[Name of the Writer]

[Name of Instructor]

[Jainism]

[Date]

**Jainism**

**Introduction**

Jainism is an old religion which started in India around 6th BC by Jina Vardhamana Mahavira, a warrior. Like Buddhism, Jainism promotes non-violence and believes in reincarnation but has different ascetic beliefs. They believe that everything has a life stopped Mahavira from eating anything at all which led to his self-starvation. Jain followers avoid hurting any living or non-living thing at all cost. They are not found in professions which require killing. This is also described as non-theistic belief.

**Similarities with Hinduism**

Hinduism and Jainism coexisted in India for a long time since its birth in India. They have some similar beliefs for example reincarnation is common in their followers. Karma is also a belief that both these religions, thus they believe in repaying of good or bad deeds in this life. Another similarity is their Salvation belief meaning that a person is considered to become a part of the universe after death.

**Differences with Hinduism**

Unlike Jains, Hindus believe in single or multiple gods who created the universe and everything in it. They believe in salvation but with a difference that for Jains, it relies on the self-effort whereas Hindus consider it a karmic process. Their ways of worship are also different. Both these groups do not recognize the religious texts belonging to the other religious group.

**Concept of God in Jainism**

The concept of God in Jainism is a little bit different from the belief of God in other religions. The Jains do not believe in God as a creator, the master and the destroyer of the whole universe. They take God as a perfect soul, free from all the errors and impurities. As per the Jain beliefs, when a person frees himself from all his karmas, he enters into a state of eternal peace and bliss, where he attains infinite power, infinite bliss, infinite knowledge, and infinite vision. Such a soul in Jainism is considered God.