GWILYM BECKERLEGGE
Special days are important to many of these communities. Shabbat is celebrated not just in a synagogue but also at home.

HILARY COHEN
I think most homes will have some sort of gathering, some sort of special way of observing Friday night. We will say special Kiddushes blessings before you eat and break bread and so on.

Sabbath Shabbat is a day of rest so you won’t er… you won’t do any form of work, food will be prepared beforehand, we’ll all sit down and have a Friday night meal together and the family or with friends, er… discuss the week, tell a funny story you heard or whatever it is, it’s a time of sort of physical and spiritual rejuvenation really.
HILARY COHEN:
And the restrictions I mean a lot of people see the Sabbath as a time when you can't do this you can't do that you can't do the other you can't shop you can't drive your car you can't, but on the other hand by being by not doing those things you're freed then to enjoy your family, to sit and read a book, to do things quietly together enjoy the company of your friends and family, and I think it's a wonderful thing it's a blessing that God gave to us, because the Sabbath is a day of rest after God created the world in six days, and so his day of rest and and that's and that's Shabbat.

MOHAMMED QADRI
Coming together on Friday makes it possible for the community to be together and united. It is very important because on this particular day in a week, during the afternoon, all the prayer which is supposed to be said during the afternoon is substituted and the Imam or the leader would normally give a sermon, a short sermon, and sermon in Arabic is called hutbah, hutbah means a reminder, a reminder to the community of their duties and obligations to their fellow human beings and to their family and so on so forth.
SUNDER CHOPRA
For Hindu’s each day is a holy day, there is no time when God is not and there’s no place where God is not and there’s no being in which God is not, so everything, every time, every place is a sacred place.

We generally get together on Sunday especially because it is convenient time, not for any religious reasons, but because it is so convenient to all of us.

CANON NICHOLAS FRAYLING
It was very important for the earliest Christians to have a day which was set apart for God, and specifically set apart to do that which the Lord commanded them to do, to meet together to break bread to take wine in remembrance of him, not as a nostalgic ceremony, or just because he said so, but because in that act of remembrance we believe that in a very particular way we are making present in the here and now the love which he mediated at that last supper.

GWILYM BECKERLEGGE
But the people who maintain these special days live in the same world as everybody else, a world where the market place is sometimes reluctant to stop.
LEONARD GROSSMAN
The shop is a kosher delicatessen and it primarily deals with Jewish customers. Our weekly trading is from Sunday throughout to Friday.
We are closed on the whole of Saturday as it is the Sabbath. Friday we have normal trading hours except for in the winter when we have to shut an hour before dusk.

Sunday of course is our predominantly busiest morning of the week, and we do our main business on a Sunday morning, where we sell a vast quantity of bagels, they're the most popular product.

SOMAIA MCTEER
Running a Moslem shop it's no problem at all. In terms of Friday prayer there are enough women to man the shop while the brothers go to the mosque to do their Friday prayer, and then we have our break when they come back.

RASHID MCTEER
Yes we have about ten or twelve volunteers who come here on a regular basis, so there's there is a good turn round of of people in here, regular fresh faces each day sort of thing.
CANON NICHOLAS FRAYLING
The traditional Sunday is very seriously under threat in fact I'd go so far as to say that it's virtually disappeared in this city.

I've been in Liverpool for about thirteen years, and when I was first here the only shops that would have been open anywhere near the city centre were perhaps food shops run by Moslems or those of other faiths, nowadays all but one department store is open, the supermarkets are open, clothes shops, all sorts of things which are not concerned with the basic necessities of life, but luxuries and a whole range of shopping, are now available on Sundays as on any other day, and I do think that's a loss.

But I think there is a more than religious reason for keeping Sunday special. I think it’s part of the rhythm of life. I think it’s part of the essence of family life that there should be at least one day when parents can be together, go out together, go and see friends, have relatives round, eat round a table together which is now becoming increasingly unusual, almost unheard of in some families.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MCU: Joseph Gojikian</th>
<th>JOSEPH GOJIKIAN (VOX POP)</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Most people go shopping on a Sunday. Most probably we'll go on Sunday because we don't have time in the week, all of us have things to do, so it's the most popular day to go out shopping.</td>
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<tr>
<th>MCU: Mrs Sheila Brown</th>
<th>MRS SHEILA BROWN (VOX POP)</th>
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<td>Well I work all week, and I find that it nice to come out on a Sunday and stroll around</td>
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<th>MCU: Mr Peter Brown</th>
<th>MR PETER BROWN (VOX POP)</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Well I just enjoy coming out, it gives a break on Sunday afternoon, like you'll be sitting there, you wouldn't be doing very much, and it's just to get out for a few hours.</td>
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<tr>
<th>GVs: Ext: People shopping at Stanley Dock Market, Liverpool</th>
<th>CANON NICHOLAS FRAYLING</th>
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<td></td>
<td>I realise that we live in an increasingly secular society, and that it is not for people like me to impose my belief systems on anybody else, but I'll fight to the death my right to to proclaim them and to live them for myself.</td>
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<th>MCU: Canon Nicholas Frayling</th>
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<td></td>
<td>I make no apology at all for saying that it's very much more healthy to regard at least part of Sunday as special, and a time when people of faith can unashamedly set that aside both to give honour to God and more importantly to listen to what he may have to say, to inspire them to go out and work in the world to his praise and glory for the rest of the week.</td>
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<th>GVs: Int: Palm Sunday Service in Metropolitan RC Cathedral.</th>
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<td>Music:</td>
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<td>choir . RC</td>
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<td>Cathedral</td>
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<td>Dur: 43&quot;</td>
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GWILYM BECKERLEGGE

So the term religion implies an experience of a reality concealed or denied by the secular world. Any answer to the question what is religion must take into account the centrality of such an experience.

End Roller:

Academic Consult
Gwilym Beckerlegge

Participants:
Sunder Chopra
Hilary Cohen
John Collins
Nicholas Frayling
Leonard Grossman
Noreen Hameed
Rashid McTeer
Somaia McTeer
Vincent Malone
Mohammed Qadri

GVs: Members of congregations praying from all faiths
End shot: Muslim women in white praying.

Music: De Wolfe, DWCD 0136, Track 18: The Ganges Dur: 30s
We wish to thank
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Roseman's Delicatessen
Liverpool Cathedral
Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral
Liverpool Parish Church of our Lady
and St Nicholas
Mararishi European Sidhaland
St John's Centre Management
Shree Radha Krishman Temple
Stanley Dock Market
The Olive Tree

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Linton Howell-Hughes
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Martin Tillman.

Graphic Designer
Robin Arkle

Videotape Editor
John Bullard
End shot: Muslim women in white praying freezes as music fades down.

Series Producer
Amanda Willett

Producer
G D Jayalakshmi

BBC C The Open University
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