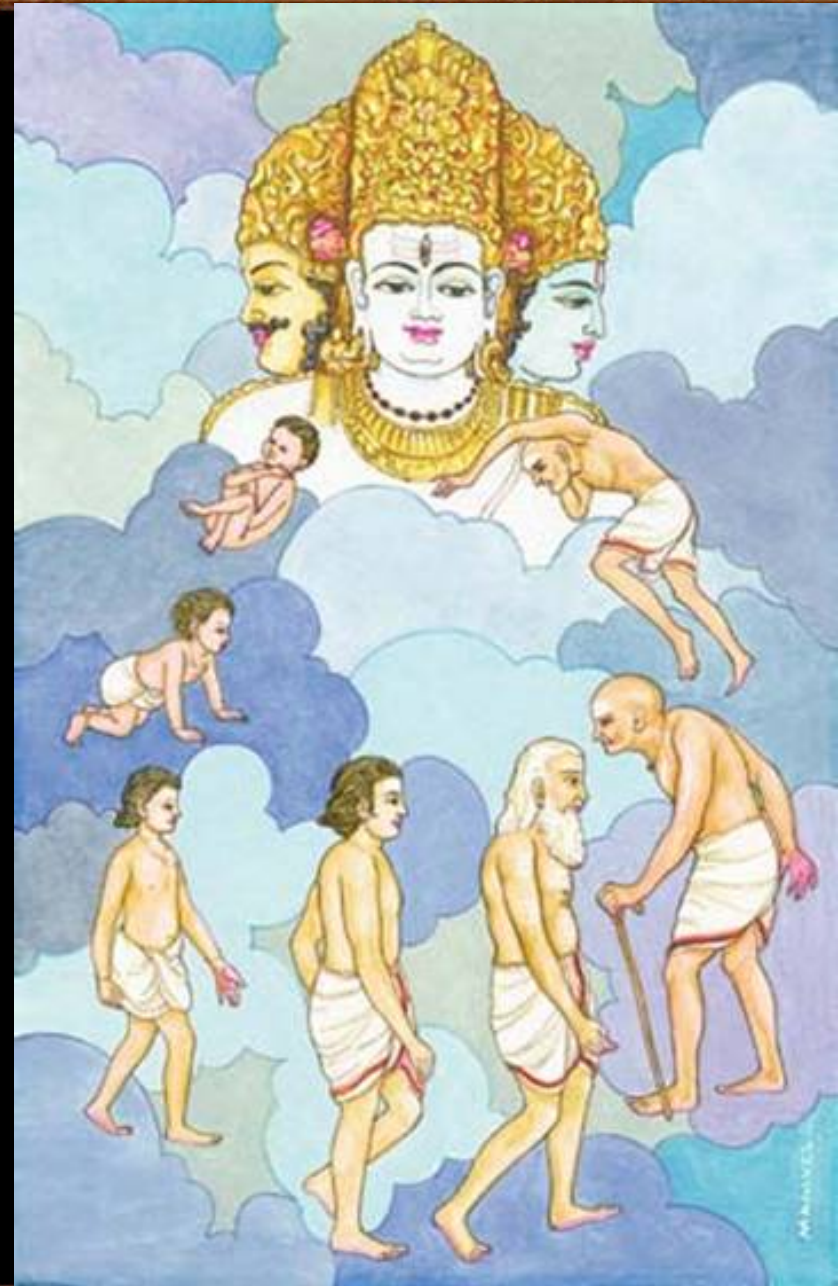


# Hinduism: Life after Death



# Learning Intentions

- To revise our knowledge of samsara, karma, moksha and nirvana.
- To understand how these beliefs affect the life of a Hindu person.

# What we know so far

- Hindus believe in the law of **Samsara** – the cycle of birth, death and rebirth.
- When the body dies the soul is reborn into another body – this is called samsara or reincarnation.
- The soul is part of Brahman which is part of every living thing. It cannot be destroyed. Hindus call the soul atman.





- This cycle of birth, death and rebirth can happen many times but Hindus cannot remember their past lives.
- They believe that everything they do in life affects what will happen in their next life.
- What they have done in their previous life affects their present life.



- This means every Hindu has a goal or aim in life.
- The goal is to escape from the cycle of being reborn.
- Then their soul will leave this world for good and become part of Brahman again.
- This state of rejoining Brahman is called [Nirvana](#).





- Freedom from the cycle of samsara is called Moksha.
- Hindus believe that there are many ways to achieve moksha.
- Good actions or good karma will get a Hindu closer to Brahman, bad actions or bad karma will push them further away from Brahman.



# Questions

1. Explain what the law of Samsara means.
2. Write down what Hindus believe about the soul.
3. Explain how Hindus believe their actions affect their next lives.
4. Describe the goal of a Hindu. You must include the following words and explain what they mean: rebirth, Brahman, Nirvana, moksha.
5. Write a paragraph on your own views of reincarnation. Remember to explain why you hold these views.