friday until three stars are visible (approximately one hour) past sunset Saturday, the observant Jew does not engage in such weekday pursuits as work, business transactions, or travel. Religious services commence on Friday evening before sunset and are also held on Saturday morning, afternoon, and again at sunset.

also

The first two days and the last two days of Pesach (Passover) are work proscription days. And the first two days and the last two days of Succoth are work proscription days.

Purim, Shavuot, Tisha ba'av (prior to midday only)

Rosh Hashanah

Yom Kippur

Fast Days

In addition to the full fast days (from before sunset to the following night) on Yom Kippur and Tisha B'av, there are daybreak through nightfall fasts on the 10th of Tevet, the 17th of Tammuz, and the 3rd of Tishrei which are associated with mourning the destruction of the Temple; on the 13th of Adar commemorating Esther's own Purim fast; and on the 14th of Nisan for first-born males (only) commemorating the killing of the first-born during Pesach.

Eating and drinking are prohibited on fast days by all Jewish males over the age of 13 and all Jewish females over the age of 12, except for pregnant and nursing women and people requiring special medical care. On Yom Kippur and Tisha B'av wearing leather shoes, washing for pleasure, using perfumes, and having marital relations are also not permitted. It is traditional to end the fast with a light snack, followed about one-hour later with a regular meal.

Except for Yom Kippur, fast days are rescheduled if they fall on the Sabbath or Friday (the day of preparing for the Sabbath). A Jewish calendar should be consulted for actual fast dates.

Yom Kippur - 10th of Tishrei (25 hour fast)

Tisha B'av – 9th of Av (25 hour fast)

10th of Tevet – Daybreak through nightfall fast.

17th of Tammuz – Daybreak through nightfall fast.

3rd of Tishrei – Fast of Gedaliah – Daybreak through nightfall fast.

13th of Adar - Commemorating Esther's own Purim fast – Daybreak through nightfall fast.

14th of Nisan - For first-born males only commemorating the killing of the first-born during Pesach. – Daybreak through nightfall fast.

Jewish offenders should be provided with extra nourishment prior to the two 25 hour fasts.

Any Jewish inmate, whether or not participating in a regular Jewish religious and/or Passover diet program, must be permitted to fast on any religiously prescribed fast day, provided that such fasting would not be detrimental to his or her medical condition. Any Jewish inmate observing a prescribed religious fast must be provided with adequate nourishment directly following the end of any such fast

Dietary Restrictions

Jewish dietary law (Kashruth) is an important aspect of religious observance for all Orthodox, many Conservative, and some Reform and Reconstructionist Jews. Foods that are fit (kosher) for consumption and the manner in which they are handled are specified in the Torah and further defined through Rabbinic law. These foods fall into three categories—Meat, Milk, and Pareve. Meat and Milk products cannot be cooked, served, or eaten together, requiring separate cooking and serving utensils for each.

Milk products (e.g., liquid milk or cream, cottage cheese, cheeses) are considered kosher if proper supervision has been provided to ensure there is no contact with any meat product (e.g., rennet used in the production of many hard cheeses) or milk from prohibited animals. Milk products may not be eaten with or immediately after meat products. An interval of time, usually a minimum of three hours, depending on the custom of the community, must elapse between Meat and Milk.

Meat of only kosher animals and fowl is permitted. Kosher animals, as specified in Leviticus and Deuteronomy, are those that chew their cud and have divided hooves (e.g., cows, goats, sheep, etc.). Kosher fowl are primarily those which are not birds of prey (e.g., chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys) and fowl is treated as meat. All of these must be slaughtered and dressed in a prescribed manner (by qualified butchers) to be considered kosher. Meat may be eaten following short interval after eating most soft milk products. However, aged cheeses require the same time interval as applies for Meat to Milk.

Pareve products consist of all neutral substances such as fruits, vegetables, grains, etc. Pareve products may be cooked and eaten together with either Meat or Milk products.

Fish are considered Pareve, but they must have both fins and scales to be kosher. Shellfish are prohibited. Fish do not have to be slaughtered or dressed in a prescribed manner and generally may be eaten together with Milk and Meat products.

Utensils used for the preparation and serving of non-kosher food may not be used for kosher food.

There are several organizations that supervise the production of kosher food products. These organizations can usually be identified by their registered symbols prominently placed on product labels. As the degree of supervision varies from one organization to another, **it is best to only use products that meet the highest (i.e., Orthodox) degree of supervision**, as this will cover the requirements of all inmates on a religious diet program. Kosher foods are easily obtained through various retail outlets and kosher purveyors.

A qualified kosher food supervisor should always be consulted regarding any questions pertaining to certification and/or handling of foods served to Jewish inmates on a religious diet program. Contact with kosher food supervisors can usually be made through the Department of Corrections' Religious Programs section or through various Jewish community organizations such as synagogues and Jewish prison outreach programs.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

Rabbis are ordained spiritual leaders in Judaism. However, as there are no sacraments in Judaism, there is no liturgical distinction between clergy and laity. Thus, a trained lay person may lead a prayer service.

Cantors are persons specifically trained in prescribed ritual for public worship. Many lay persons are also trained in specific aspects of Jewish religious practice such as liturgical reading, kosher slaughtering, dietary supervision, ritual circumcision, etc.

Sources:

Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices; *Religions* By: Myrtle Langley; *Inmate Religious Beliefs and Practices* By: Us Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons, Jewish Prisoner Services International.

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REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

Because they are not in total control of their circumstances, Jewish inmates may be exempted from certain religious law requirements. However, before any such exemption might apply, every effort must be made to seek a religiously acceptable alternative.

In determining minimum standards, levels of observance of individual inmates must be taken into account. Previous sections and/or proper authority should be consulted regarding specific practices.

Depending upon level of observance, the individual inmate may require all or some of the following:

- **HOLY BOOK**

All Jewish inmates must be permitted to possess a copy of the Torah (including Pentateuch, Neve'im, and Ketuviah with Psalms), a daily prayer book, a Sabbath prayer book, and Holy Day/Festival prayer books (or combinations of the preceding).

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

All Jewish inmates must be permitted the opportunity to observe the Sabbath, holy days, and festivals to their individual degree of observance, including possession of materials necessary for proper observance of these events.

Head-covering

All Jewish inmates must be permitted to possess a head-covering, preferably a skullcap (yarmulke) for use during prayer. Orthodox Jewish inmates must be permitted to wear their head-covering at all times (outdoors and indoors).

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

Within Judaism, the Sabbath (Shabbos) is considered to be the most important of all Jewish religious holidays. On the Sabbath, which is observed from 18 minutes prior to sunset Friday until three stars are visible (approximately one hour) past sunset Saturday, the observant Jew does not engage in such weekday pursuits as work, business transactions, or travel. Religious services commence on Friday evening before sunset and are also held on Saturday morning, afternoon, and again at sunset. The following are also work proscription days.

