

The Star of David

The origin

Exodus 20:4-6 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:

Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the ADON thy Elohim am a jealous Elohim, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;

And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

What does the tabernacle of Moloch represent in **Acts 7:43**? What is the star of Remphan? Some say that's the same with the Star of David. Is that true?

“Yea, ye took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and the star of your god Remphan, figures which ye made to worship them: and I will carry you away beyond Babylon.”

There is a similar verse in **Amos 5:26**:

“But ye have borne the tabernacle of your Moloch and Chiun your images, the star of your god, which ye made to yourselves.”

What does this star look like?

The Star of David, or “Magen David” (“Shield of David”) in Hebrew, is composed of two overlaid equilateral triangles forming a six-pointed star. Its origin cannot be traced back to the Bible or the Talmud, but is said to derive from the (presumed) resemblance with the shape of King David’s shield.

Although it originated in Antiquity, it wasn’t used as a symbol of Jewish identity, nor was it even limited to Judaism. The most common symbol of Judaism at that time was the seven-branched candelabrum – still one of Israel’s emblems today.

The Star of David, on the other hand, was initially used as an architectural motif and ornamental decoration for synagogues and other religious buildings (cathedrals as well). Jewish mystics, especially Kabbalists, progressively gave increasing currency to the shield of king David and attached magical powers to it. But how did it become one of the most significant and defining symbols of Judaism and Jewish communities across Europe?

That's where Prague comes in: in 1354, Holy Roman Emperor and king of Bohemia Charles IV authorized the Jewish community of the Czech lands to bear a red flag featuring the Star of David. The Jewish community of Prague therefore became the first in Europe to use that symbol as their official and legal emblem.

The use slowly spread throughout Europe: in the 15th century, for instance, Budapest's Jewish community used an almost similar flag to meet with King Mathias Corvin. From the 17th to the 19th century, the Star of David was almost universally adopted by Jewish communities (including the Zionist movement which adopted it as their emblem in 1897).

A token of the Jewish communities' presence and own identity within European societies, the Star of David is also associated with the darkest hours of Jewish history: under Nazi-occupied Europe, Jews were forced to wear the yellow badge with Jude inscribed in the middle of the six-pointed star.

The hexagram or "Star of David", which became a symbol of Judaism in the modern period and was placed on the flag of Israel in 1948 since the foundation of the state, **has its origins in 14th-century depictions of the Seal of Solomon.** It remains, as of today, one of the most defining and widespread symbols of Judaism

A hexagram

A hexagram (Greek) or sexagram (Latin) is a six-pointed geometric star figure with the Schläfli symbol $\{6/2\}$, $2\{3\}$, or $\{\{3\}\}$. Since there are no true regular continuous hexagrams, the term is instead used to refer to the compound figure of two equilateral triangles shown to the right. The intersection is a regular hexagon.



It is possible that as a simple geometric shape, like for example the triangle, circle, or square, the hexagram has been created by various peoples with no connection to one another.

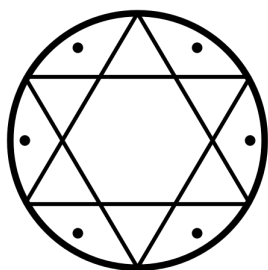
The hexagram is a mandala symbol called satkona yantra or sadkona yantra found on ancient South Indian Hindu temples. It symbolizes the nara-narayana, or perfect meditative state of balance achieved between Man and God, and if maintained, results in "moksha," or "nirvana" (release from the bounds of the earthly world and its material trappings).[citation needed]

In Hinduism, it is referred to as the shatkona, with the upward triangle in the star shape representing Shiva (the masculine side of God) and the downward-pointing triangle representing Shakti (the feminine side of the divinity). The symbol thus generally represents the merging of the male and the female, and, the elements of fire and water, respectively

Some researchers have theorized that the hexagram represents the astrological chart at the time of David's birth or anointment as king. The hexagram is also known as the "King's Star" in astrological circles.

