

# Multicultural Diversity Calendar

## 2026

- Diversity
  - Inclusion
- New Moons
  - Full Moons
- United Nations Days

- Indigenous Peoples
- Bahá'í • Buddhist
- Christian • Hindu
- Islam • Jain
- Jewish • Shinto
- Sikh • Wicca
- Zoroastrian

*Attitude of Gratitude*



# *“Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all the others.” ~ Cicero*

Since ancient days, each culture has expressed gratitude through different customs. Many of these customs are based around harvest times; in others, people give thanks for different areas of their lives. Every autumn, Romans honored Ceres, the goddess of corn (the word “cereal” is derived from her name). Keiro no Hi in Japan teaches respect for the elders in the community, recognizing and thanking them for their contributions to society. Hindu women in India tie a bracelet on the hands of their brothers as gratitude for their protection. Peruvian culture is infused with customs of gratitude. A traditional ceremony called dispacho (which comes from the word “dispatch” honours the apus or mountain spirits considered among natives to be the caretakers of all living beings).

The world is changing quite dramatically, bringing uncertainty about ourselves, our work and home life. Therefore, it's important to have an attitude of gratitude as we go through each day.

Each beautiful illustration in the 30th edition of the Multicultural Calendar shows how gratitude is expressed through the different customs of various cultures. Use this calendar as a base or starting point to talk about the many gratitude-based customs and traditions we bring to our communities and workplaces. Here are some ideas that you can incorporate into your own lives:

- Create a “Jar of Gratitude” for the family: Take a big jar, a small pad of paper and assign a different colour pen for each family member. Anytime anyone of you feel gratitude, write it down on a piece of paper using your assigned pen. Then fold the paper and put it in the jar. At the end of the year, the entire family can open the jar and celebrate how blessed they are.
- Find ways to expose your children to diverse cultures and life experiences. This calendar allows children to see how other people live, broadening their worldview.
- Keep a gratitude journal beside your bed. Just before you sleep, write one thing you were grateful for that day. It does not have to be a big thing; it could be as simple as seeing a smile on your child's face. This gives you a gratitude consciousness making each day a little bit lighter or easier.
- Challenge yourself to find hidden blessings in challenging situations. Look for the lesson you learned from these situations and how it made you stronger (even if the lesson was not to do again).
- Offer to help friends and relatives who are in need. If a neighbor is sick, bring them food or drive them to a doctor.
- Make a gratitude board by drawing or gluing pictures into a collage.



- Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends will. Stay in touch with them.
- Before you panic with every problem that comes your way, ask yourself, “In three years, will this matter?
- Tell your spouse how much you love and appreciate them several times a day for what they do. For example, acknowledging how special you felt when they held the door for you.
- Walk in an ‘attitude of gratitude’ and be thankful for your body, the air you breathe and Mother Earth’s solid support beneath your feet. Before you know it, you’ll realize your life is blessed.
- Say thank you in a personal and purposeful way. Send a letter or card to let someone know why you are grateful that they are in your life.
- Avoid toxic people because they are determined to “spread the virus” of negativity.
  - Make peace with your past so it won’t spoil the present or mess up your future.
  - Visit the homeless and seniors in Long Term Care facilities
- When you receive a kindness, pass it on. Look for ways to be the initiator of kindness.
  - Stop waiting for a special occasion. Burn those candles, use the fancy china, and wear your nicest things. Every day is special.
  - Don’t compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
- No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up ...with a smile.

# What are some of the special features of other calendar systems?

Members of the **Islamic** faith observe Fridays as their major day of worship. The fast of Ramadan begins at sundown on the evening before the date given; there is no prohibition on working during Ramadan. The two days of required religious observance are Eid-ul-Fitr (Festival of Fastbreaking) and Eid-ul-Adha (Festival of Sacrifice). Members of the Islamic faith are prohibited from working on those two days. All the dates of Islamic observance are tentative because they are based on the first local sightings of the lunar crescent of the new moon.

The **Jewish** religious day is Saturday - Shabbat - and begins at sundown on Friday until sundown on Saturday. All days of religious significance for the Jewish faith begin at sundown on the evening before the date given.

The **Baha'i** year begins at the spring equinox, on March 21. Their calendar is comprised of 19 months, each 19 days long, and four "intercalary days (February 26 to March 1). The Baha'i day begins at sundown before the date listed and end at sundown on the date listed. The Baha'i Fast is observed every year from March 2 to March 20. Children under the age of 15, the elderly, pregnant and nursing mothers, those who are ill or engaged in heavy labour are exempt from observing the Fast.

Until March 31, 1998, the **Sikhs** used the Hindu lunisolar (Bikrami) calendar to determine their feast days. They now use their own solar Nanakshahi Calendar which started on March 14th, 1999 Gregorian. The era (1 Chet 1 Nanakshahi) is the date of the birth of the first Guru, Nanak Dev, in 1469. Although all observances are now

fixed, Guru Nanak's birthday and Holla Mohalla continue to be moveable feasts based on the lunar calendar.

Most **Buddhists** with the exception of the Japanese Buddhists, use the Lunar calendar. Dates of Buddhist festivals vary between different traditions and from country to country. For example, people from Thailand, Burma and Sri Lanka celebrate their New Year in mid-April, whereas Chinese, Vietnamese and Korean Buddhists follow the lunar calendar and celebrate it in January or February. Tibetan Buddhists usually celebrate a month later.

The **Christian** faith has three separate calendars: The Western or Gregorian calendar is that of the Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches.

The **Orthodox** or Julian Calendar is divided into 12 months of 30 days each, and a 13th month of 5 or 6 days at the end of the year, hence the date for Christmas is on Jan. 7th. It is the same as the Western Calendar for all fixed feasts but uses the Julian calendar for moveable feasts such as Easter and is used primarily by the Greek and Cypriot Orthodox Churches. This calendar is used mainly in eastern Europe, eastern Mediterranean, Russia, Romania, Serbia, Greece, Bulgaria, Georgia, Cyprus, Czech, Slovenia, Poland and Albania.

The **Orthodox Coptic** Calendar is 13 days behind the Julian Calendar and is used by most other Orthodox churches in Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sudan and the Middle East.

Make this calendar an informational tool to schedule your appointments, meetings and events. We took your suggestions, and have provided the following icons to help you identify and honour significant events and holidays.

- ✓ Schedule consideration: These dates are National holidays or Religious days when individuals may want to take time off to observe their holiday.
- Cultural/National Days: Mark festivals of cultural groups and National days.
- Independence Days of countries.

- UN and International days
- ▲ Religious days of all major religions of the world.

\* Note: Baha'i and Jewish observances begin at previous sundown.

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Please accept apologies for omissions of any group or important dates.

We would appreciate updates in writing by April 30th to:

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## About the publisher

Sheena Singh is living her life on a broad canvas. Sheena immigrated to the United States from India and has made Toronto her home for the past 30 years. She is an artist who has used her gift of art by publishing the Multicultural Calendar through her non-profit company, Creative Cultural Communications founded in 1992.

Her unique and universal themes impress the message that the essence of all human beings are the same.

The calendars are well received by organizations with a diverse workforce, since they highlight dates for all major religions and cultural festivals.



**A group of Native Americans of the Assiniboine** (Stone Sioux) tribe conduct a ceremony of gratitude by playing drums and dance outside a teepee during the Pow Wow Parade in North Dakota. A pow wow is a specific type of event for Native American/First Nations people to meet and dance, sing, socialize, and honour their culture.

*Artist: Sheena Singh - mixed media*

# January 2026

**Jan-Feb Iroquois Midwinter Ceremony Indigenous** The Iroquois Midwinter Ceremony lasts for 8 days and each day is dedicated to an event, i.e. Tobacco Invocation. Days vary according to community.

**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender History Month UK** was initiated by Schools OUT in Britain in February 2005. This is an opportunity for all to learn more about the lives and achievements of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in Britain and Northern Ireland.

## Jan 1 New Year's Day International

**Jan 1 St. Basil's Day Greece** The Greeks call New Year, St. Basil's Day. Traditionally, gifts are exchanged.

**Jan 1 Gantan-Sai Japan, Shinto** Gantan-sai, also referred to as Shogatu, is the Shinto New Year holiday. The faithful visit shrines, often at midnight, praying for renewal of heart, health, and prosperity. During the seven-day holiday, people wear their best clothing and visit the homes of friends and family to express their wishes for the coming year.

**Jan 2 Berchtold's Day Switzerland** This day honours Duke Berchtold V, who founded Bern, the capital of Switzerland. He promised to name the city after the first animal he killed on a hunt. The bear (bern in German) then provided the city's name.

**Jan 5 Guru Gobind Singh's Birthday Sikh** He was the 10th and last living Guru of the Sikh faith. He founded the 'Khalsa' brotherhood where the initiated adopted the five 'K's: Kangha (wooden comb), Kara (steel bracelets), Kirpan (sword), Kaccha (pair of shorts), and Kesh (long hair).

**Jan 6 Three Kings' Day Christian** In South America, Latin America and parts of Europe, the end of the Christmas season is a traditional time for gift giving.

**Epiphany Christian** In the Western church, this day celebrates the journey of the three Wise Men to Bethlehem to offer gifts to the infant Jesus. In the Eastern Church it is associated with the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. On this day as well, the Armenians celebrate Christmas.