The first two days and the last two days of Pesach (Passover).

The first two days and the last two days of Succoth.

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur

Purim, Shavuot, Tisha ba'av (prior to midday only)

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

All Jewish inmates must be permitted the opportunity for private worship to their individual degree of observance, including possession of any materials necessary for such prayer.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

Although a quorum (minyan) of ten adults Jewish males is required to conduct a complete Jewish worship service, a lesser number of Jewish males (and females) can conduct corporate prayer with certain proscribed sections of the service being omitted. Those who are not properly Jewish cannot serve in a minyan. Likewise, non-Jews should not utter some particular Jewish liturgies or participate in certain Jewish liturgical functions.

All Jewish inmates must be permitted the opportunity corporate worship to their individual degree of observance, including possession of any materials necessary for such prayer.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

Any Jewish inmate must, upon request, be provided with a religiously acceptable (kosher) diet. These inmates must also be permitted to purchase religiously acceptable food items from inmate stores and outside vendors, consistent with that allowed for other inmates. Any Jewish inmate, whether or not participating on a regular Jewish religious diet program must, upon request, be provided with a diet during the eight days of Passover that meets all the religious requirements of that period (i.e., no leavening, etc.). Any Jewish inmate who is participating in a regular Jewish religious and/or Passover diet program may be removed from such program if found in violation of Jewish dietary law (e.g., consuming non-kosher food).

Washington State DOC provides prepackaged kosher meals that are prepared with Orthodox supervision. Those offenders who meet the requirements of DOC 560.200 will be provided a Kosher diet.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

Rabbis are ordained spiritual leaders in Judaism. However, as there are no sacraments in Judaism, there is no liturgical distinction between clergy and laity. Thus, a trained lay person may lead a prayer service.

Cantors are persons specifically trained in prescribed ritual for public worship. Many lay persons are also trained in specific aspects of Jewish religious practice such as liturgical reading, kosher slaughtering, dietary supervision, ritual circumcision, etc.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

All Jewish inmates must be permitted to possess a Jewish calendar. Jewish inmate must be permitted to possess and use in the prescribed manners any other religious materials (e.g., prayer shawl, phylacteries, tzitzes, Sabbath/holy day/festival materials such as candles, candle holders, spices, a ram's horn, etc.) to their individual degree of observance. Whenever possible, Jewish inmates should also be allowed to possess religious study materials such as books, correspondence courses, etc.

Native American

History/Background

The Native American people do not have a written language. Native Americans have an oral tradition in which all experiences and beliefs are spoken rather than written.

Native Americans are not at odds with other religious groups, but feel their own oral traditions often have preceded the beliefs of other religions.

The languages are sacred. The language identify and relate to the life of Native Americans in prehistoric times, the times during which Native Americans recorded their historical events on animal skins, wood and rocks.

The languages are ancient, ceremonial, and holy. Holy Men and Medicine Men originated and interpreted symbols of events which took place in the past.

The languages are prophetic in that they keep pace with the times, manifesting the oral traditional values of all Native American languages in the prescribed spiritual manner.

In historical accounts, Native American languages apply to sign words of each century. The following examples derived from the Lakota historical accounts begin from the 16th to 19th centuries.

16th Century – The Lakota were established on the headwaters of the Mississippi river.

17th Century – The Lakota were driven westward from Minnesota by their enemies; the Chippewas.

18th Century – In leaving the forest and lakes of Minnesota, the Lakota substituted the horse for the bark canoe, creating and adding new words to the Lakota vocabulary because of the change in lifestyle, from bark canoe to horse. Also, their hunting techniques changed to those of the hunting and gathering people on the great plains.

19th Century – The Lakota became known and feared as one of the most powerful Nations of the Plains. The Lakota Nation strongly fought and resisted the westward movement of the Europeans emigrating to this new world.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

In the Native American world, religion relates to the land, and all the elements of Mother Earth kept in harmony with the natural resources of the land and Universe. They are taught by grandfathers, grandmothers, and elders to respect the Great Spirit and all the elements he created for us on earth.

Native Americans see all of life as essentially sacred and do not segment human actions into secular, sacred, and psychological. Therefore, any action takes on spiritual significance and all actions must be interpreted in the light of spirit consequences. All of life is sacred be it human,

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animal, vegetable, or other elemental. Native American spirituality is not so much a set of rules as a technique of action and a way of life leading toward the divine.

Elders are highly respected in the Native American tradition because with age comes wisdom. God is viewed as a Grandfather Spirit and Native Americans look to God in the way they look to their elders for wisdom and guidance. Native Americans use a holistic approach to life and tie physical healing, spiritual growth and, religious observance in with the totality of nature, feeling in harmony with the natural rhythm of life promotes total health (physical and spiritual).

Many Native Americans have unexpected visions. Medicine people seek visions regularly and increasingly, and the younger generation of Native Americans consult medicine people for advice. Hanblcheyapi, the vision quest, was once a part of every Indian boy's coming of age and was open to women also. During the teen years, the person would go off alone, usually for four days, to mediate without food and sometimes without water, to seek a sign from the spirit world as to what life would be in the future.

Among Native Americans, the number four is a number of great power. There are four "kingdoms of life"; four directions; men and animals have four limbs; the year has four season; and a human being goes through four ages – Childhood, youth, adulthood and old age. An ideal person is said to possess four virtues – wisdom, courage, generosity, and purity.

The greatest of all Native American virtues is generosity. Native Americans display their wealth by giving away their possessions to the needy and the helpless or to their friends.

Native Americans believe that elements, plants, and animals are our brothers and sisters and that they have sacred energy within them just as people do. The Indian hunter kills with sadness and regret, and only when necessary. Hunting for sport or trophies is frowned upon.

Native American religion is more than mere power and clairvoyance. It is the skein that binds the culture and makes life meaningful. Reverence runs through every aspect of life.

Native American religion, even though it is oral and unwritten, will forever be the way of life for all Native Americans. The Creator made our religious beliefs through our spiritual languages. The Native American heritage and traditional cultures are forces of nature that cannot be altered or changed. This is why the heritage and culture has survived to the present time. The sacred way in which our spiritual languages were created makes it impossible to modify the semantics of each word. Native American linguistics is a symbolic language. What the Native American says in one word takes many words in the English language.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Private:

Individual Native Americans will often smudge – this is a way to purify oneself before prayer. This is a process using smoke to clear away negative energies and to attract positive energies. Small amounts of sage, sweet-grass or a high grade tobacco, with a few additives in it as possible, are used to produce smoke. Tobacco, like sage, tends to draw the negativity out of things and the sweet-grass brings in positive energy. Other plants, like cedar and juniper, may also be used because of their special healing powers. Lavender and sage are also used.

