

Judaism (Pesach) – Summer Term



Pesach or Passover is a spring festival which last for 7 or 8 days. The name Passover comes from the story of the angel of death passing over the houses of the Israelites, Pesach comes from the paschal lamb which was once sacrifice when there was still a Temple in Jerusalem. It is a time when Jewish people thank God for their freedom and remember those who are enslaved today. Hospitality is important at Pesach.



Key Vocabulary	Definition
Judaism	One of the oldest faiths to believe in one god. Founded by Abraham over 3,500 years ago in the Middle East.
Jews	Followers of Judaism who believe God appointed them to be His chosen people.
Torah	The first part of the Jewish bible.
Synagogue	Jews worship in a synagogue.
Passover	Jewish holiday commemorating their freedom from slavery in Egypt and the 'passing over' of the 10 plagues.
Pesach	Jewish term for Passover.
Seder	A special plate containing symbolic foods to be eaten or displayed at the Passover.
Kosher	Food that complies with the strict dietary rules and traditions of the Jewish law.
Unleavened bread	Bread made without yeast so it doesn't rise.
Matzah	Jewish unleavened bread.
Bitter	A sharp or harsh flavour.
Charoset	A dark, sweet paste made of fruits and nuts.
Lamb	A young sheep that is under 1 year old.
Shema	A prayer from the Torah that shows Jews believe in one God.
Mezuzah	Meaning 'doorpost'. A small parchment scroll with the words of the Shema handwritten on. Put on nearly every doorpost in a Jewish house.
Scribe	A person employed to make copies.
Quill	A writing tool made from a feather.

The Shema

*Listen Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is one.
Love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your souls and with all your might.
These words which I am commanding you
today must remain in your heart.
Teach them to your children and speak of them
when you are at home,
when you are travelling on the road, when you lie
down and when you get up.
Tie these words as a sign on your hand; let them
be a sign in the centre of your head.
Also write them on the doorposts of your
houses and on your gates.*