# February 2026



Susan, a visually impaired woman is extremely grateful for her constant companion, her guiding eyes dog, Betsy. Her gratitude is also for the compassion and dedication from everyone involved with Guiding Eyes, a guide dog school.  
Artist: Sheena Singh - mixed media

**Black History Month Canada** In December of 1995, the Parliament of Canada recognized February as Black History Month following a motion introduced by the first African Canadian woman elected to Parliament, Jean Augustine. The presence of peoples of African descent in Canada dates back farther than Samuel de Champlain's first voyage down the St. Lawrence River.

**Black History Month USA** Black History Month, and more importantly, the study of black history, is greatly owed to Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who first launched "Negro History Week" in 1926. Woodson chose February because it marks the birthdays of two men who greatly impacted the American black population. Abraham Lincoln (president of the United States who freed slaves during the Civil War), and Frederick Douglass (who worked to end slavery) have birthdays in February. The purpose of this month is to recognize the contributions of Black Americans and develop a better understanding of the Black experience.

**Jan-Feb Hopi Holy Cycle Indigenous** Buffalo dances are performed in Hopi reserves. Days may vary according to community.

**Feb 1 Thaipoosam Cavadee** **India, Mauritius** Celebrated by Hindus of Tamil origin in honour of Kartikeya, Granter of Wishes, and the second son of Shiva. Devotees with their tongues, cheeks and body pierced with needles, hooks and skewers, dance their way trance-like to the temple carrying the 'Cavadee' - a wooden arch covered with flowers with a pot of milk at each end of its base.

**Feb 1 Tu B'Shevat (Arbor Day)** **Jewish** This day celebrates Judaism's roots in the natural world. It is a holiday and known as the New Year for Trees. Special meals include eating the seven fruits of the land - wheat, barley, figs, grapes, pomegranates, olives and dates. Trees are also planted.

**Feb 2 Imbolg** **Wicca** 'Imbolg' comes from an archaic Gaelic expression 'in the belly', which signaled the first stirrings of life within the womb of mother earth. Corn dolls are burned as offerings to the sun to hasten his return.

**Feb 4 Imamat Day** **Islam Ismaili** Imamat Day is celebrated every year by Ismailis on the day that the Imam or religious leader transferred from the past Imam to the present Aga Khan.

**Feb 8 Boy Scout Day** **Canada, USA** William Boyce, a Chicago publisher, founded the Boy Scouts of American on Feb 10, 1910. The purpose was to promote, through organization, and cooperation with other agencies, the ability of boys to do things for themselves and others, to train them in Scoutcraft, and to teach them patriotism, courage, self-reliance and kindred virtues, using the methods which are in common use by Boy Scouts.

**Feb 11 Kitchen God Festival** **China** The custom is based on the traditional farewell ceremony for T'sao Wang, Prince of the Oven, before he leaves for his annual trip to heaven to report.

**Feb 12 Lincoln's Birthday** **USA** President Lincoln was the 16th president of the United States. He was born February 12, 1809 and assassinated on Good Friday, April 14, 1865.

**Feb 14 Valentine's Day** **Canada, UK, USA** One version states that a priest named Valentine was martyred on February 14, 269 A.D. in Rome for secretly marrying couples against the orders of the Roman Emperor, Claudius II. This was the night before a festival called Lupercalia associated with fertility. Probably both customs became associated with this day.

**Feb 15 National Flag Day** **Canada** Twenty-year-old Joan O'Malley sewed Canada's first flag in 1964. The flag was raised for the first time on Parliament Hill in Ottawa at the stroke of noon on February 15, 1965.

**Feb 15 Shivratri** **Hindu** On Shiva's night, the Hindu deity Lord Shiva performed the Tandav, the cosmic dance of creation and destruction. A 24-hour fast is kept and devotees make pilgrimages to major shrines for worship.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 ○ Full Moon  ▲ Tu B'Shevat (Arbor Day) Jewish ■ Abolition of Slavery Mauritius ■ Thaipoosam Cavadee India, Mauritius	2  ▲ Imbolg Wicca Groundhog Day Canada, USA	3  ▲ Imamat Day Islam Ismaili Independence Day Sri Lanka ● World Cancer Day UN	4  ■ Kitchen God Festival China ■ National Foundation Day Japan	5  ■ Waitangi Day New Zealand	6  ▲ Mulk (18th Month) Bahá'í ■ Independence Day Grenada	7
8  ■ Boy Scout Day Canada, US	9	10  ■ Lincoln's Birthday USA	11  ■ Valentine's Day Canada, UK, USA ● Kindness Awareness Week International	12  ■ Shrove Tuesday Christian ■ Pancake Tuesday UK, England	13  ■ Int'l Mother Language Day UN	14
15  ▲ Shivratri Hindu ■ National Flag Day Canada ■ National Day Serbia	16  ✓ ■ Family Day Canada ✓ ■ Presidents Day (Obsvd) USA ■ Louis Riel Day Indigenous Canada ■ Independence Day Lithuania	17 ● New Moon Annular Solar Eclipse  ■ Chinese / Lunar New Year Buddhist - China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Vietnam ■ Seollal Korea ■ Shrove Tuesday Christian ■ Pancake Tuesday UK, England	18  ✓ ■ Ramadan Begins Islam ✓ ■ Losar (New Year) Tibet ■ Seollal Korea ■ Ash Wednesday (Lent Begins) Christian ■ Independence Day Gambia	19  ■ Intercalary Days (thru Mar 1) Bahá'í ■ Anti-Bullying Day Canada ■ People Power Day Philippines ■ National Day Kuwait	20  ■ Independence Day Dominican Republic	21  ■ Kalevala Day Finland
22  ▲ Great Prayer Festival (22-Mar 5) Tibet ■ Washington's Birthday USA ■ Abu Simbel Festival Egypt ■ Girl Guides Thinking Day USA, Canada ■ Independence Day Saint Lucia	23  ▲ Clean Monday (Great Lent Begins) Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox	24  ■ Independence Day Estonia	25	26	27	28

Black History Month Canada, USA

Jan-Feb Hopi Holy Cycle Indigenous

January 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

March 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**Feb 16 Louis Riel Day Indigenous, Canada** He was the famous Metis leader who in 1885 led a rebellion and lost against the Canadian authorities because he feared more Metis land would be taken away by the settlers. Today his name is a symbol for Native independence.

**Feb 17 - Mar 3 Chinese / Lunar New Year Buddhist - China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Vietnam** The year of the Horse. This is the year 4723 in the Chinese Lunar calendar and the most important holiday. It is a three-day holiday in China and Hong Kong. The Chinese clean and decorate their homes with the 5 lucky signs of happiness; new clothes are worn and even the poorest buy new shoes, for it is considered bad luck to step down on the ground into old shoes. Vietnamese call it the 'Tet' Festival.

**Feb 17 Seollal Korea** The Korean New Year lasts three days. During this time, many Koreans visit family, perform ancestral rites, eat traditional food, and play folk games. Additionally, children often receive money from their elders.

**Feb 17 Shrove Tuesday Christian** This is the day before Lent. Taken from the old word 'shrive', it means forgiveness. Traditionally it was a time to give up meat and dairy foods.

**Feb 17 Pancake Tuesday UK** Shrove Tuesday (Mardi Gras in French which means Fat Tuesday) is the last day before the beginning of Lent. Strict Christian Lenten rules prohibited the eating of all dairy products during Lent, so pancakes were made to use up their supplies of eggs, milk, butter and other fats.

**Feb 18 Ash Wednesday (Lent Begins) Christian** This day marks the beginning of Lent. Ash symbolizes sorrow for wrong doings and foreheads of churchgoers are marked with the shape of the cross with ashes as a sign of penitence.

**Feb 18 Losar (New Year) Tibet, Buddhist** The Tibetan New Year is called Losar and is celebrated for three days by visiting, feasting and the relaxation the monastic discipline.

**Feb 18 Ramadan Begins Islam** This is the holiest month in the Islamic Year and begins at the sighting of the new moon. It commemorates the period during which Prophet Mohammad received divine revelations. Observing Muslims fast between the hours of sunrise and sunset during the entire month, read the Qu'an and worship in the mosque or at home.

**Feb 22 Abu Simbel Festival Egypt** Built by Ramses II, his temple is angled so that the inner sanctum lights up twice a year - once on the anniversary of his rise to the throne and on Oct 22, celebrating his birthday. Crowds pack in the temple before sunrise to watch the shafts of light illuminate the statues of Ramses, Ra and Amon. The other date for this event is Oct. 22.

**Feb 22 Girl Guides Thinking Day Canada, USA** This is the joint birthday of Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, and his wife Olave who became the World Chief Guide.

**Feb 22 - Mar 5 Great Prayer Festival Tibet** Monks from the Three Great Monasteries of Tibet assemble in Jikhang to pray to Shakyamuni's image as if it were the Living Buddha. Philosophical debates are held among the candidates for the Doctor of Metaphysics. Pilgrims come from every corner of Tibet.

**Feb 23 Clean Monday (Great Lent Begins) Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox** It is the beginning of the forty-day fast when Christians imitate Jesus' withdrawal into the wilderness before his crucifixion.