In antique papyri, pentagrams, together with stars and other signs, are frequently found on amulets bearing the Jewish names of God, and used to guard against fever and other diseases. Curiously the hexagram is not found among these signs. In the Greek Magical Papyri[citation needed] (Wessely, l.c. pp. 31, 112) at Paris and London there are 22 signs side by side, and a circle with twelve signs, but neither a pentagram nor a hexagram.

The symbol was used merely as a decorative motif in medieval Christian churches many centuries before its first known use in a Jewish synagogue. It was first used as a religious symbol by Arabs in the medieval period, known as the Seal of Solomon, depicted as either a hexagram or pentagram, and which was later adopted by **Jewish Kabbalists**.



The Seal of Solomon (or Ring of Solomon; Arabic: خاتم سليمان Khātam Sulaymān) is the signet ring attributed to King Solomon in medieval Jewish tradition and in Islamic and Western occultism. It was often depicted in either a pentagram or hexagram shape; the *latter* also known as the Star of David in Jewish tradition. **This ring variously gave Solomon the power to command demons, jinn (genies) and spirits, or to speak with animals. Due to the proverbial wisdom of Solomon, his signet ring, or its supposed design, it came to be seen as an amulet or**

talisman, or a symbol or character in medieval and Renaissance-era magic, occultism, and alchemy.

Peter de Abano's Heptameron (1496) makes reference to the "Pentacle of Solomon" (actually a hexagram is drawn on the floor in which the magician has to stand) to invoke various demons.

An "Order of the Seal of Solomon" was established in 1874 in Ethiopia, where the ruling house claimed descent from Solomon.

Rastafari

A black star of David is used to identify the black population, in Africa or otherwise, with one of the Tribes of Israel.[citation needed] Due to the culture of Rastafari emerging out of the hebrew Ethiopian history, dating back to Solomonic dynastic rule, the star of David, or the Seal of Solomon is a prevalent symbol amongst its adherents. Rastafari has adherents from every race across the globe, rooted in hebrew doctrine, **it is not an African or bloodline doctrine.**

Usage by christians

The hexagram may be found in some Churches and stained-glass windows. In Christianity, it is sometimes called the star of creation. A very early example, noted by Nikolaus Pevsner, can be found in Winchester Cathedral, England in one of the canopies of the choir stalls, circa 1308.

Latter-day Saints (Mormons)

The Star of David is also used less prominently by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in the temples and in architecture. It symbolizes God reaching down to man and man reaching up to God, the union of Heaven and earth. It may also symbolize the Tribes of Israel and friendship and their affinity towards the Jewish people. Additionally, it is sometimes used to symbolize the quorum of the twelve apostles, as in Revelation 12, wherein the Church of God is symbolized by a woman wearing a crown of twelve stars. It is also sometimes used to symbolize the Big Dipper, which points to the North Star, a symbol of Jesus Christ.

Hexagram in the occult

The hexagram, like the pentagram, was and is used in practices of the occult and ceremonial magic and is attributed to the 7 "old" planets outlined in astrology.

The six-pointed star is commonly used both as a talisman[10] and for conjuring spirits and spiritual forces in diverse forms of occult magic. In the book *The History and Practice of Magic*, Vol. 2, the six-pointed star is called the talisman of Saturn and it is also referred to as the Seal of Solomon. Details are given in this book on how to make these symbols and the materials to use.

Traditionally, the Hexagram can be seen as the combination of the four elements. Fire is symbolized as an upwards pointing triangle, while Air (its elemental opposite) is also an upwards pointing triangle, but with a horizontal line through its center. Water is symbolized as a downwards pointing triangle, while Earth (its elemental opposite) is also a downwards pointing triangle, but with a horizontal line through its center. When you combine the symbols of Fire and Water, a hexagram (six-pointed star) is created. The same follows for when you combine the symbols of Air and Earth. When you combine both hexagrams, you get the double-hexagram. Thus, a combination of the elements is created.



