

## R&W - Why is fire used ceremonially?

cleans <sup>e</sup> *	To make something clean or fresh (free from dirt, guilt, or impurities).
divine*	Connected to God or gods, often seen as very special or powerful.
eternal*	Lasting forever.
purity	The state of being clean and free from bad things or sin.
symbolise	To represent something like an idea, quality or belief.
transformation	A complete change in the appearance of something or someone.



During the ancient Olympic Games, fire was lit to honour the gods. Wars stopped so people could take part in the games and watch so the fire also symbolised peace.



Zoroastrian priests lit a fire thousands of years ago to help the community. It is still burning today and helps people to remember God and to do good.



Many Christians attend the Easter Vigil, where the Paschal Candle is used to light the candles of everyone there. Spreading the flame represents how Jesus' light spreads to everyone.



- Some flames in the Jewish worldview help to **remember**.
- The **Yahrzeit candle's** flame travels upwards to heaven, reminding people of the souls of their loved ones.
- The **Ner Tamid (eternal flame)** reminds people of God's presence in the synagogue and the covenant made with Jewish people.
- **Shabbat candles** are lit to remember commandments.
- **Hanukiahs** remind people of the brave Maccabees and God's powerful miracle.



- Many Hindu ceremonies use fire which can symbolise:
- God.
  - Purity and cleansing.
  - New beginnings and renewal.