**Feb 25 - Mar 1 Intercalary Days Bahá'í** There are four or five days inserted into the calendar called Ayyam-i-ha adjusting the Bahá'í year to the solar cycle. This precedes a month of fasting from March 2-20. Gifts are exchanged, parties and public meetings are held to share the faith.

**Feb 28 Kalevala Day Finland** Elias Lonnrot, a country doctor, folklorist and philologist compiled the Kalevala, Finland's national epic in 1835. This day is observed country wide with lectures, parades and recitations to honour him.



Canadian Olympic Champion Jennifer Heil celebrates the 'Because I am a Girl' initiative with Elmwood School. The group raised their hands in support of a global call to action on girls' rights including access to education, end gender inequality, promote girls' rights and lift millions of girls - and everyone around them - out of poverty. Artist: Sheena Singh - mixed media

## March 2026

**Women's History Month USA, UK** National Women's History Month began as a single week and as a local event. In 1978, Sonoma County, California, sponsored a women's history week to promote the teaching of women's history. The week of March 8th was selected to include 'International Women's Day.' This day is rooted in such ideas and events as a woman's right to vote and a woman's right to work, women's strikes for bread, women's strikes for peace at the end of World War I, and the U.N. Charter declaration of gender equality at the end of World War II. This day is an occasion to review how far women have come in their struggle for equality, peace and development. In 1981, Congress passed a resolution making the week a national celebration, and in 1987 expanded it to the full month of March. In Canada, Women's History month is celebrated in October.

- Mar 1 St. David's Day Wales** He is the patron saint of Wales and died on this day.
- Mar 1 Chalanda März Switzerland** Children go from door to door singing and receive sweets in return.
- Mar 2 - 19 Alá Bahá'í** The nineteenth and final month in the Bahá'í calendar and the time of the 19-day fast in preparation of their new year, Now Ruz. The English translation of Alá (Arabic) is Loftiness.
- Mar 3 Purim Jewish** Purim is known as the Feast of Lots, which celebrates the deliverance of Jews in Persia from the machinations of Haman. Jews dress in costume and give gifts of food to each other.
- Mar 3 Holi Sikh, Hindu** According to myth, a tyrannical king's son, Pralad, refused to worship his father as God and was condemned to death by burning. However, the boy's aunt, named Holika, transferred her own immunity from fire to Pralad, and burned to death in his place. This festival of colour celebrates Spring, where people play with liquid and powdered colours, light bonfires and blow horns to celebrate the destruction of Holika.
- Mar 4 Hola Mohalla (Bikarami) Sikh** Mock battles are fought and martial arts are displayed in honour of Guru Gobind Singh, who took to armed struggle against tyranny.
- Mar 12 Girl Scout Day Canada, USA** Juliette 'Daisy' Gordon Low assembled 18 girls from Savannah, Georgia, on March 12, 1912, for a local Girl Scout meeting. She believed that all girls should be given the opportunity to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually. With the goal of bringing girls out of isolated home environments and into community service and the open air, Girl Scouts hiked, went on camping trips, learned how to tell time by the stars, and study first aid.
- Mar 15 Laylat al-Qadr Islam** Night of Power, commemorates the revelation of the Qur'an to Prophet Muhammad in 610 CE. It begins the previous evening.
- Mar 15 Mothering Sunday UK, Ireland** Mothering Sunday is the celebration of motherhood in UK, and takes place on the fourth Sunday of Lent. Traditionally children bring gifts of flowers and chocolates to their mothers. It originated with the Victorian practice of allowing servants to return home to visit their mothers on this day.
- Mar 16 - 20 Gahambar Hamaspathermaedem Zoroastrian** This day celebrates the creation of human beings.
- Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day N. Ireland, Ireland** The death anniversary of their patron saint. He used the three-leaved shamrock to explain the Christian idea of the Holy Trinity, thus the idea of wearing a shamrock.
- Mar 17 - 18 Carnaval Parade Brazil** A two-day celebration before Ash Wednesday. It is called the Mardi Gras in Brazil.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 ○ Full Moon Total Lunar Eclipse	4 ✓▲ Purim Jewish ✓▲ Holi Sikh, Hindu	5 ▲ Hola Mohalla (Bikarami) Sikh	6 ■ Independence Day Ghana ● World Day Of Prayer International	7
		■ Baba Marta (Mar 1-2) Bulgaria ■ Chalanda März Switzerland ■ St. David's Day Wales ■ Independence Day Bosnia	▲ Alá (19-Day Fast Begins thru Mar 19) Bahá'í			
8 ● Int'l Women's Day UN	9 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS International	10	11	12 ■ Girl Scout Day Canada, USA ■ National Day Mauritius	13	14
15 ▲ Laylat al-Qadr Islam ■ Mothering Sunday UK, Ireland ■ Memorial Day Hungary	16 ▲ Gahambar Hamaspithmaedem (16-20) Zoroastrian	17 ■ St. Patrick's Day N. Ireland, Ireland ■ Carnaval Parade Brazil	18 ■ Flag Day Aruba	19 ● New Moon ▲ St. Joseph's Day Christian ■ Ugadi India, Mauritius, Nepal	20 SPRING EQUINOX International ✓▲ Eid-ul-Fitr Islam ✓▲ Now Ruz (New Year) Afghanistan, Iran - Bahá'í ▲ Eostre Wicca ▲ Shunki-Sorei-Sai Shinto ■ Shunbun no hi Japan ■ Poutuerangi Maori, New Zealand ■ Independence Day Tunisia ● Day of the Francophonie International	21 ✓▲ Now Ruz (New Year) Zoroastrian, Islam Ismaili ■ Harmony Day Australia ● Int'l Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination UN
22 ■ Emancipation Day Puerto Rico ● World Day of Water UN	23 ● World Meteorological Day UN	24	25	26 ▲ Ram Navami Hindu ▲ Birth Of Prophet Zarathustra (Fasli) Zoroastrian ■ Independence Day Bangladesh	27	28 EARTH HOUR
29 BRITISH SUMMER TIME BEGINS ▲ Palm Sunday Christian	30	31 ✓▲ Mahavira Jain ● Transgender Day of Visibility LGBT	Women's History Month USA, UK			
February 2026						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
April 2026						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**Mar 19 St. Joseph's Day Christian** St. Joseph's Day is celebrated throughout most of Italy and by the Italian communities in North America. He was the foster father of Jesus and is the universal patron of the Catholic Church. According to legend, when a severe drought struck western Sicily in the Middle Ages, the people of that area prayed to St. Joseph, asking him to intercede for them and send rain. Their prayer was granted and since then they honour St. Joseph by helping the needy in their community.

**Mar 19 Ugadi India, Mauritius, Nepal** Ugadi marks the beginning of the new Hindu lunar calendar. Celebrated mainly in the southern states of India, people awake before the break of day, bathe and decorate the entrance of their homes with mango leaves. They eat bitter Neem leaves with sweet jaggery to signify the bitter and sweet of life.

**Mar 20 Now Ruz (New Year) Afghanistan, Bahá'í, Iran, Bahá'í** Nowruz means "New Day" and is the traditional celebration of the ancient Persian New Year. Iranians celebrate it on March 20th. It is also a holy day for Zoroastrian, Sufi, Ismaili and the Bahá'í faiths. Persians (Iranians, Afghans and Tajiks) and other Indo-Iranian groups (Kurds, Armenians, Azerbaijanis and Balochs) start preparing for the Nowruz with a major spring-cleaning of their houses and the purchase of new clothes to wear for the new year. They visit the elders of their family, then the rest of their family and finally their friends.

**Mar 20 Eostre Wicca** A fertility festival celebrating the birth of Spring. The word Easter is derived from the Maiden Goddess. Celebrations including lighting fires at sunrise, ringing bells, and decorating hard-boiled eggs, an ancient Pagan custom associated with the Goddess

**Mar 20 Poutuerangi Indigenous, New Zealand** From Aboriginal roots of the Maori in New Zealand Poutuerangi is celebrated. This is the Fall season and Autumn Equinox in the Maori calendar where they harvest their crops. Great feasting and celebration goes on at this time of year.

**Mar 20 Shunki-Sorei-Sai Shinto** Ancestors are given reverence at home altars and considered active members of the living family. Gravesites are cleaned and purified.

**Mar 20 Shunbun no hi Japan** During the time of the Spring Equinox, Buddhists meditate on the harmony in the universe.

**Mar 20 Eid-ul-Fitr Islam** This marks the end of the Ramadan fast and is celebrated for 3 days. Date of observance may vary according to sighting of the new moon. Dates vary by a day depending on whether the Saudi Arabia or the North American Calendar is being observed.

**Mar 21 Now Ruz (New Year) Zoroastrian, Islam Ismaili** Nowruz means "New Day" and is the traditional celebration of the ancient Persian New Year and celebrated by the Ismaili Muslims and Zoroastrians.

**Mar 25 Annunciation Christian** Annunciation commemorates the day Jesus's mother, Mary was visited by an angel to inform her that she was blessed and chosen to be the mother of Christ.

**Mar 26 Birth Of Prophet Zarathustra (Fasli) Zoroastrian** Zarathushtra (Zoroaster in Greek; Zarhosht in India and Persia) is the founder of the Zoroastrian religion dating back to sometime between 1500 and 1000 BCE. He lived in Persia, modern day Iran. Zoroastrianism became the state religion of various Persian empires, until the 7th Century CE. When Arabs, followers of Islam, invaded Persia in 650 CE, a small number of Zoroastrians fled to India where most are concentrated today.