The individual desiring to smudge lights the mixture, lets it smolder, then draws the smoke toward the heart and over the head to receive its blessing. After the smudging takes place, the smoke is offered to the four directions, Mother Earth, and Father Sky.

Corporate:

The Pipe Ceremony involves the use of the Sacred Pipe and is an important religious activity for Native Americans. The pipe represents the universe. It is a sacred altar that can be taken anywhere. In it all the kingdoms are united. The bowl is made of stone or clay to represent the elemental kingdom. The stem is of wood and represents the plant kingdom. The pipe sometimes is decorated with fur and feathers to represent the animal kingdom. It is used by two-legged humans, thus bringing all the kingdoms into the ceremony. Sometimes the pipe has four streamers of red, black, white, and yellow representing the colors of the four directions and the four races of humans. The bowl represents the female energies while the stem represents the male. The bowl is the flesh and blood of the Native People; the stem is the bones. The symbols of the pipe are never ending like the universe itself.

The pipe and any objects used with it should be smudged before the actual pipe ceremony. In a pipe ceremony, the bowl is filled with sage, tobacco, kinnik-kinnik, or sweet-grass in a ritual manner. First, pinches are offered to the Great Spirit, to the Earth Mother and to the four directions. When the pipe is lit, a puff of smoke is offered to each of the four directions, to the Great Spirit and to our Mother Earth. The smoke from the pipe is the breath of prayer as it drifts up from the bowl and it is believed that when the smoke is drawn through the stem the breath of the Great Spirit is taken into the body. When the smoke – an ethereal substance – penetrates between realms of the physical and the spiritual, prayers are sent to the Creator. The pipe must be awaked and consecrated by the medicine person or a pipe carrier. The medicine person selects the pipe bearer who is in charge of preparing for the ceremony. The pipe, as it is passed from person to person, becomes a powerful tool for healing and helping the earth and all of her relations today.

The Sweat Lodge Purification Ceremony is conducted by a Native American spiritual leader. This is a ceremony of purification (physical and spiritual) and is an experience that helps to cleanse, heal, open, learn, and grow. The Sweat Lodge is a dome shaped structure made from willow saplings. It is shaped in the form of an oval and covered with materials that keep in the heat and keep out the light. In the center of the lodge is a hole where rocks are placed that have been heated in a fire pit outside.

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The door of the Sweat Lodge faces east and a spiritual path leads to an altar mound in front of the door. This mound is built from the earth removed from the lodge center pit. After proper prayers to the fire, the participants enter the sweat lodge. Clothing is not always worn. When everyone is seated inside the lodge, the rocks are ceremonially placed in the pit. Then the lodge flap is closed and sage and/or other medicine is sprinkled on the stones to rid the lodge, and those in it, of any negative energies. The sweet-grass is placed on the stones to bring in good energies. Water is poured over the stones and steam billows in the darkness. Sweat runs down the body and take the poison out. The Great Spirit and Grandmother and Grandfather Spirit are invited in. Then, one by one, the powers of the four directions are invited in. There is the singing of songs, rubbing of sage on sore parts of the body and prayers offered to the Great Spirit.

During the ceremony, Forgiveness for wrong doings is sought and the ceremony is a means of bringing together in harmony, those taking part.

The Sweat Lodge is erected on ground that has been consecrated and should be treated with respect. The reason for a privacy screen is to cut the ceremony off from outsiders who might not understand what is going on. It is not an essential part of the lodge.

There are a number of ideas about the sacred Sweat Lodge. We find that the Sweat Lodge ceremony is a religious service that worships the Creator of all living on the Mother Earth.

In the Native American Indian world, when you enter the sweat lodge (Inipi) or the rite of purification, your physical body literally enters your mother's womb.

Holy Books

None required by faith of practice.

Holy Days/Festivals

To a Native American every day is sacred, but at regular intervals many Native Americans take part in a Sweat Lodge Purification Ceremony. This ceremony can take place any day in the week and at any time during the day. Also, on the solstice and equinox, most tribes have a special ceremony to celebrate the changing of the season.

The Native American Pow Wow is both a secular and sacred ceremony. It is a time for Native Americans to gather for fellowship, fun and to enjoy the company of other Native Americans. The dances performed during the Pow Wow often have significant spiritual overtones. Some of the dances are for men only. Other dances include women and children.

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith or practice.

Fast Days

None required by faith or practice.

Dietary Restrictions

Native Americans do not have a specific diet, but feel the eating of healthy and nutritional food is a necessary part of the total sacredness of life.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

Native American spiritual leaders or medicine persons have been taught the sacred traditions involved in the practice of Native American religion. These persons are acclaimed by the tribe as authentic medicine people. Without the tribal stamp of approval, a person claiming to be a spiritual leader should not be used to conduct Native American Ceremonies.

Sources:

Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices; *Inmate Religious Beliefs and Practices*
By: US Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons

HANDBOOK OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

None required by faith or practice.

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

Change of Seasons - Both Solstice and Equinox – Most tribe have a special ceremony to celebrate the changing of the seasons.

- Pow Wow - Is both secular and sacred ceremony.

Sweat Lodge - Purification Ceremony – At regular intervals

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

Individual Native Americans smudge twice a day. This is a process of using smoke to clear away negative energies and to attract positive energies. Small amounts of sage, sweet-grass or a high grade of tobacco with as few additives in it as possible, is used to produce smoke.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

The Pipe Ceremony involves the use of the Sacred Pipe and is an important religious activity for Native Americans. The Sweat Lodge Purification Ceremony is conducted by a Native American Spiritual leader. The pipe ceremony should be taken at least once a week and the Sweat Lodge Ceremony at least twice a month.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

Native American spiritual leaders or medicine persons have been taught the sacred traditions involved in the practice of Native American religion.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

Headbands are not to be worn except in living unit and during ceremonies. Not generally cutting of male hair; small amounts of sage, lavender, sweet-grass or kinnik-kinnik for use in individual smudging; Medicine bags containing a variety of sacred objects; and eagle feathers. Medicine bags and eagle feathers are sacred items that should not be handled by anyone other than the Native American who possess these items, although staff may require that the items be shown.

Pagan

Asatru

Astara

Odinist

Wicca

ASATRU

History/Background

“Asatru” is an old Norse word (Scandinavian) which means “belief in the Gods”. These are the old Norse and Germanic gods and goddesses known collectively as Aesir or Asa. Asatru is also an Icelandic word, where it was accepted as a legitimate religion in 1972.

The religion, Asatru also referred to as Wor Tru “our faith” or Forn Sed, “ancient customs/ways,” is revealed in Norse mythology, the Elder Edda (poetry) and the Younger Edda (prose). Modern day Asatru is based on reconstruction from historical sources. There is no founder who made revealed pronouncements. There is no central authority that establishes teachings or beliefs.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

Some of the central teachings are based on the nine virtues which are ideally practiced in practitioners lives and dealing with other people. These are Honor, Courage, Truth, Loyalty, Self-Discipline, Hospitality, Industriousness, and Endurance.

