

## Symbolism in Asia

All cultures use symbols to represent ideas or qualities. The five-clawed dragon is the Chinese Emperor's symbol of imperial power. Buddha has been represented with many symbols, including his footprint, a flaming pillar, an empty seat, or a parasol. Join us in September as we explore symbolism, old and new, in Asian culture. Below are a few suggested topics, but feel free to develop your own topic.

Javanese Batik – interpreting patterns

Decorative motifs of the Samurai

Fire Symbols

Oracle bone script

Tibetan Buddhist Symbols

Symbols of Islam

Symbols associated with the Chinese God Fu (blessings & happiness)

Symbols associated with the Chinese God Lu (wealth & rewards)

Symbols associated with the Chinese God Shou (longevity)

The Symbol of the Swastika – a 12000-year-old history

The Chinese Dragon

Lucky (& unlucky) Numbers

The Chinese Zodiac

Interpreting Colours in Chinese Opera

The Cherry Blossom & other prominent symbols of Japan

Use of Colour in Japanese Textiles

The Sacred Cow – why so exalted?

The Lotus

Flags and Emblems of Southeast Asia – what do they mean?

Rice Motifs throughout Asia

Symbols of Hindu deities

Christian Symbolism in Asia

Symbols in SE Asian traditional textiles

The Naga (how many cultures celebrate this deity?)

Symbolic meanings of plants

Symbolic meanings of animals