**Mar 29 Palm Sunday Christian** Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey and was cheered by crowds who strew palms branches in his path. It is observed by worship services and parades using palm branches.

**Mar 26 Ram Navami Hindu** Ram Navami celebrates the birthday of Rama, the seventh incarnation of God Vishnu. Hindus read the Ramayan, a Hindu epic, which tells the story of Rama, during the previous eight days.

**Mar 31 Mahavira Jayanti Jain** This day celebrates the birthday of Lord Mahavira who was the 24th leader of the Jain religion and born around 599 B.C.



Volunteers help an athlete to get on a bus outside the wheelchair tennis court at the Guangzhou Asian Para Games in Guangzhou, China. Artist: Sheena Singh - mixed media

# April 2026

**Multicultural Communications Month** **International** Multicultural communications may seem difficult at first - differences in languages, backgrounds, customs and the like all seem a challenge. By learning more about our different cultures, it becomes easier to interact. This month has been dedicated to further this cause.

**Arab American Heritage Month USA** On March 31, 2023, the President of United States declared April as Arab American Heritage Month to learn more about the history, culture, and achievements of Arab Americans and observe this month with appropriate programs and activities.

- Apr 1 Farvardin Iran** It is the 13th day after Nowruz or New Year. The number 13 is considered an unlucky number for the Persians, and therefore everyone leaves home for the day to go on picnics or trips.
- Apr 2 - 9 Pesach /Passover Jewish** Begin previous sundown at 6pm, Pesach lasts for eight days. This time commemorates the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt. It begins with a ritual meal 'Seder' when no leavened bread is consumed with special prayers and symbolic foods.
- Apr 2 Holy Thursday Christian** On this day, Jesus ate the Last Supper and washed the feet of his disciples prior to his arrest and crucifixion.
- Apr 3 Good Friday Christian** This day commemorates the passion and death by crucifixion of Jesus and is a solemn day. Italian Catholics have a procession called the Way of the Cross.
- Apr 4 Midori No Hi Japan** This day is also known as Greenery Day to appreciate nature.
- Apr 5 Easter Christian** This day celebrates the resurrection of Jesus from his grave. Christians celebrate the day with family meals and attending religious services, some as early as sunrise.
- Apr 5 Ch'ing Ming Festival China, Taiwan** A national holiday when family graves are visited to ask for the blessings of the departed spirits.
- Apr 6 Easter Monday Christian** Easter Monday commemorates the meeting of the women at Jesus' tomb with an angel who assured them that Jesus had been resurrected from death. It is observed as a holiday in some countries.
- Apr 6 Organization of The Church Christian - Mormon** The Church for Latter-day Saints was founded on the sixth of April 1830 at Fayette, New York.
- Apr 6 Chakri Day Thailand** A national holiday to honour King Rama I, who founded the Chakri Dynasty in 1782 and the founder of Bangkok as the capital of Thailand.
- Apr 9 Maundy Thursday Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox** On this day, Jesus ate the Last Supper and washed the feet of his disciples prior to his arrest and crucifixion.
- Apr 10 Holy Friday Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox** This day commemorates the passion and death by crucifixion of Jesus and is a solemn day. Eastern Orthodox members fast on this day. Macedonians make a plashtanitsa or picture of the dead Jesus on a large cloth to be carried in a procession.
- Apr 11 Juan Santamaria Day Costa Rica** Parades, civic programs and fireworks occur throughout the country to honor the nation's hero, Juan Santamaria, an 18 year old drummer who volunteered to burn down a building, where William Walker and the invading Filibusters were gathered, confirming the country's sovereignty.

			Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	1	2	3	4
Multicultural Communications Month International Arab American Heritage Month USA		March 2026				
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			15 16 17 18 19 20 21			
			22 23 24 25 26 27 28			
			29 30 31			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
✓▲ Easter Christian ■ Ch'ing Ming Festival China, Taiwan	▲ Easter Monday Christian ■ Organization of The Church Christian - Mormon ■ Chakri Day Thailand	■ World Health Day UN	■ Day of Pink International	▲ Maundy Thursday Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox ■ Independence Day Georgia	✓▲ Holy Friday Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox ■ Juan Santamaria Day Costa Rica	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
✓▲ Pasha/Easter Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox	▲ Easter Monday Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox	■ Baisakhi Bangladesh, Sikh, Hindu ✓▲ Songkran/New Year Cambodia, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand ■ Yom HaShoah Israel, Jewish ■ Bown Pinai / New Year Laos		■ Independence Day Syria	■ Family Day South Africa ■ Independence Day Zimbabwe	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
■ Yom HaZikaron (Memorial Day) Israel		✓▲ Feast Of Ridvan (thru May 2) Bahá'í ■ Yom HaAtzma'ut (Independence Day) Israel ■ Kartini Day Indonesia	EARTH DAY International ■ Administrative Professionals Day Canada, USA	■ St. George's Day Christian ■ Gathering Of Nations Pow Wow Indigenous American ■ Daughter/Son To Work USA ■ National Sovereignty & Children's Day Turkey ■ Arbor Day USA ■ Martyrs Day Armenia	■ Anzac Day Australia, New Zealand ■ Liberation Day Italy	
26	27	28	29	30	May 2026	
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			■ Showa no hi Japan	▲ Gahambar Maidyozarem (Apr 30 - May 4) Zoroastrian ■ Walpurgis Night Sweden		

**Apr 12 Pasha/Easter** **Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox** This day celebrates the resurrection of Jesus from his grave. Most Christians welcome Easter Sunday with a sunrise service.

**Apr 13 Easter Monday** **Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox** Easter Monday commemorates the meeting of the women at Jesus' tomb with an angel who assured them that Jesus had been resurrected from death. It is observed as a holiday in some countries.

**Apr 14 Yom HaShoah** **Israel, Jewish** Holocaust Memorial Day commemorates the death of 6 million Jews by the Nazi regime.

**Apr 14 Baisakhi** **Bangladesh - Sikh, Hindu** The first day of the solar year, this is an agricultural festival celebrating the harvest, especially in North India. Tamils and Sri Lankans celebrate their New Year on this day. In Kerala, South India this day is called Vishu. Especially important to the Sikhs, it marks this day in 1699, when the tenth Guru, Guru Gobind Singh, established the order of 'Khalsa'.

**Apr 14 Songkran/New Year** **Cambodia, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand** In southeast Asia, Songkran is recognized as the New Year for Buddhists. For Thais, it is a three-day religious festival in which homes are routinely cleaned, and water is sprinkled on monks paying visits and on statues of Buddha.

**Apr 20 Yom HaZikaron (Memorial Day)** **Israel** This is Israel's Memorial Day honouring soldiers who died fighting for their country.

**Apr 21 - May 1 Feast Of Ridvan** **Bahá'í** 'Ridvan' means paradise and the 12-day festival is the holiest time for the Bahá'í. It commemorates the 12 days that Bahá'u'llah spent in the Garden of Ridvan in the last days of his exile in Baghdad and announced that he was the prophet whose coming had been foretold. The Bahá'í do not work on the first, ninth and twelfth day of Ridvan.

**Apr 21 Kartini Day** **Indonesia** This day commemorates Indonesia's first women's emancipationist. There are parades, lectures and social activities attended by women, all wearing their regional dress. Mothers aren't allowed to work as the family does the house chores. Many go on a pilgrimage to the grave of Kartini who died at age 24.

**Apr 23 St. George's Day** **Christian** He is the patron saint of England. The Bulgarians and Macedonians celebrate it on May 6. The red cross on St. George's armour and white tunic is now the symbol of the International Red Cross and the flag of England. It also forms part of the Union Jack Flag of Scotland and Ireland.

**Apr 23 - 24 Gathering Of Nations Pow Wow** **Indigenous** Albuquerque, New Mexico is the venue of over 700 tribes and nations participating in a three-day event where over 3,000 participants share, teach and exchange traditions with each other.

**Apr 29 Showa no hi** **Japan** An annual holiday, it honors the birthday of Emperor Showa (Hirohito), the reigning Emperor before, during, and after World War II (from 1926 to 1989). The official purpose of the holiday is "To reflect on Japan's Showa period when recovery was made after turbulent days, and to think of the country's future."

**Apr 30 Walpurgis Night** **Sweden** Walpurgis is Sweden's annual feast of the witches. Huge bonfires are lit all over the country to scare them away as they fly overhead, headed for their annual sabbath in Brocken in the Harz Mountains in Germany. Young and old come together all over Sweden to celebrate around a communal bonfire with fireworks, singing and dancing continuing until the early hours of the morning.

**Apr 30 - May 4 Gahambar Maidyozarem** **Zoroastrian** This day celebrates the creation of the sky.



Indian women tie **Rakhi** or sacred threads on the wrist of their brothers on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan festival. A Hindu festival, it celebrates the bond between sisters and brothers. During the festival, sisters tie a gratitude rakhi around their brothers' wrists in return for their protection.

Artist: Sheena Singh -  
mixed media

## May 2026

**Asian Heritage Month Canada** The Senate of Canada passed a motion in December 2001, designating May as Asian Heritage month. Canadians take part in festivities commemorating the legacy of Asian Canadians and their many contributions which have helped Canada become the multicultural and diverse nation it is today.