Followers believe in an after life and those who have lived virtuous lives will go on to experience greater fulfillment, pleasure and challenge. Certain spiritual powers are released in death with the body and can be reborn from generation to generation in the family line. Those whose lives are not so virtuous “will be separated from kin, doomed to an existence of dullness and gloom.”

Often called an “earth” or “nature” religion, Asatru teaches harmony with nature. The comings and goings of the seasons have deep meaning for the Asatru folks. They do not worship stones, trees and statues, but recognize them as important symbols. They are reminders of the spiritual presence, the all providing energy which exists in all living things. This spiritual energy affects us and we affect it. The gods and goddesses make themselves known often within the realm of naturally occurring things. These deities also “speak” through Sagas and the Eddas. Communion with the gods and goddesses are through formal rites called blots and sumbles.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Asatru ceremonies include the pouring of libations or offerings to the gods and goddesses. After a formal meal, there is a highly ceremonial toast call sumble. The sumble includes communal drinking and inspired speech that is binding in terms of oath and intent. A blot, is a sacrifice or blessing to the gods and goddesses. The offering may be a simple sharing of food or drink by an individual to a more elaborate

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community ceremony. These ceremonies may be performed indoors or outdoors in a natural setting.. The word blot comes from blotar, literally “to sprinkle with blood.” Blotar is performed 8 to 12 times a year. Additional ceremonies include the naming of a child and its acceptance into the family (ausa vatni), burials, healing, and blessings in time of need.

Holy Books

The poetic Edda or Saemunder Edda
The prose Edda by Snorri Sturluson

Other writings of ancient chroniclers, Scandinavian and Germanic sages, Poetry literature, are essential reading. Books on folklore are also recommended.

Holy Days/Festivals

February 2 nd	Disting.
March 21 st	Ostara.
Mid-April	Springfinding.
April 30 th	Valpurgisnacht.
June 21 st	Midsummer.
August 21 st	Lammas or Loaf-fest.
Mid-October	Winterfinding.
December 21 st	Yule.

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith or practice.

Fast Days

None required by faith or practice.

Dietary Restrictions

There are no specific dietary laws, although many may opt to be Vegetarians by personal conviction.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

The religious leader is the Godi; (masculine) and the Gydia (femine), Godar (Plural). The position is comparable to a priest. Offenders are not sanctioned as Godi or Gydia. Individuals may share worship responsibilities among themselves.

Sources:

Ashleen O’Gaea, Mother Earth Ministries-ATC, P.O. Box 25906, Tucson, AZ 85740-5906; Gydia Susan Granquist, letter dated June 6, 2001 – FAQ, public domain, dated March 21, 2001 – Authored by Susan Granquist, Irminsul Aettir, Greg Shelter, Nik Warrenson - New Zealand Asatru Fellowship - Asatrufelleskapet - Hreasvelg Odinsson - Eagle Kindred – Asatru Alliance – Rorik Radford, Steven McNallen – Asatru Folk Assembly, Valgard – The Troth, Bill Linzie, Steward, The Troth, Laurence Hiner Wodalf, Mike Dood and Dirk Buere, - Odinic Rite – Pamphlets – “Discovering the Past, Securing the Future”, “some Answered Questions”, “Worshipping Odin”, by the Asatru Alliance, Payton, AZ 85547

REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

The poetic Edda or Saemunder Edda
The Prose Edda by Snorri Sturluson

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

None required by faith or practice.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

No mandatory requirement, however, weekly group sessions for discussion of religious and moral concern is encouraged, provided there is a recognized sponsor present.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

Those offenders who meet the requirements of DOC 560.200 will be provided with an Ovo-lacto vegetarian diet.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

The religious leader is the Godi; (masculine) and the Gydia (femine), Gqdar (Plural). The position is comparable to a priest. Offenders are not sanctioned as Godi or Gydia. Individuals may share worship responsibilities among themselves.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

ASTARA

History/Background

Astara means "a place of light" and is taken from the name of the Greek goddess of divine justice, Astaea. Astara was born to help seekers find the light they search for while in this life. This religion also seeks to assist individuals to find the power that lies within them, helping them reach into the infinite and breathe into them the God – forces of love, life and light. Astara was established in October 1951. Members are in 85 countries.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

Astara is a comprehensive religion which embraces the mystical teachings of all religions. It is non-sectarian, non-denominational and presents no dogmas or precepts which bind the mind in anyway. Astarians are led through eight degrees (or directions) through study of lessons (22 lessons each). They consider Jesus the Christ as the leading Master of Astara.

"And whatsoever the Godward may be, the Astarian will give it dignity; true lighted souls seek only to ascend, all paths that lead to God must somewhere blend." (Earlyne Chaney, co-founder)

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

There are no set requirements for regularly scheduled public or private worship except for designated Holy days. Practitioners may spend time in prayer and meditation or yoga.

Holy Books

Teaching from the four directions (degrees)

Containing twenty two (22) lessons each (The Book of Life)

Holy Bible

Quran

Bhaghavad Gita

Kabbalah

Practitioners may also receive the monthly Voice of Astara, and tapes on esoteric and metaphysical subjects.

Holy Days/ Festivals

Fire Initiation Ceremony

Last weekend in May on a Saturday. Lists are burned in an urn.

Founding of Astara

Anniversary meal on the 3rd weekend in October.

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith and practice.

Fast Days

None required by faith and practice.

Dietary Restrictions

Vegetarianism strongly advocated but not mandatory.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

No formal clergy.

Sources:

Astara, 792 West Arrow Highway, P.O. Box 5003, Upland, Oh 91785-5005

HANDBOOK OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

None required by faith and practice.

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

None required by faith and practice.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith and practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

None required by faith and practice.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

None required by faith and practice.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

None required by faith and practice.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

No formal clergy.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

ODINIST

History/Background

Odinism is a pagan religion and is based on the ancient religious and moral concepts of the northern IndoEuropean tribes or nations. These people have practiced pagan beliefs since antiquity.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

Odinism stresses the importance of the family unit and the extended family. It teaches honesty, courage, and personal responsibility. It advises moderation in all things and encourages the individual to rely on his/her own resources and always conduct him/herself in a manner that will hurt no one but bring respect and dignity to him/herself and his/her family.

The four gods of Odinism are Odin, Tyr, Thor, and Freys. These are the four gods giving names to the weekdays Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

The main goddesses are Frigga, Frays, and Iduana.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Odinism has no special value structure but holds to the value system taught by all world religions.

Holy Books

While Odinism has no official holy book, it uses Norse mythology as a means to explain or illustrate admired characteristics. The *Odinist* is the official publication of the Odinist Fellowship.

