



OpenLearn: LearningSpace video transcript
A103: An Introduction to Humanities
TV14: What is religion?: Part 2

Graphic: Christianity, Islam,
Judaism, Hinduism, Transcendental
Meditation with OED wallpaper.
Dur: 8"

GWILYM BECKERLEGG

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

GVs: Int: Hilary Cohen's family
gathering and celebrating Shabat.

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.

MS: Hilary Cohen

Sabbath Shabbat is a day of rest so you you won't erm 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, erm 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.

GVs: Int: Hilary Cohen's family
gathered around table eating and
talking.



HILARY COHEN:

MS: Hilary Cohen

GVs: Int: Hilary Cohen's family gathered around table eating and talking.

MS: 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

GVs: Int: Men praying at Al Rahma Mosque, Liverpool

MS: Mohammed Qadri

GVs: Int: Men praying at Al Raham Mosque, Liverpool.

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.



MCU: Sunder Chopra

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.

GVs: stained glass window, Hindus gathered in circle praying.

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.

MCU: Canon Nicholas Frayling

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.

GVs: Int: Sunday Prayer Service at Liverpool Parish Church.

GVs: Ext: Roseman's Deli

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.



GVs: Int: Roseman's Deli

MCU: Leonard Grossman
Graphic: Leonard Grossman,
Jewish.

GVs: Int: Roseman's Deli

LEONARD GROSSMAN

The shop is a kosher delicatessen and it primarily deals with er Jewish customers. Our weekly trading is er from er 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.

GVs: Ext: The Olive Tree Shop,
Shop window
GVs: Int: Girls looking at clothes

M2S: Rashid and Somaia McTeer
Graphic: Lower Third: Somaia
McTeer, Muslim

GVs: Int: Girls shopping, Books

SOMAIA MCTEER

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

M2S: Rashid and Somaia McTeer
Graphic: Lower Third: Rashid
McTeer, Muslim.

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.



MCU: Canon Nicholas Frayling

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.

GVs: Int: people shopping in department stores.

Footage in Boots

Dur: 16

BBC OUPC specially shot for B600 VC02 BAP 7337. 1/FOUP516A

Footage in Wallis

Dur: 6

BBC OUPC specially shot for EDTV 1993. BAP 6709 1/FOUM407N

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.

MCU: Canon Nicholas Frayling

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.

GVs: Ext: Crowds of people shopping at Stanley Dock Market, Liverpool



MCU: Joseph Gojikian

JOSEPH GOJIKIAN (VOX POP)

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.

MCU: Mrs Sheila Brown

MRS SHEILA BROWN (VOX POP)

Well I work all week, and I find that it nice to come out on a Sunday and stroll around

MCU: Mr Peter Brown

MR PETER BROWN (VOX POP)

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.

GVs: Ext: People shopping at Stanley Dock Market, Liverpool

CANON NICHOLAS FRAYLING

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 and to live them for myself.

MCU: Canon Nicholas Frayling

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.

GVs: Int: Palm Sunday Service in Metropolitan RC Cathedral.

Music:
Actuality.
Organ Tradit
Hymns plus
choir . RC
Cathedral
Dur: 43"





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.

GVs: Members of congregations praying from all faiths

End shot: Muslim women in white praying,

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

Music: De Wolfe, DWCD
0136, Track
18: The Ganges
Dur: 36"





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The Olive Tree

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Graphic Designer
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End shot: Muslim women in white
praying freezes as music fades
down,

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