**Asian Pacific Heritage Month USA** Generations of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have strengthened the US as a nation. Many ethnic groups worked tirelessly to build a national railroad, paving the way for western expansion. The first Asian/Pacific Heritage Week was celebrated in 1979, in response to little recognition of this population during the 1976 bicentennial. By 1990, the celebration was one month long and then made official in 1992.

**Jewish Heritage Month Jewish** May is declared Jewish Heritage Month in Canada and USA. It provides an opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the incredible contributions that Jewish people have made to the country and in communities across North America.

**National Older Peoples Month USA** It was established by presidential proclamation in 1963. The entire nation is encouraged to pay tribute in some way to older persons in their communities. It is celebrated across the country through ceremonies and events.

**May 1 Wesak Buddhist** The most important Buddhist festival, Wesak celebrates the birth, enlightenment and death of Buddha as one event. Different cultures observe this day with different customs, for example, Sri Lankans light lanterns, Vietnamese purchase captive animals and release them, and Koreans host a lantern parade.

**May 1 Beltane Wicca** Greets the summer. It takes its name from the Celtic God Bel who unites with the Earth Goddess on this day. It was a midsummer fertility festival in Celtic paganism. Maypole dances are presently held.

**May 1 Vappu Day Finland** This day is Finland's National Holiday, celebrates Spring and begins on April 30th.

**May 1 Santa Cruzan Day Philippines** Filipinos consider this the first day of spring. It commemorates the corresponding day in the 4th century A.D. when St. Helena, the mother of Emperor Constantine of Rome found the holy cross on which Jesus was crucified.

**May 4 Kodomo No Hi Japan** Childrens' Day promotes family unity in Japan celebrating the relationship of parents with their sons and daughters.

**May 5 Lag BaOmer Jewish** In Israel, it is celebrated as a symbol for the fighting Jewish spirit.

**May 5 Cinco De Mayo Mexico** It marks the victory of the Mexican Army over the French at the 'Batalla de Puebla' in 1862. Although the Mexican army was eventually defeated, it came to represent a symbol of Mexican unity and patriotism. It is celebrated on a much larger scale in the United States than it is in Mexico.

**May 9 Matsu Festival China, Taiwan** Matsu saved her brother from drowning and at the age of 28 ascended into heaven. She earned the title of Goddess of the Sea and is the patron of fishermen. There are rites and processions at Matsu temples.

**May 10 Mother's Day Canada, USA** In 1914, the 2nd Sunday in May was officially declared Mother's Day by President Wilson. Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia first suggested a day on which to honour mothers and motherhood.

**May 13 Our Lady of Fatima Portugal** On May 13, 1917 in Portugal, three shepherd children saw and conversed with the Virgin Mary in a vision.

## Asian Heritage Month Canada, USA

## Jewish American Heritage Month USA

## National Older Peoples Month USA

## May Hopi Kachina Dances **Indigenous**

## Iroquois Strawberry Season Indigenous

April 2026							June 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4	5	6
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30			28	29	30				

**May 14 Ascension Christian** This day commemorates the ascension of Jesus into Heaven.

**May 14 Yom Yerushalayim Israel** This day marks the anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem.

**May 18 Victoria Day** **Canada** Queen Victoria's birthday (May 24, 1837-1901) was declared a holiday by the Legislature of the Province of Canada in 1845. United Kingdom celebrates her birthday in June.

**May 18 Day of the Patriots-Quebec Canada** Commemorates the French patriots of 1837-1838 for their contribution to freedom and national recognition.

**May 22-23 Shavuot** Jewish Begins previous sundown at 6pm. Called the Feast of Weeks or Pentecost which means 50 and therefore celebrated on the 50th day at the end of Passover. Shavuot celebrates the time when the Ten Commandments were given to Moses on Mount Sinai. This feast lasts for 2 days.

**May 23 Declaration of Báb Bahá'í** The Bahá'í faith began in Persia (now Iran) on this day in 1844, by the prophet Báb who announced his mission as the founder.

**May 24 Pentecost Christian** The holy Spirit was felt amongst the 12 apostles after Jesus' death. New members of the church are baptized on this day. It is called White Sunday because white clothes are worn for baptism.

**May 25 Memorial Day USA** A day of remembrance for those who have died in service to their country. The 3rd U.S. Infantry place small American flags at about 260,000 gravestones at Arlington National Cemetery.

**May 26 National Sorry Day Australia** Also known as Journey of Healing  
Day commemorates the history of forcible removal of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander children from their families and the painful

repercussions of that action. In 1998 over half a million Australian people responded, signing Sorry Books and taking part in ceremonies on Sorry Day.

**May 26 Day of Hajj (Day of Arafat) Islam** Muslims perform the annual pilgrimage to Mecca. The pilgrimage is one of the five Pillars of Islam. All Muslims are expected to perform the Hajj at least once in their life time if they have the physical and financial capacity. About 6 million Muslims from over 70 countries journey to the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia. In one of the rites of the Hajj, pilgrims move in a circular, counterclockwise procession around the Ka'bah.

**May 27 Eid-ul-Adha (Islam)** It concludes the Hajj and is a three-day festival celebrating Abraham's test of obedience to Allah when he was asked to sacrifice his son Ismael. At the last minute, Allah replaced Ismael with a lamb. Since Eid is determined by the first sighting of the new moon, the date varies by a day depending on whether the Saudi Arabian or North American sighting is being observed. This calendar follows the North American dates which is a day later.

**May 29 Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh Bahá'í** The prophet-founder of the Bahá'í Faith passed away near Haifa, Israel. The event is observed at the actual time of his passing at 3am.

**May 30 Joan of Arc Day France** St. Joan of Arc is the patroness of soldiers and of France. A peasant girl who, believing that she was acting under divine guidance, led the French army in a momentous victory at

Orléans. She was burned at the stake on May 30, 1431 at the age of nineteen.

**May 31 Pentecost Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox** The Holy Spirit was felt amongst the 12 apostles after Jesus' death. New members of the church are baptized on this day. It is called White Sunday because white clothes are worn for baptism.



**Gabriel García** teaches his grandchildren the techniques of planting in one of the network community Wasatch Grateful Youth Gardening projects in Utah. Adults and children learn to be grateful to mother Earth for providing them with fresh organic fruits and vegetables that they grow and eat!

Artist: Sheena Singh - mixed media

## June 2026

**National Indigenous History Month Canada** June is National Indigenous History Month as declared by the Canadian Parliament in 2009. It is a fitting tribute to the heritage and diversity of First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities across Canada. Indigenous History Month is an opportunity not only to recognize the historic contributions of Indigenous peoples to the development of Canada, but also the strength of present-day Indigenous communities and their promise for the future.

**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month Canada, USA, Australia** Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) Pride

Events are celebrated by communities across Canada and United States on different dates during June through to early August. There is a Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras in Sydney, Australia annually in February/March. During this time people find that they are not alone and can take pride in their community's history. The most significant date in LGBT history occurring in June, was the 3-day protest in 1969 at the Stonewall Inn in New York City, an event that marked the first time the gay community joined together to fight for its rights, thereby gaining national attention. Anniversary of this event was one of the reasons June was chosen as the nationally proclaimed month to celebrate LGBT Pride.

**National Caribbean American Heritage Month USA** Proclaimed in May 2011 by the US President, it commemorates a time to celebrate the history and culture of Caribbean Americans.

**Jun 1 Gawai Dayak Malaysia** This day marks the traditional rice harvest. Rituals are performed to express thanks to the spirits of the paddy with requests for a better harvest during the next planting season. It is an open house for friends and relatives with celebrations usually lasting three days.

**Jun 6 Red Earth Native American Fair Indigenous USA** Cultural Festival takes place in Oklahoma City for 3 days. Over 150 Native tribes from U.S. and Canada gather in Downtown Oklahoma City to share and participate in their rich and diverse heritage through highest quality original art, drum and dance juried competitions.

**Jun 13 Trooping The Colour UK, England** The official birthday of the King is marked each year by a colourful and historic military parade and march-past, known as Trooping the Colour. It takes place in June on Horse Guards Parade, Whitehall, England.

**Jun 14 Flag Day USA** A day chosen by the Continental Congress in 1777 to honour the flag as a symbol of patriotism. Its 13 red and white stripes represent the original colonies, while its 50 stars stand for the separate but united states of the Union.

**Jun 16 1st Muharram - Islamic New Year Islam** Islamic New Year, 1448 AH. The first of Muharram marks the first day of the first month (Muharram) of the Islamic year. Muharram lasts for 29-30 days depending on the moon sighting. It begins at sundown the previous day. The dates vary by a day depending on whether the Saudi Arabia or the North American Calendar is being observed. This calendar follows the North American dates which is a day later.