In Rosicrucian and Hermetic Magic, the seven Traditional Planets correspond with the angles and the center of the Hexagram as follows, in the same patterns as they appear on the Sephiroth and on the Tree of Life. Saturn, although formally attributed to the Sephira of Binah, within this frame work nonetheless occupies the position of Daath.

Pentagrams

The word Pentemychos (πεντέμυχος lit. "five corners" or "five recesses") was the title of the cosmogony of Pherecydes of Syros. Here, the "five corners" are where the seeds of Chronos are placed within the Earth in order for the cosmos to appear.[clarification needed]

A Pythagorean "Hugieia Pentagram"

In Neoplatonism, the pentagram was said to have been used as a symbol or sign of recognition by the Pythagoreans, who called the pentagram ὑγίεια hugieia "health".

Pentagrams were used symbolically in ancient Greece and Babylonia, and are used today as a symbol of faith by many Wiccans, akin to the use of the cross by Christians. The pentagram has magical associations. Many people who practice Neopagan faiths wear jewelry incorporating the symbol. Christians once commonly used the pentagram to represent the five wounds of Jesus. The pentagram is also used as a symbol by other belief systems and is associated with Freemasonry.

The Order of the Eastern Star, an organization (established 1850) associated with Freemasonry, uses a pentagram as its symbol, with the five isosceles triangles of the points colored blue, yellow, white, green, and red. In most Grand Chapters the pentagram is used point down, but in a few it is point up. Grand Chapter officers often have a pentagon inscribed around the star[33](the emblem shown here is from the Prince Hall Association).



Western symbolism

The pentagram was used in ancient times as a Christian symbol for the five senses,[12] or of the five wounds of Christ. The pentagram plays an important symbolic role in the 14th-century English poem Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, in which the symbol decorates the shield of the hero, Gawain. The unnamed poet credits the symbol's origin to King Solomon, and explains that each of the five interconnected points represents a virtue tied to a group of five: Gawain is perfect in his five senses and five fingers, faithful to the Five Wounds of Christ, takes courage from the five joys that Mary had of Jesus, and exemplifies the five virtues of knighthood.[13]

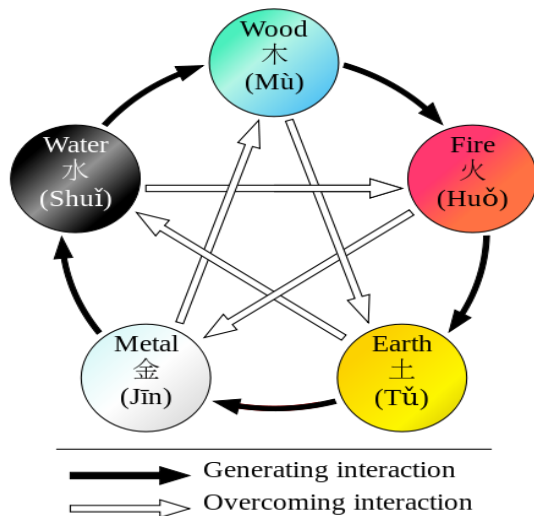
Heinrich Cornelius Agrippa and others perpetuated the popularity of the pentagram as a magic symbol, attributing the five neoplatonic elements to the five points, in typical Renaissance fashion. By the mid-19th century a further distinction had developed amongst occultists regarding the pentagram's orientation. With a single point upwards it depicted spirit presiding over the four elements of matter, and was essentially "good". However, the influential writer Éliphas Lévi called it evil whenever the symbol appeared the other way up.

"A reversed pentagram, with two points projecting upwards, is a symbol of evil and attracts sinister forces because it overturns the proper order of things and demonstrates the triumph of matter over spirit. It is the goat of lust attacking the heavens with its horns, a sign execrated by initiates." [14]

"The flaming star, which, when turned upside down, is the hieroglyphic [sic] sign of the goat of black magic, whose head may be drawn in the star, the two horns at the top, the ears to the right and left, the beard at the bottom. It is the sign of antagonism and fatality. It is the goat of lust attacking the heavens with its horns." Let us keep the figure of the Five-pointed Star always upright, with the topmost triangle pointing to heaven, for it is the seat of wisdom, and if the figure is reversed, perversion and evil will be the result."

