

WHY ?

What do religions teach about animals? How do religious traditions harm animals? How are food choices relevant to religious ethics?



We can only honor religious teachings when we know what they are. Few religious leaders or institutions convey the richness and strength of religious teachings about animals—

so we created **animalsandreligion.org**.



To join in the process of knowledge as change, please visit animalsandreligion.org, or mail a check to:

Tapestry (A&R),
Account # 241540 S0050
Altana Federal Credit Union
3212 Central Avenue
Billings, MT 59102

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Animals



Religion

WHAT ABOUT ANIMALS?

Some people convey religious teachings through storytelling, others have written texts; some worship many deities while others worship only one; some teach of *ahimsa* while others teach of love—but every religion teaches compassion and kindness to



animals.

What do sacred writings (such as Genesis, the Quran, the Mahabharata) and the words of historic figures such as Jesus, Mohammed, and the Buddha teach about ethics and animals?

For more on animal ethics and religions, visit animalsandreligion.org.

WHAT ABOUT DIET?

Indian religions teach that karma and reincarnation interconnect all living beings. It is therefore not surprising that many citizens of India have been vegetarian for centuries—but what do these traditions have to say about dairy and eggs?



Sacred texts of Abrahamic Religions (The Tanakh/Hebrew Bible) teach that God created a peaceful world and told the first beings to eat only green plants, seeds, and fruits. Why did the Creator permit meat-eating soon after, and what can we learn of animal ethics from these writings?

For more on diet and religious ethics, see animalsandreligion.org.

WHAT ABOUT HUMANITY?

The acronym AMORE reminds of five critical moral considerations when deciding what to eat:

1. Animal ethics
2. Medical concerns
3. Oppression (of disempowered)
4. Religious ethics



5. Environmental concerns

What are the most relevant factors when choosing between a vegetarian or vegan diet? How do food choices contribute to oppression? In what ways does our diet affect the cost of medical care? Why is diet critical in determining our environmental footprint?



To learn how food choices affect
animals, people, and the planet, visit
animalsandreligion.org.