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 2026		1	2	3	4	5	6
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Sunday							
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	● New Moon	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
SUMMER SOLSTICE International							
✓▲ National Indigenous Peoples Day Canada ■ Father's Day Canada, UK, USA ▲ Litha Wicca ■ Inti Raymi Peru ■ National Day Greenland ● Int'l Day of Yoga UN							
28	29	30					
○ Full Moon							
■ Stonewall Rebellion Day LGBT							
▲ Gahambar Maidyoshem (Jun 29 - Jul 3) Zoroastrian ■ St. Peter and Paul Day Chile							
■ Independence Day Congo							

✓ Schedule Consideration

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

May 2026

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- Gawai Dayak Malaysia
- Children's Day Laos
- Independence Day Samoa
- Labour Day Bahamas
- Global Day of Parents UN

- June Bank Holiday Ireland
- Republic Day Italy

- ▲ Núr (5th Month) Bahá'í
- Int'l Day Of Innocent Children Victims Of Aggression UN

- Constitution Day Denmark
- World Environment Day UN

- Red Earth Native American Fair Indigenous, USA, Canada
- National Day Sweden

- 7
- World Oceans Day UN

- 8
- Portugal Day Portugal

- 9
- Independence Day Philippines
- Russia Day Russia
- World Day Against Child Labour UN

- 10
- Trooping The Colour UK, England

- 14
- Flag Day USA
- International Non-Binary Peoples Day International

- 15
- New Moon
- ▲ Martydom of Guru Arjan Dev Sikh
- ▲ 1st Muharram - Islamic New Year Islam

- 16
- Independence Day Iceland
- World Day To Combat Desertification & Drought UN

- 17
- Dragon Boat Festival China, Hong Kong
- Juneteenth USA
- Labour Day Trinidad & Tobago
- World Refugee Day UN

- 21
- ✓▲ National Indigenous Peoples Day Canada
- Father's Day Canada, UK, USA
- ▲ Litha Wicca
- Inti Raymi Peru
- National Day Greenland
- Int'l Day of Yoga UN

- 22
- ▲ Rahmat (6th Month) Bahá'í
- National Day Luxembourg
- Public Service Day UN

- 23
- Matariki Aboriginal/Maori, New Zealand
- Dia de San Juan Puerto Rico

- 24
- ✓▲ Ashura Islam
- Independence Day Madagascar, Somalia
- Int'l Day Against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking UN
- Int'l Day In Support Of Victims Of Torture UN
- Multiculturalism Day Canada

- 28
- Stonewall Rebellion Day LGBT

- 29
- Full Moon
- ▲ Gahambar Maidyoshem (Jun 29 - Jul 3) Zoroastrian
- St. Peter and Paul Day Chile
- Independence Day Congo

**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month USA, Canada, Australia**

**Indigenous Peoples' History Month Canada**

**Caribbean American Heritage Month USA**

July 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**Jun 16 Martydom of Guru Arjan Dev Sikh** He was the fifth Guru (1563-1606) and the first Sikh martyr executed by the Mughal emperor Jehangir. He built the Golden Temple in Amritsar with doors facing all four directions to emphasize that the Sikh way was open to all, regardless of caste.

**Jun 19 Dragon Boat Festival China, Hong Kong** This day honours the patriot poet Chu Yuan who drowned himself in the Milo River, south of China in protest of the political injustice in 277 B.C. The villagers raced to the river and jumped into dragon boats but never found him. As they searched, they beat drums to scare off fish and dragons that might attack his mortal remains. It is a holiday celebrated by boat races in the shape of dragons.

**Jun 19 Juneteenth USA** June 19, 1865, also known as National Freedom Day, is considered the official end of slavery in the United States. Slaves in Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas were not told about their freedom until this day, even though other Southern states had known since April, 1863.

**Jun 21 Father's Day Canada, UK, USA** The origins of the day to honor fathers began in 1910, when Louise Dodd of Spokane, Washington, suggested to her minister that a day be set aside. Her own father was a Civil War veteran who raised his six children on the family farm after his wife died in childbirth. Interest in the day grew, and in 1966 a presidential proclamation established Father's Day as the third Sunday in June.

**Jun 21 National Indigenous Peoples Day Canada** This is an event growing in importance in Canada when the outstanding contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Metis are recognized.

**Jun 21 Litha Wicca** Litha falls on the summer solstice. The latin word solstice means 'the sun stood still'. Wiccans celebrate the Sun at the height of its power for providing good harvests.

**Jun 21 Inti Raymi Peru** Inti Raymi is celebrated in Cusco, and is the second biggest festival in Latin America. This Inca festival celebrates the winter solstice, where the God of the Sun, Wiracocha, is honoured.

**Jun 24 Dia de San Juan Puerto Rico** This day commemorates the island's patron saint, St. John the Baptist. People gather at the beaches in the afternoon. Then at midnight, they jump into the ocean backwards three times to symbolize baptism, immersion and new life. The celebration continues with families gathering to enjoy music, food and dancing.

**Jun 24 Matariki Indigenous Maori, New Zealand** When the star cluster Matariki (Pleiades) appears in the dawn sky, Maori New Year starts. Festivities begins with the new moon after the first appearance of Matariki and last for a month. It is a time for connecting with, and giving thanks to the land, sea and sky, for the community to come together to farewell the dead and to begin planning ahead for the coming year.

**Jun 26 Ashura Islam** The tenth day of the first Islamic month (Muhamarram). For Shi'ite Muslims, this day mourns the martyrdom of Hazrat Imam Husain, the grandson of Prophet Muhammad. Devout Shi'a commemorate this day of sadness with retelling the story of the battle fought in Kerbala.

**Jun 27 Multiculturalism Day Canada** The Government of Canada officially recognized June 27th as Canadian Multiculturalism Day. This day acknowledges the contributions that various communities make to Canadian society and to celebrate the country's richness and diversity.

Bahá'í and Jewish days begin at previous sundown.



**The Mid Autumn Harvest Moon**  
is a time for giving thanks for the Earth's bounty and to remember the ancestors. Monks collect alms in Bangkok to mark the end of the harvest period.

**Artist: Sheena Singh -**  
mixed media

# July 2026

**July-August Sun Dance Ritual Indigenous** For many tribes of the Plains Indians, the Sun Dance was a major communal religious ceremony. Generally held in early summer, the four-day dance ceremony involves sacrifice and supplication to insure harmony between all living beings. Iroquois - late spring; Cree, Arapaho, Cheyenne, Sioux and other Plains Peoples - summer.

**July-August Green Corn Ceremony Indigenous** Performed by some Oklahoma tribes as a time of renewal. The ceremony involves participation in sweatlodge ceremonies, dances, offerings and fasting.

**Jul 1 Canada Day Canada** On July 1, 1867, the British North America Act created the Canadian federal government. The BNA proclaimed 'one Dominion under the name of Canada,' hence the original title of the holiday, 'Dominion Day.' Dominion Day was officially renamed 'Canada Day' by an act of Parliament on October 27, 1982.

**Jul 1 HKSAR Establishment Day Hong Kong** Hong Kong was a British colony ruled by a British Governor until it was reunited with China as a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China on 1 July, 1997.

**Jul 3 Emancipation Day USA** Recognizes the abolition of slavery in the Danish West Indies in 1848.

**Jul 3 NAIDOC Australia** NAIDOC stands for "National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee". A week-long celebration around Australia during the first week in July to focus on the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

**Jul 4 Independence Day USA** In 1776, the 13 Colonies signed the declaration of Independence proclaiming their separation from England and formed the United States of America. It is celebrated with picnics, fireworks, parades and outdoor activities.

July-August Green Corn Ceremony Indigenous			June 2026				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
			1	2	3	4	
			<span style="color: green;">✓</span> Canada Day Canada <span style="color: green;">■</span> HKSAR Establishment Day Hong Kong <span style="color: green;">■</span> Independence Day Rwanda, Burundi <span style="color: green;">■</span> Constitution Day Cayman Islands				
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
			<span style="color: green;">■</span> Independence Day Venezuela <span style="color: green;">■</span> Dalai Lama's Birthday (Tibet) Buddhist <span style="color: orange;">●</span> Int'l Day of Cooperatives UN	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Tanabata Japan	<span style="color: purple;">▲</span> Martyrdom of The Báb Bahá'í <span style="color: green;">■</span> Independence Day Argentina	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Nadaam Festival Mongolia <span style="color: orange;">●</span> World Population Day UN	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
		<span style="color: purple;">▲</span> Katiimat (7th month) Bahá'í <span style="color: green;">■</span> Battle of Boyne N. Ireland	<span style="color: green;">■</span> New Moon <span style="color: green;">■</span> Bastille Day France <span style="color: green;">■</span> Republic Day Iraq				
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
				<span style="color: purple;">▲</span> Tish'a B'Av Jewish	<span style="color: purple;">▲</span> Pioneer Day Christian - Mormon <span style="color: green;">■</span> Simon Bolivar Day Venezuela, Ecuador	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Nelson Mandela's Birthday South Africa	
26	27	28	29	30	31	August 2026	
			<span style="color: green;">■</span> Day of National Rebellion Cuba <span style="color: green;">■</span> Independence Day Liberia	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Independence Day Peru <span style="color: purple;">▲</span> Guru Purnima Jain, Hindu	<span style="color: purple;">▲</span> Wassana / Dhamma Day Buddhist <span style="color: purple;">▲</span> Oh-Harai-Taisai Shinto	<span style="color: purple;">▲</span> Kamál (8th Month) Bahá'í <span style="color: green;">■</span> Emancipation Day Bermuda	<span style="color: green;">■</span> 1 <span style="color: green;">■</span> 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 <span style="color: green;">■</span> 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 <span style="color: green;">■</span> 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 <span style="color: green;">■</span> 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 <span style="color: green;">■</span> 30 31

✓ Schedule Consideration  
 ▲ Religious day  
 ■ Cultural/National day  
 ● UN and Int'l days

Bahá'í and

Jewish days begin at previous sundown.