East Asian symbolism

Wu Xing (Chinese: 五行; pinyin: Wǔ Xíng) are the five phases, or five elements in Chinese tradition (medicine, acupuncture, feng shui, and Taoism) They are similar to the ancient Greek elements, with more emphasis on their cyclic transformation than on their material aspects. The five phases are: Fire (火 huǒ), Earth (土 tǔ), Metal (金 jīn), Water (水 shuǐ), and Wood (木 mù).



Uses in modern day occultism

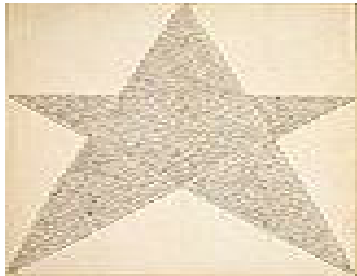
Based on Renaissance-era occultism, the pentagram found its way into the symbolism of modern occultists. Its major use is a continuation of the ancient Babylonian use of the pentagram as an apotropaic charm to protect against evil forces. Éliphas Lévi claimed that "The Pentagram expresses the mind's domination over the elements and it is by this sign that we bind the demons of the air, the spirits of fire, the spectres of water, and the ghosts of earth." In this spirit, the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn developed the use of the pentagram in the lesser banishing

ritual of the pentagram, which is still used to this day by those who practice Golden Dawn-type magic.

Aleister Crowley made use of the pentagram in his Thelemic system of magick: an adverse or inverted pentagram represents the descent of spirit into matter, according to the interpretation of Lon Milo DuQuette. Crowley contradicted his old comrades in the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn, who, following Levi, considered this orientation of the symbol evil and associated it with the triumph of matter over spirit.

Bahai Faith

The five-pointed star is a symbol of the Bahá'í Faith. In the Bahá'í Faith, the star is known as the Haykal (Arabic: "temple"), and it was initiated and established by the Báb. The Báb and Bahá'u'lláh wrote various works in the form of a pentagram.



Hakyal by the Báb written by his own hand

Wicca

Because of a perceived association with Satanism and occultism, many United States schools in the late 1990s sought to prevent students from displaying the pentagram on clothing or jewelry. In public schools, such actions by administrators were determined in 2000 to be in violation of students' First Amendment right to free exercise of religion.

The Horned God is one of the two primary deities found in Wicca and some related forms of Neopaganism. The term Horned god itself predates Wicca, and is an early 20th-century syncretic term for a horned or antlered anthropomorphic god partly based on historical horned deities. In traditional Wicca (British Traditional Wicca), he is generally regarded as a **dualistic god** of twofold aspects: bright and dark, night and day, summer and winter, the Oak King and the Holly King. In this dualistic view, his two horns symbolize, in part, his dual nature. (The use of horns to symbolize duality is also reflected in the phrase "on the horns of a dilemma.") The three aspects of the Goddess and the two aspects of the Horned god are sometimes mapped on to the five points of the **Pentagram**, although which points correspond to which deity aspects varies. In some other systems, he is represented as a **triune god**, split into three aspects that reflect those of the **Triple goddess**: the Youth (Warrior), the Father, and the Sage.

Let's Talk truth with Suziann

The encircled pentagram (referred to as a pentacle by the plaintiffs) was added to the list of 38 approved religious symbols to be placed on the tombstones of fallen service members at Arlington National Cemetery on 24 April 2007. The decision was made following ten applications from families of fallen soldiers who practiced Wicca. The government paid the families US\$225,000 to settle their pending lawsuits.



Typical Neopagan pentagram

Serer religion

The five-pointed star is a symbol of the Serer religion and the Serer people of West Africa. Called Yoonir in their language, it symbolizes the universe in the Serer creation myth, and also represents the star Sirius.