Holy Days/Festivals

Winter Sunstead

December 21/22 - (a major Yule observance) - is the Winter Solstice, and marks the turning point when the days begin to grow longer again, symbolizing a rebirth of the sun and of all

The Sunwheel/Light Festival

December 24 - (a major Yule observance) - is the celebration of Baldur's rebirth and the renewal of the world.

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The Tribal Yule Feast	December 25 - (a major Yule observance) - is a celebration of the culmination of the Yule festival, a time of gathering together of family and friends to share gifts and companionship.
Spring Evennight	March 20/21 - (a major observance) - is the Spring Equinox and a celebration of fertility of the womb and of the crops.
May Day	May 1 - (a major observance to Celtic influenced kindreds) - is primarily a fertility festival with emphasis on light and fire as the life-giving opposites of darkness and cold.
Summer Sunstead	June 21 - (a major observance) - is the Summer Solstice, and an observance of the changing of seasons as the Sun begins its slide into darkness as the days grow shorter. It is a recognition of the death of Baldur, as evidence by the dying of the light.
Lammas	August 1 - (a major observance to Celtic influenced kindreds) - is a pre-harvest celebration, marking the turning point in the year, and honoring those goddesses whose concerns are earth and harvest-related.
Fall Evennight	September 22-23 - (a major observance) - is the Autumnal Equinox and a recognition of the harvest's end and the coming of winter, as well as a thanks-giving for the abundance stored for winter.

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith or practice.

Fast Days

None required by faith or practice.

Dietary Restrictions

None required by faith or practice.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

No formal clergy.

Sources:

Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices

REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

No official holy book. However, the Edda, an ancient Nordic collection of pagan stories, is frequently used for individual study.

The *Odinist* is the official publication of the Odinist Fellowship.

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

Individuals frequently study the ancient Edda for spiritual enlightenment.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

Followers of this faith usually gather once a week for group discussion of religious and moral concerns.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

No formal clergy.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

WICCA

History/Background

Wicca, sometimes called Witchcraft, is the "Old Religion" of the indigenous tribal peoples of what has become Northern Europe, and is an ancient, pre-Christian worship of the forces of nature, anthropomorphized into a Mother Goddess and Her consort, the Horned God. The Goddess is seen as primary, and Earth Mother figure, and is often equated with the moon. The Horned God, often depicted as a man with antlers, is representative of the forest creatures, and the forces of decay and regeneration, of death and rebirth. (To equate Him with a satanic or devil figure because of His horns or antlers would be most incorrect, as the Wiccan philosophy contains no personification of evil as do the Judeo-Christian traditions.) Because it is an earth-centered religion, anthropologists classify Wicca as a nature, or fertility spirituality. The name Wicca comes from the old Anglo-Saxon terms, "wicce" which is generally taken as meaning "to bend." Wiccans practice focusing their mental efforts on a goal, "bending" their will to the task. Wicca is considered a magical based experiential philosophy, a mystery religion, rather than a revealed one based on holy writ or scripture. While the movement today is toward formally trained and ordained ministerial clergy (priestess and priest), every Wiccan is considered a priestess or priest unto themselves and an intermediary between the individual and the Gods is not essential. Anyone may conduct a worship ceremony for themselves or a small group.

Wicca is not a religion that worships or even acknowledges the devil. The Gods of Wicca are in no way related to Satan, the devil, satanic practices, or any such personification of evil. Wiccans and Witches believe in the primacy of personal responsibility and do not believe in such a concept to avoid responsibility for their own actions, and certainly do not offer homage to it.

The roots of Wicca go back to the early stone-age peoples of what is now Northern and Central Europe. Over 1,400 figurines, objects of worship, in the form of a plump and obviously pregnant Mother Goddess figure have been found in that area. The oldest dating back to 28,000 B.C. is known as "The Venus of Willendorf," after the Austrian village near which it was unearthed. For almost 1,200 years after the spread of Christianity across Europe, witchcraft was considered heresy and many thousands were condemned to death by hanging, strangling, drowning, or burning as followers of this benign, nature-oriented spirituality because of the irrational fears of the nobility and the peasantry, for political and economic reasons, and what were considered to be superstitious practices. Historically, conversion efforts frequently included strong measures to stamp out competing indigenous nature religions. In Germany, there are records of the entire female population of several villages being exterminated during the Witch Craze. Since the repeal of the last laws against witchcraft in England in 1956, the religion has re-emerged mainly through the scholarly writings of anthropologist Margaret Murray in the 20s and 30s, and the reconstructionist efforts of Gerald Gardner, the famous Witch of the Isle of Mann and originator of the Gardnerian tradition of Wicca. Many modern-day authors have made strong contributions, including

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Janet and Stewart Farrar, Doreen Valiente, Starhawk (Mirian Simos), Laurie Cabot, Erica Jong, and many, many others.

Wiccans are nothing to be feared, ridiculed, or even singled out. Wiccans are simply a little different in their approach to and acceptance of personal spirituality. Their religion is based on humanity's first stirrings to spirituality, of reverence toward the Earth as a living, breathing entity. They honor all living things, practice ecology, and are tolerant of those who follow a different path from their own. They often amass personal journals, or "Books of Shadows" containing materials used in worship, healing, divination, and the like since there is no single book of scripture and many sources may be used. The religious literature of Wicca consists of literally hundreds of volumes, with more being written and published almost daily.

Today, because of an intentional lack of central hierarchy and dogma, there exist many traditions within Wicca, even more than the number of traditions existing within Christianity. Wicca does not have charismatic leaders, and actually avoids large central governing structures. Although there is usually a hierarchical structure within a given tradition, there is no central governance for Wicca and each tradition is independent of the others. Because of this diversity, Wiccans can better be defined by the beliefs they may hold in common, rather than by their differences.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

Most Wiccans agree on many of these commonly held beliefs:

- Divinity is imminent or internal, as well as transcendent or external. This is often expressed by the phrases "Thou Art God" and "Thou Art Goddess."
- Divinity is just as likely to manifest itself as female. This has resulted in a large number of women being attracted to the faith and joining the clergy.
- A multiplicity of gods and goddesses, whether as individual deities or as facets of one or a few archetypes. This leads to multi-valued logic systems and increased tolerance toward other religions.
- Respect and love of Nature as divine in Her own right. This makes ecological awareness and activity a religious duty.
- Dissatisfaction with monotheic religious organizations and a distrust of would-be Messiahs and gurus. This makes Wiccans hard to organize, even "for their own good," and leads to constant mutation and growth in the movement, which is seen as beneficial.
- The conviction that human beings were meant to live lives filled with joy, love, pleasure, and humor. A traditional Western concept of sin, guilt, and divine retribution are seen as misunderstandings of natural growth experiences.