**Jul 6** **Dalai Lama's Birthday** **Tibet, Buddhist** His Holiness the XIVth Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, is the spiritual and temporal leader of the Tibetan people. Born to a peasant family in northeastern Tibet, he was recognized as the 14th Dalai Lama (Mongolian for 'Ocean of Wisdom').  
**Jul 7** **Tanabata** **Japan** Meaning "Seven Evenings" is a Japanese star festival, derived from Obon traditions and the Chinese star festival, Qi Xi. The festival is usually held on July 7, and celebrates the meeting of Orihime (Vega) and Hikoboshi (Altair).  
**Jul 10** **Martyrdom of The Báb Bahá'í** The Báb was executed at the age of 31 by a firing squad in Tabriz in 1850 C.E. The event is observed at noon. Work and commerce are suspended on this day.  
**Jul 11** **Nadaam Festival** **Mongolia** The festival lasts for three days where the men compete in the Three Manly national sports of archery, wrestling and horse riding.  
**Jul 12** **Battle of Boyne** **Northern Ireland** England's William III defeated the deposed King of England and Scotland at the Battle of Boyne in Ireland. After the battle, which took place on July 1, 1690 James was forced to flee to France.  
**Jul 14** **Bastille Day** **France** Commemorates the event that launched the French Revolution. On this date in 1789, the Bastille, which held political prisoners and became a symbol of oppression by the monarchy, was stormed and prisoners freed. In France, the day is called Fête Nationale.  
**Jul 20** **Munoz-Rivera Day** **Puerto Rico** This day celebrates the anniversary of Luis Munoz-Rivera, a Puerto Rican patriot, poet and journalist.  
**Jul 20** **Umi no hi** **Japan** Japanese honour the importance of the sea and its role in Japanese history on this day.  
**Jul 23** **Tish'a B'Av** **Jewish** Jews mourn the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem in 586 B.C.E. and 70 C.E. It is a day of mourning and fasting.  
**Jul 24** **Pioneer Day** **Christian - Mormon** This day honours the U.S. pioneers led by Brigham Young, who first settled in Utah in 1847. This day is celebrated with parades to remember their pioneering ancestors.  
**Jul 24** **Simon Bolivar Day** **Venezuela, Ecuador** Simon Bolivar (1783-1830) was one of South America's greatest generals. His victories over the Spaniards won independence for Bolivia, Panama, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela. He is called El Liberator and the 'George Washington' of South America.  
**Jul 25** **Guanacaste Day** **Costa Rica** Commemorates the peaceful annexation of the province of Guanacaste to Costa Rica, which occurred in 1824. Prior to this year, Guanacaste was part of Nicaragua.  
**Jul 29** **Guru Purnima** **Jain, Hindu** Is celebrated by disciples to revere and honour their Gurus (spiritual masters).  
**Jul 30** **Oh-Harai-Taisai** **Shinto** During the Grand Purification Ceremony, Japanese worshippers walk through a large ring of woven grass and reeds that are placed at the entrance of the shrines as an act of inner purification for sins and offenses committed during the first half of the year. This sacred ritual is observed twice yearly.  
**Jul 30** **Wassana / Dhamma Day** **Buddhist** This day marks the beginning of the 3-month 'Rains Retreat' for self-examination and peace-making for monks and nuns. It also celebrates Buddha's first teaching.  
**Jul 29** **Guru Purnima** **Jain, Hindu** Is celebrated by disciples to revere and honour their Gurus (spiritual masters).



A Jewish couple meet with friends and family in a ritual booth known as Sukkah during the eve of **Sukkot** in Jerusalem. Sukkot, a Hebrew word meaning “booths” or “huts,” refers to the Jewish festival of giving thanks for the fall harvest. It also commemorates the 40 years of Jewish wandering in the desert after the giving of the Torah atop Mt. Sinai.

Artist: Sheena Singh - mixed media

## August 2026

**August Native Wild Rice Harvest Indigenous** Northern Cree, Ojibwa, Algonkians. Celebrates last full moon in August.

**August Hopi Snake Dance Indigenous** This dance requires two weeks of ritual preparation and snakes are gathered and kept watch over by children. The dancers then take an emetic and dance with the snakes in their mouths, with an Antelope priest in attendance. After the dance, the snakes are released to carry their prayers.

**Aug 1 Lugnasad Wicca** Its name is taken from the Celtic God Lugh, or Samildanach, which means ‘he of many gifts’. It celebrates the ancient festival of the first harvesting of grain in August.

**Aug 2 Ilinden Macedonia** Commemorates the Macedonians revolt against the Ottoman army on August 2, 1903, on Ilinden, or St. Elijah's Day.

**Aug 2 Lady of the Angels Day Costa Rica** It is the feast day of Virgen de los Angeles, the patron saint of Costa Rica. According to tradition, a peasant girl found a small stone statuette of the Virgin Mary holding the infant Jesus on August 2, 1635. She tried to take it home, but the statuette miraculously reappeared on the spot where it had been found. Then townspeople decided to built a shrine around it.

**Aug 6 Hiroshima Day Canada, Japan, USA** This solemn day commemorates the day that United States dropped the first atomic bomb in Hiroshima, Japan in 1945. People from different backgrounds unite on this day to declare their commitment to never letting another nuclear bomb be used against humans again.

**Native Wild Rice Harvest Indigenous**  
**Hopi Snake Dance Indigenous**

July 2026							September 2026						
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3 ▲ Ilinden Macedonia ■ Lady of the Angels Day Costa Rica	4 ✓ ■ Civic Holiday Canada ■ Summer Bank Holiday Scotland, Ireland	5	6 ■ Emancipation Day Turks & Caicos Islands	7 ■ Hiroshima Day Canada, Japan, USA ■ Independence Day Bolivia, Jamaica	8 ▲ Fravardeghan (Aug 8-17) Zoroastrian
9	10 ▲ Asmá (9th Month) Bahá'í ■ National Women's Day South Africa ■ National Day Singapore ● Int'l Day Of The World's Indigenous People UN	11 ■ Independence Day Ecuador	12 ● New Moon Total Solar Eclipse ● International Youth Day UN	13	14 ■ Independence Day Pakistan	15 ✓▲ Now Ruz (Shenshai) Zoroastrian ▲ Assumption Christian ■ Independence Day India ■ Korean Liberation Day Korea
16	17 ■ Independence Day Indonesia	18	19 ■ Independence Day Afghanistan ● World Humanitarian Day UN	20	21	22
23 ● Int'l Day for Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition UN	24 ✓ ■ St. Jean Baptiste Day (Quebec) Canada ▲ Birth of Prophet Zarathustra (Shenshai) Zoroastrian ■ Summer Bank Holiday UK ■ Independence Day Ukraine	25 ■ Independence Day Uruguay	26 ✓▲ Eid-Maulad-un-Nabi Islam ■ Independence Day Trinidad & Tobago	27 ■ Independence Day Moldova	28 ○ Full Moon Partial Lunar Eclipse ■ Independence Day Malaysia ■ Merdeka (Freedom Day) Malaysia ■ Independence Day Trinidad & Tobago	29 ▲ Raksha Bandhan Hindu
30 ■ St. Rosa of Lima Peru ■ Victory Day Turkey	31 ■ Merdeka (Freedom Day) Malaysia ■ Independence Day Trinidad & Tobago					

✓ Schedule Consideration ▲ Religious day ■ Cultural/National day ● UN and Int'l days

Bahá'í and

Jewish days begin at previous sundown.

**Aug 8 - 17 Fravardeghan Zoroastrian** Fravardeghan lasts ten days in preparation for Now Ruz for those who follow the Shenshai calendar. Ancestors are memorialized during this time.

**Aug 12 Int'l Youth Day UN** A day to increase awareness of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, which calls for action in 10 areas: education, employment, hunger and poverty, health, environment, drug abuse, juvenile delinquency, leisure-time activities, girls and young women, and full and effective participation of youths 15-24 years old in society.

**Aug 15 Assumption Christian** This refers to Mary's death and ascent to heaven and is celebrated by Catholic and Orthodox Churches. Special mentions: Sicilian-Canadians hold an outdoor procession for the Madonna del Assunta, Polish-Canadians celebrate the Feast of the Mother of God of the herbs, an early harvest festival, Armenian Orthodox bless the first grapes of the season, Ukrainians take flowers to the church to be blessed.

**Aug 15 Now Ruz (Shenshai) Zoroastrian** Nowruz is the start of the New Year for Zoroastrians who follow the Shenshai Calendar.

**Aug 24 St. Jean Baptiste Day (Quebec) Canada** He is the patron saint of French-Canadians in Quebec, Canada. It is a national holiday and there are parades, bonfires and fireworks to celebrate his birthday.

**Aug 24 Birth of Prophet Zarathustra (Shenshai) Zoroastrian** Zarathushtra (Zoroaster in Greek; Zarothsh in India and Persia) is the founder of the Zoroastrian religion, dating back to sometime between 1500 and 1000 BCE. He lived in Persia, modern day Iran. Zoroastrianism became the state religion of various Persian empires, until the 7th Century CE. When Arabs, followers of Islam, invaded Persia in 650 CE, a small number of Zoroastrians fled to India where most are concentrated today.