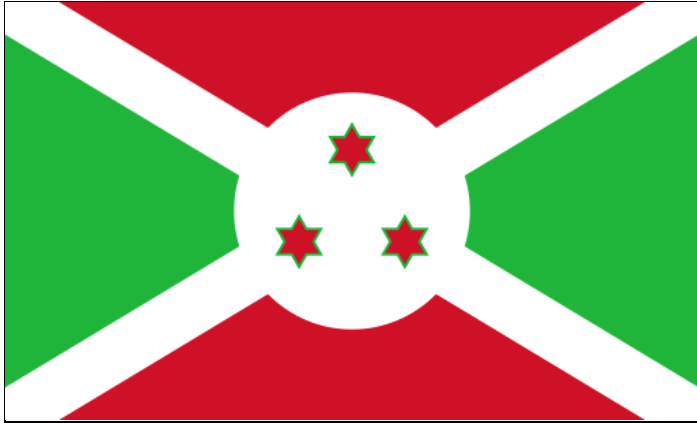
Flags:

Flag of Israel



Burundi flag

Let's Talk truth with Suziann



Republic of Slovenia



Equatorial Guinea



Croatia flag



List of flags with pentagrams\5 point stars:

Aruba (a constituent country of the Kingdom of the Netherlands)

Ethiopia

Morocco

Burkina Faso

Cameroon

Ghana

Myanmar

Northern Mariana Islands

Paraguay

Senegal

Somalia

Somaliland (unrecognized state)

Suriname

Vietnam

Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (1943–1992)

North Korea

Guinea-Bissau

Republic of West Papua (Morning Star Flag)

Cuba

Djibouti

East Timor

Puerto Rico (US overseas commonwealth)

South Sudan

Chile
Liberia
Togo
Bosnia and Herzegovina (9, 2 are half stars)
Comoros (4)
Gagauzia (3)
Honduras (5)
Karakalpakstan (5)
Kosovo (6)
Vojvodina (3)
Panama (2)
Philippines (3)
Federated States of Micronesia (4)
Saint Kitts and Nevis (2)
São Tomé and Príncipe (2)
Singapore (5)
Solomon Islands (5)
Syria (2)
Turkmenistan (5)
Tuvalu (9)
United States (varies, based on number of states, currently 50)
Uzbekistan (12)
Venezuela (8)
African Union (53 stars)
Cape Verde (10 stars)
Cook Islands (15 stars) (Associated state of New Zealand)
Cook Islands (1973–1979) (15 stars, but yellow on green)
Dominica (10 stars)
European Union (12 stars) (an organization)
Tajikistan (7 stars)
United States (1777-1795) (13 stars)
Brazil (27)
Grenada (7)
New Zealand (4)
Niue (5 stars) (Overseas territory of New Zealand)

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Papua New Guinea (5)

People's Republic of China (5)

Samoa (5)

Tokelau (4) (Overseas territory of New Zealand)

Source: Wikipedia: Star of David

Hexagram

Seal of Solomon

Pentagram

Religious Symbols on National Flags

A third of 196 countries worldwide have religious imagery in their flags.

Christianity: 31

Andorra, Australia, Austria, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Rep., Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Malta, Marshall Islands, Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom, Vanuatu

Islam: 21

Afghanistan, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brunei, Comoros, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

Other Religions: 6

Argentina, Japan, Mexico, Mongolia, South Korea, Uruguay

Hinduism/Buddhism: 3

Cambodia, India, Nepal

Buddhism: 2

Bhutan, Sri Lanka

Judaism: 1

Israel

Sources: constitute-project.org; CIA World Factbook; official country-specific government websites; Wikimedia Commons (flags). Some flags are cropped to highlight the religious symbols.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

64 countries have religious symbols on their flags

For information on other symbols and their pagan origin, you can check out these informative videos on youtube:

https://youtu.be/Vjx2h49_2V4

<https://youtu.be/QE6LjuBdbRo>

Let's Talk truth with Suziann

https://youtu.be/_bWIF8k8ZkA

<https://youtu.be/PgSDRCPCmuM>

https://youtu.be/IDiWBcM_1f4