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- A simple set of ethics and morality based on the golden rule: the avoidance of harm to other people. Some may extend this to some or all living beings and the planet as a whole.
- The knowledge that with proper training and intent, human minds and hearts are fully capable of performing all of the magic and miracles they are ever likely to need, through the use of natural psychic powers which everyone possesses.
- The importance of acknowledging and celebrating the solar, lunar, and other cycles of our lives. This has led to the investigation and revival of many ancient customs and the creation of some new ones.
- A minimum of dogma and a maximum of eclecticism. This is to say, Wiccans are reluctant to accept any idea without personally investigating it, and are willing to adopt and use most any concept they find useful, regardless of its origins.
- A strong faith in the ability of people to solve their own current problems on all levels, public and private. This leads to:
 - A strong commitment to personal and universal growth, evolution, and balance. Wiccans are expected to be making continuous efforts in these directions.
 - A belief that one can progress far toward achieving such growth, evolution, and balance through the carefully planned alteration of one's consciousness, using both ancient and modern methods of aiding concentration, meditation, reprogramming, and ecstasy.
 - The knowledge that human interdependence implies community cooperation. Wiccans are encouraged to use their talents to actively help each other as well as the community at large.
 - An awareness that if they are to achieve any of their goals, they must practice what they preach. This leads to the concern with making one's lifestyle consistent with one's proclaimed beliefs. Total personal responsibility is seen as a central requirement and goal for all Wiccans.

While devotion to deity is the main focus, the control and use of cosmic forces which emanate from the human psyche is secondary. This may be in the form of magic such as healing, divination, spellcraft to help others in time of need, or for common community purposes. Negative magical acts are avoided since Wiccans hold a belief in reincarnation and the Threefold Law, which mandates that "what is sent forth will return threefold to the sender, good or evil." Reincarnation requires each person to return to Earth and be reborn and live out their karmic debt, and the Threefold Law is the source of that karmic debt to be repaid. Wiccans live by the Wiccan Rede: "An (if) ye harm none, do as ye will." Many traditions also follow the Ordains, a body of over 100 ethical rules similar to the moral systems of other faiths.

Because of the diffusion of members of this faith in the general community population, it is likely that prison populations may well contain members of this pre-Christian

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religious faith. There is no need to fear them or their religion. They don't recruit or proselytize. They gather, often in robes, in serene, natural outdoor surroundings to be in contact with Nature during their services; otherwise, you'd never know they were there. Their own children are encouraged to examine many other religions and make an informed personal choice of which to follow when they grow older. These people may call themselves Neo-Pagans, Pagans, Wiccans, or even Witches. They are neither evil nor weird. They do not perform sacrifices-neither actual nor symbolic-black magic, or devil-worship. They don't kill anything as a religious practice. In actual fact, they hold Life in all its forms as sacred, and many are vegetarians. Few, if any, hunt wild animals for sport. They are a simple, gentle people-people just like you and your friends only different in that they hold to another view of spirituality than Christian, Moslem, or Jew one based on nature and the forces of deity as manifest in the cosmos, a spirituality you may not be very familiar with.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Worship is also conducted on the full and new moons monthly on the lunar cycle, and sometimes on the third day of the new moon, called Diana's Bow (the thin lunar crescent of the increasing moon is equated to the hunting bow of the Goddess Diana).

Private or Solitary:

Many Wiccans may spend fifteen minutes to an hour each day in quiet meditation. In addition, many will conduct some form of personal worship ritual, divination, or devotion as they feel the need to do so. Occasionally holidays may be honored privately if corporate worship is not desired or available. Within the rules of the institution, devotional items, and religious books and literature should be accessible at these times, and when an inmate may be in solitary confinement.

Corporate Worship and Study:

Many Wiccans today prefer to gather for worship, and most such activities are conducted in a ritual space, sanctified and marked out by a circle in a natural, outdoor setting when possible – often without regard for the weather conditions prevailing. Within the sacred circle, two main activities occur: celebration and the practice of magic, spellcraft, and divination, although the latter three need not be in the sacred circle. The eight major holy days, called sabbats, are usually reserved for celebratory ritual, with magic most often performed at the lunar esbats. The types of magic may include psychic healing, the channeling of energy to achieve positive goals, and work toward individual spiritual development of group members and families. Wiccans are careful to practice only beneficial magic, healing only with the knowledge and approval of the subject, and avoid baneful or negative spells and cures because of karmic debt.

Ritual implements are used to facilitate mood, attitude, atmosphere, and concentration, helping to achieve the psychic state necessary for the consecration of the circle and the working of magic, divination, and healing. The primary implement owned by all Wiccans is the athame' or ritual knife – a black hilted, double-edged (pointed but unsharpened) knife made most often of steel, but occasionally made of copper. The athame' is charged with the energy of the owner, and is used as a pointer to define space (such as creating a ritual circle) and as a conductor or director of the owner's will

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and energy. Although considered important, it may be substituted by the use of a wooden wand, usually made of mountain ash, rowan wood, oak, or willow.

Altar items may include a pentacle – a wooden or metal disk approximately six inches in diameter and engraved with an interleaved five-pointed star and other traditional symbols, which is used to symbolize Earth properties. In addition, a small dish of earth or sea salt is often used to symbolize the element of earth. A thurible of incense and a bell may be used to represent the element of air, and a small container or chalice of water represents the element of water. A sword or wand may be used to symbolize the element of fire, although a minimum of two candle flames may be present on the altar to symbolize the presence of the Goddess and the God (in some traditions a third candle may be used to symbolize Dryghtyn, or the unknowable creative force) and may also serve to represent the element of fire. A chalice of water, wine, or any natural (not reconstituted) grape or fruit juice is used to symbolize the fifth element of the Spirit, and together with wheat cakes or cookies, is used after consecration as a token ritual meal of communion. An offering bowl is used when indoors to catch the offering of a portion of the communion which is offered to the Goddess and the God in the worship ceremony until the offering may be taken outdoors and deposited on the earth. Although lunar esbats are primarily used for working magic, typically they include full-moon or new-moon lunar worship ritual which includes this consecration and communion.

Holy Books

There is no specific scriptural text in Wicca; many books devoted to Wicca and its practice are considered sacred texts. Please see the resource listing.

Holy Days/Festivals

Imbolic	February 2 - Candlemas, Bridget or Lady Day
Vernal Equinox, Ostara	March 21 - (varies)
Beltane	April 30 th - May Eve (in some traditions, May 1 st)
Litha, Summer Solstice	June 21 st (varies)
Lughnassad, Lunasa or	August 1 st
Mabon, Autumnal Equinox	September 21 st (varies)
Samhain, The Celtic New	October 31
Yule or Winter Solstice	Ca. December 31 (Varies) - Usually includes a feast.
Monthly Esbats	On the New moon and full moons are also traditional worship occasions.

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith or practice.

