

Candidate 2 evidence

Analyse the purpose of Yom Kippur

10

Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, is one of the holiest days in the Jewish calendar **(KU)**. It marks the culmination of the Ten Days of Awe, a period of reflection that begins with Rosh Hashanah **(KU)**. Yom Kippur is to provide an opportunity for individuals to atone for their sins and seek forgiveness from God **(KU)** as well as fellow human beings they have wronged **(KU)**. Jews will fast for 25 hours as well as abstaining from physical pleasures **(KU)**. Leviticus states, "For on this day, He will forgive you, to purify you, that you be cleansed from all your sins before God." **(KU)** The recitation of the Kol Nidre prayer is central to the day's worship, symbolising the annulment of vows and the desire for spiritual renewal **(KU)**.

Yom Kippur provides an opportunity to atone for sins committed over the past year by seeking forgiveness from God and from others. It allows individuals to reflect on their actions, acknowledge mistakes, and resolve to improve **(A)**. Additionally, Yom Kippur reinforces the relationship between the Jewish people and God through the covenant and what that means **(A)**. By seeking forgiveness and agreeing to be better, Jews honour their role in maintaining this sacred bond **(A)**. The fasting and restrictions during Yom Kippur teach Jews how to practice being in control of their actions and focus on what's really important, like being kind, honest, and caring to others and to ensure they follow God's laws **(A)**.