

## Architecture of Sacred Places

**Goal:** Learn about several distinct places that represent the several religions and belief systems in the world. Understand and question what makes a place sacred: the religion, the location or the beliefs of the people.

### Objectives:

1. Investigate the many given places for their architectural style, location, historical importance.
2. Decipher the important features of the architecture and decide what makes the place sacred.
3. Compare the given place to another place of another faith or belief and find what features are similar.
4. Research techniques and compilation of all information a presentation.

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**What makes a place sacred?** The people, the beliefs, the location? Use questions to guide research.

1. How old is the place or the site?
2. Which group claims that this is place is sacred and WHY?
3. What special modifications have been made to the location, building or place?
4. What is a distinguishing feature or hallmark of the site?
5. Has the site been designated a UNESCO site? Go to UNESCO website and check their listings.
6. Has the site suffered from natural problems like earthquakes, human environment?

The above questions are to help guide the student in their research and are not the only questions a student may ask.

Final work presented in PowerPoint presentations. This is a good project for group work and also for the independent learner.

**Below are several places considered sacred, even holy by their adherents:**

**Christian/Roman Catholic  
Chartres Cathedral, France**



**Muslim:  
Dome of the Rock/Mosque/Jerusalem**



**Jewish: Wailing Wall/Temple of Solomon/Jerusalem/Israel**



**Greek Orthodox: Mt. Athos/Monastery/Greece**



**Buddhist: Borobudur/Buddhist temple Compound/Java, Indonesia**



**Hindu: Kedarnath Temple/Holiest Hindu Shrines/Uttarakhand, India in the Himalayas**



**Egyptian pyramids**



**Stonehenge: Salisbury Plain, England**