Fast Days

Some traditions follow a fast from solid foods during the day preceding the eight major Sabbats or Holy Days, breaking the fast after sundown. Others do not.

Dietary Restrictions

There are no specific dietary laws, although many Wiccans may opt to be Vegetarians or Vegans by personal conviction.

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

Generally worship is led by a Priestess, most often jointly with a Priest. Most traditions rank clergy as First Degree (initiates); Second Degree (Priest or Priestess leading a group or teaching); and Third Degree (High Priest or Priestess having the ability to initiate and ordain others). This ranking within the religion is generally limited to formal traditions which have rules governing the requirements for such ordination and elevation. It is not common practice within self-initiated or eclectic, solitary, or informal group practice.

Sources:

Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices; *Inmate Religious Beliefs and Practices*
By: US Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons; Ashleen O'Gaea, Mother Earth Ministries –ATC, P.O. Box 35906, Tucson, AZ 85740-5906

Note: *All of the books listed below may be properly considered Wiccan sacred texts. This is by no means a complete list of such Wiccan sacred texts.*

The Language of the Goddess, by Marija Gimbutas, Harper & Row, San Francisco, 1989, The Meaning of Witchcraft, by Gerald Gardner: Samuel Weiser Inc. 1959, reprinted by Llewellyn, St. Paul. Wicca, the Old Religion for a New Age, by Dr. Vivianne Crowley: Aquarian Press, Wellingborough, England 1989., Spiral Dance, by Starhawk: Harper & Row, San Francisco, Rev. Ed. 1989., Drawing Down the Moon, by Margot Alder, Beacon Press, Boston Rev. Ed. 1986., The Truth About Witchcraft, by Doreen Valiente: Robt. Hale Ltd., London 1989. The Witches' Way, by Janet and Stewart Farrar: Robt Hale Ltd., London 1984. To Ride a Silver Broomstick, by Silver Ravenwolf: Llewellyn, St. Paul, 1993. The Family Wicca Book, by Ashleen O'Gaea: Llewellyn, St. Paul, 1993. Wicca Craft, by Gerina Dunwich: Citadel Press, Secaucus NJ 1991. The Urban Pagan, by Patricia Telesco: Llewellyn, St. Paul 1993.

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- **HOLY BOOK**

No specific book, but many texts are considered sacred. Each Wiccan generally keeps a "Book of Shadows," a personal journal or workbook, containing information meaningful to the individual. This should be allowed.

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

The keeping of these special days is preferable, although failure to do so carries no punishments. It offers Wiccans a valued opportunity for spiritually based social interaction in furtherance of their faith.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

Fifteen minutes to an hour daily for quiet meditation, worship, or divination consistent with inmate free time, preferably in the evening.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

Not mandatory but desirable if there are more than two Wiccans in a given area. May be led by any Wiccan, but preferably by a Priestess alone or in concert with a Priest.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

There are no specific dietary laws, although some Wiccans may elect to be Vegetarian or Vegan, based on personal convictions. Some traditions fast during the day preceding the eight major holy days, breaking the fast after sundown.

Those offenders who meet the requirements of DOC 560.200 will be provided with an Ovo-lacto vegetarian diet.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

Generally worship is led by a Priestess, most often jointly with a Priest. Most traditions rank clergy as First Degree (initiates); Second Degree (Priest or Priestess leading a group or teaching); and Third Degree (High Priest or Priestess having the ability to initiate and ordain others). This ranking within the religion is generally limited to formal traditions which have rules governing the requirements for such ordination and elevation. It is not common practice within self-initiated or eclectic, solitary, or informal group practice.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

RASTAFARIAN

History/Background

The religion is of Caribbean origin. It started in Jamaica and is named after Ra Tafari who was crowned Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia in November 1930. The religion is based on a vision of Black domination.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

The Rastafarian movement is antiestablishment and bitter on the question of race.

The religion reinterprets the Old Testament claiming leaders are present-day prophets.

Life style includes Old Testament dietary rules, uncombed locks and beards.

This religion is not part of the Muslim faith and many of the sanctioned practices of the Rastafarian religion are contrary to the established belief patterns of Islam.

This religion is not a unified movement. Many adherents gather in small informal bodies and are not affiliated with organized groups.

The wearing of dreadlocks and beards is mandatory.

Women are required to wear dresses and keep their heads covered in public.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

No mandatory requirement.

Holy Books

King James Version of the Bible

Holy Days/Festivals

None required by faith or practice.

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith or practice.

Fast Days

None required by faith or practice.

Dietary Restrictions

Ovo-lacto Vegetarian

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

None required by faith or practice.

Sources:

Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices; *Inmate Religious Beliefs and Practices*
By: Us Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons

REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

King James version of the Bible

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

None required by faith or practice

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith or practice

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

None required by faith or practice

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

None required by faith or practice

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

Those offenders who meet the requirements of DOC policy 560.200 will be provided with an Ovo-lacto Vegetarian diet.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

None required by faith or practice

- **OTHER ITEMS**

Rastafarians wear their hair in dreadlocks and the men wear beards.
Women wear dresses and keep their heads covered in public.

SIKH

History/Background

The early 16th century was a time of bitter conflict in North India. A series of invasions culminating in 1526 established Muslim supremacy. The Punjab area was one of the most hotly contested regions, and it was here that Nanak (1469-1539) was born. One day while bathing in a river, he had a vision of God's presence in which he was told to go into the world and teach the repetition of the Name of God, the practice of Charity, meditation and worship, and the keeping of ritual purity through absolution.

According to tradition, after a full day of silence, he uttered the Pronouncement, "There is no Hindu (the native faith of India) and no Musselman (Muslim)." He adopted a unique garb which combined both Hindu and Muslim features, and developed an eclectic faith which took elements from many religions, principally Hindu and Muslim. From Islam he taught of One Creator God, called the True Name to avoid such designations as Allah or Vishnu. From Hinduism he taught the ideas of karma, reincarnation and the ultimate unreality of the world. Nanak also emphasized the unique role of the guru (teacher) as necessary to lead people to God. After Nanak's death, nine gurus followed him in succession.

The fourth guru, Ram Dass, began the Golden Temple of Amritsar, the present headquarters of the world SIKH community. The fifth guru, Arjan, completed the Temple and installed the *Siri Guru Granth Sahib* or *Adi Granth*, the collected writings of Nanak, within it.

The tenth guru, Gobind Singh (1666-1718), had the most significant role other than Nanak in molding the SIKH community. He completed the *Adi Granth* in its present form and militarized the Sikhs by forming the Khalsa, the Community of the Pure. Members were initiated by baptism in which they drank and were sprinkled with sweetened water stirred with a sword. They changed their name to Singh (Lion) and adopted the Five K's:

- Kesh, or long hair, a sign of saintliness;
- Kangh, a comb for keeping the hair neat;
- Kach, short pants for quick movement in battle;
- Kara, a bracelet signifying sternness and restraint; and
- Kirpan, a sword of defense. Women adopted the surname Kaur (Princess)

After Gobind Singh's death, The *Adi Granth* became the guru and no further human gurus were allowed. The military emphasis continued, however, and the Sikhs served with distinction in British army units.

In the 19th century, variant forms of Sikhism emerged. Param Guru Shri Dayal Singh Sahib began to gather followers, and in 1861 formed the Radhasoami Satsang. It was distinguished from other forms of Sikhism by the development of a new line of gurus. Both the Radhasoami Satsang and the Rahani Satssang, which came from it, have

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been transplanted to the United States. The Sikh Dharma and its education branch, the Healthy, Happy Organization represent orthodox Sikhism.

Theology/Major Teachings/Belief

Many Sikh sects emphasize a particular aspect of the religion but all Sikhs recognize three basic truths: the One-ness of God, the leadership of the ten gurus; and the *Granth Sahib* (Holy Scripture) of Divine Revelations. Five of the Sikh sects are: The Nirankari, whom emphasize pure worship. The Singh Sahha, who emphasize education; the Sahajdharis, who reject militarism and are always clean shaven; the Udasis, who emphasize Indian ascetic principles and frequently cut their hair and shave their beards; and the Singhs, who emphasize the teachings of the tenth guru, Gobind Singh.

Worship/Rites/Ceremonies

Private: There are a number of daily rituals which may be practiced by members of the Sikh faith, but all practices are dependent on the member's sect within Sikhism, and none of these practices are mandatory. Generally, each day begins with an early morning bath and meditation and/or chanting of the Name of God, the recitation of particular prayers and hymns and, again, Sikhs recite special prayers before they go to bed.

Corporate: Corporate worship for members of the Sikh faith includes hymns, chanting, prayers and the recitation and explanation of the hymns of *Guru Granth Sahib* (the Holy Scriptures). Group worship is not required but it is stressed in that it is helpful in the development of "group consciousness" which is basic to the community.

Festivals: The festivals listed in Holy Days are celebrated in a variety of ways, dependent on the particular Sikh sect, but they are not mandatory. Frequently the festivals of the birthday of Guru Nanak; the birthday of Guru Gobind Singh; the Baiskhi, birthday of Khalsa; the anniversary of Guru Anjun Dev's Martydom are preceded by a 48-hour continuous reading of the *Grnth Sahib* (Holy Scripture) from the beginning to end and celebrated by larger groups and longer services. There is also the customary distribution of sweet food, karah prasad, to all present at these celebrations.

Holy Books

Guru Granth Sahib – The Sikh Scripture

Holy Days/Festivals

Ten Gurus Births and Deaths

Sikhs celebrate the anniversaries of the births and deaths of the ten gurus, especially Guru Nanak in November, Guru Ram Dass in October and Guru Gobind Singh in December. There are 20 anniversaries celebrated.

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The Anniversary of the Baisakhi
The birthday of the khalsa

generally celebrated in April.

The calculations of all the above dates are based on the lunar cycle and the Indian calendar and can be obtained from Sikh Centers.

Work Proscription Days

None required by faith or practice.

Fast Days

None required by faith or practice.

Dietary Restrictions

Ovo-Lacto Meatless or Vegetarian

Leadership/Meetings and Worship

Leadership is dependent on the particular sect

Source:

Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices
SIKH Temple of Spokane
1420 N. Barker Rd.
Greenacres, WA 99016
(509) 892-3799

HANDBOOK OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFENDERS IN PRISON

- **HOLY BOOK**

Access to the *Guru Granth Sahib* or at least the parts of the *Granth* that have been translated into English.

- **HOLY DAYS/FESTIVALS**

The Anniversary of the Baisakhi - The birthday of the khalsa – generally celebrated in April.

The calculations of all the above dates are based on the lunar cycle and the Indian calendar and can be obtained from Sikh Centers.

- **WORK PROSCRIPTION DAYS**

None required by faith or practice.

- **PRIVATE WORSHIP**

No mandatory requirement but each Sikh is enjoined to practice his/her spiritual discipline through Sikh prayers, meditation and the chanting of God's Name for at least an hour each day.

- **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

No mandatory requirement and there are no special facilities necessary. However, Sikhs traditionally worship together at regular intervals.

- **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

A vegetarian diet is mandatory only for those who follow Guru Gobind Singh and are part of the Sikh Dharma.

Those offenders who meet the requirements of DOC 560.200 will be provided with an Ovo-lacto vegetarian diet or a Vegetarian diet as requested.

- **LEADERSHIP/MEETINGS AND WORSHIP**

Access to an authorized Sikh minister in the area if of the Sikh Dharma. Other Sikhs have no authorized priests or ministers.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

Male members of the Sikh Dharma are not to cut their hair. This prohibition does not apply to other Sikh groups. Courts have ruled that compelling state interests allow prison administrators to restrict Sikh inmates' possession of the kirpan (dagger) and to inspect the turban for contraband.

HANDBOOK OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

SOURCES

THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF RELIGION, MacMillan Publishing Co., New York, New York, 16 volumes (1987)

Department of the Army pamphlet No. 165-13, RELIGIOUS REQUIREMENTS AND PRACTICES OF CERTAIN SELECTED GROUPS (A Handbook for Chaplains), Headquarters, Department of the Army, April 1978

Canadian Federal Penitentiary System, GUIDE TO SELECTED NON-CHRISTIAN FAITHS AND NON-MAINLINE CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS, Carol Fletcher and Christine Gross, Queen's Theological College, March 1984

Southern Baptist Convention, BELIEFS OF OTHER KINDS (A Guide to Interfaith Witness in the United States), Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, 1985

INTERFAITH ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS - 1987

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Bob Shimek, Native American Spiritual Leader Don Moore, Native American Religious Leader Nez Perce Tribe Sun Bear Tribe Umatilla Tribe Marshall Macy, Latter Day Saint Church David May, Seventh Day Adventist Church William R. Thomas, Christian Science Church Jehovah's Witness Church Unity Church Church and School of Wicca Peter Pathfinder, Aquarian Tabernacle Church Joe Kalama, Native American Spiritual Leader Ismael Ahmad, Islam Imam **INTERFAITH ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS - 1995:**

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Akes, Chuck - The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
Carney, Eido Frances - Buddhist
Cinkovitch, Dick - M2 Job Therapy

HANDBOOK OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

Davis, Pete - Wicca

Evans, Bonnie - Native American

Friedman, Gary – Jewish

Holmes, Richard - Seventh Day Adventist

Lynn, Robert - Christian

Von Tobel, Greg - Christian

Williams, Daniel – Religious Program Manager, Washington State Department of Corrections

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS CHAPLAIN HANDBOOK COMMITTEE

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