**Aug 26 Eid-Maulad-un-Nabi Islam** Anniversary of the birth of Prophet Muhammad. Some Muslims mark this occasion by special prayers, whilst other Muslims may mark the occasion by dedicating more time to reading the Koran.

**Aug 26 Onam India** Onam is a Hindu festival celebrated by the people of Kerala in India. Lasting for four to ten days, it is a harvest festival commemorating the homecoming of the legendary Emperor Mahabali from Patala (the underworld) who visits every Malayali home and during this time.

**Aug 28 Raksha Bandhan Hindu** According to legend, God Indra was warring with demons. His wife tied a silk charm around his wrist to protect him and he was able to defeat his enemies. Hindu girls now tie a threaded amulet or 'rakhi' on their brothers for protection against evil.

**Aug 30 St. Rosa of Lima Peru** Commemorates a Peruvian saint who lived in Lima. Her home is now a pilgrimage site, where every 30th of August, people come to pray and throw coins, messages and icons into a water well near her home.

# September 2026



Muslim women hug others after congregational prayers in Lahore, Pakistan during Eid al-Adha which occurs at the end of a month of fasting during Ramazan. The purpose of fasting is to teach self-control, develop a more conscious connection with Allah or God, and develop an attitude of gratitude.  
Artist: Sheena Singh - mixed media

**National Hispanic Heritage Month USA** Initiated in 1968 as 'National Hispanic Heritage Week' but was established in 1988 by the U.S. Congress, and includes the days between September 15 through October 15. Hispanic Heritage Month begins on September 15 because this day marks the anniversary of independence for five Hispanic countries – Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico achieved independence on September 16, and Chile on September 18. Latinos from all across the nation take a moment to reflect upon their history, customs and culture, and the contributions their people have made to the U.S.

**September Sunrise Dance Indigenous, Apache, USA** This is an ancient rite of passage for 14-year old girls and lasts four days. After a girl's first menstruation, the girl is massaged and prayed for by an elder female relative. Then, the girl's family decides which ceremony will be sponsored, which medicine man to choose, and whom to ask to be her godparents and co-sponsors of the ceremony.

**Sep 1 Labour Day USA** On June 29, 1894, the U.S. Congress voted Labour Day as a National Holiday to honour working people's contribution of labour.

**Sep 1 Labour Day Canada** National Holiday to honour working people's contribution of labour. The day is celebrated with parades and speeches.

**Sep 4 Janmashtami Hindu** Celebrates the birth of Lord Krishna and his rescue from potential death by the demon Kansa. Lord Krishna was born in a prison, then carried by his father to another village where he was secretly exchanged with a cow herder's daughter for his safety.

**Sep 9 - Sept 16 Paryushana-Parva Jain** Celebrated for eight days, Paryushana-Parva is the holiest time of the year and is marked by fasting and worship of the 24 realized teachers of the Jain faith known as Tirthankaras or Jinas.

**Sep 11 Day Of Remembrance USA** The effects of the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon in 2001 impacted Americans and most other nations and has brought us to focus on the devastation terrorism has caused in the world.

**Sep 11 Meskerem (New Year) Ethiopia** Coptic Orthodox Christians are found in all of Africa. They include Egypt, Libya, Sudan and Ethiopia. During the time of Pharaohs 4,000 years ago, the appearance of Soothis (Dog Star) marked the signal that the Nile River would rise, flooding the fertile plains so that planting could begin.

**Sep 12 - 13 Rosh Hashana Jewish** Begins previous sundown at 6pm and observed for two days. Literally 'Head of the Year' marks the first and second day of the Jewish New Year and the anniversary of the creation of the world. It, ends 10 days later with Yom Kippur. It is celebrated with prayers and religious services.

**Sep 12 - 16 Gahambar Paitishahem Zoroastrian** This day celebrates the creation of earth.

**Sep 14 Keiro No Hi Japan** Respect of the Aged Day, or Keiro no Hi, was established as a national holiday in 1966 to express respect for the elders in the community, and to recognise and thank them for their contributions to society and last but not least, celebrate their long lives.

**Sep 14 Ganesh Chaturthi Hindu** It is in honour of one of Hindu's major deity, Ganesh, the elephant-headed god. He is known as the 'remover of all obstacles' and is invoked at the beginning of all new undertakings.

**Sep 16 Samvatsari Jain** This day is dedicated to introspection, confession and penance, especially for the Shvetambara sect.

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▲ Mashiyyat (11th Month Bahá'í)	Fiesta San Miguel Mexico	■ National Day of Truth & Reconciliation Indigenous Peoples, Canada ■ San Geronimo Day Indigenous, USA ● World Maritime Day UN	Bahá'í and	Jewish days begin at previous sundown.																																																																																																				

**Sep 16** **Dashalakshani-Parva Jain** Celebrated by the Digambara sect and lasts ten days, each day dedicated to a virtue: humility, honesty, purity, forgiveness, truthfulness, self-restraint, asceticism, study, celibacy and detachment.

**Sep 16** **Dia de la Independencia Mexico** Celebrates independence from Spain on this date in 1820. Celebrations begin at 11 p.m. the previous day to honor the time in 1810 when Father Miguel Hidalgo made the call to freedom (Grito de Dolores) that began the rebellion.

**Sep 17** **Constitution Day USA** Constitution Day (or Citizenship Day) is an American federal observance that recognizes the adoption of the United States Constitution and those who have become U.S. citizens.

**Sep 21** **Yom Kippur Jewish** The Day of Atonement is the holiest and most solemn of all days in the Jewish year. They believe that once you atone for your mistakes, you can be 'at one' with God. Jews do not work, and they fast, from sunset to suns

**Sep 22** **Mabon Wicca** This day celebrates the fall equinox and the end of the harvest season. Apples are juiced for cider and grapes prepared for wine.

**Sep 22** **Shukri sorei sai Japan, Shinto** On this Autumnal Equinox Day, the Japanese honour family ancestry, visiting ancestral graves and having family reunions.

**Sep 22** **Chichen Itza Festival Mexico** During the Autumn Equinox, thousands gather at the Mayan Temple of Kukulkan to see the interplay of sun and shadow as it forms the impression of a long-tailed serpent leading downward to the stone head of the serpent Kukulkan.

**Sep 24** **Our Lady of Las Mercedes Dominican Republic, Peru** In Carhuaz, Peru celebrations are held in honor of the virgin, with traditional processions, bands of musicians, bullfights and fire works.

**Sep 24** **Pavarana Buddhist** Buddha went into intensive practice during the rainy season. This marks the end of the retreat.

**Sep 25** **Ananta-Chaturdasi Jain** 'Festival of Ten Virtues' is a 10-day fast and meditation for the Jains.

**Sep 26 - Oct 2 Sukkot Jewish** Begins previous sundown at 6pm. The Feast of Booths is a joyful harvest festival lasting 9 days. A little hut called 'sukkah' is built outdoors where families eat to remember the time Israelites wandered in the desert for 40 years, sleeping and eating under the stars.

**Sep 26** **Mid Autumn Festival China, Hong Kong, Taiwan** The festival is celebrated with family reunions, moon gazing and eating of moon cakes. In Vietnam, it is called 'Trung Thu.' On that night children form a procession and travel through the streets with bright lanterns, singing and dancing to the beat of drums. In Korea it is called 'Chusok'. It is observed by paying homage to ancestors and expressing gratitude for rich crops.

**Sep 26** **Chuseok Korea** Chuseok is referred to as Korean Thanksgiving Day. It's a celebration of the harvest and thanksgiving for the bounty of the earth. Family members come from all over the country to visit their ancestral homes.

**Sep 26** **Ksamatvani Jain** Ksamatvani is the 'day of universal forgiveness' for wrongs committed by them and to them.

**Sep 28** **Fiesta San Miguel Mexico** The festival of the Archangel San Miguel is in honor of the Patron Saint of the city of San Miguel. Cultural, social, artistic and sporting events are held throughout the city, along with bullfights.

**Sep 30** **San Geronimo Day Indigenous USA** Named after St. Jerome (1829-1909), an Apache fighter, this day is celebrated by the Native Americans in Taos Pueblo, New Mexico. Among the ceremonies are the morning races, the sacred clowns and the pole climb.

**Sep 30** **National Day of Truth and Reconciliation Indigenous Peoples, Canada** This day honours the survivors of the residential school system, their families, and communities.



# October 2026

**Disability Employment Awareness Month USA** In 1945, in an effort to assist disabled veterans, Congress designated the first week of October as National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week. In the 1970s, a historic shift in disability public policy occurred. For the first time, the exclusion of people with disabilities was viewed as discrimination. The efforts of disability activists led to significant changes in laws, such as the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990 and the designation of a full month to recognize the potential of America's millions of working-age people with disabilities.

**Women's History Month Canada** Established in 1992 by the Government of Canada, this special month provides an opportunity to learn more about women's historic accomplishments and their contributions to Canadian society.

**Black History Month UK** In Britain, Black History Month was first celebrated in October 1987 as part of African Jubilee Year. The decision to make this an annual event each October was endorsed by the Association of London Authorities. It has since grown to recognise and embrace the contributions and traditions of other black communities.

**Latin American Heritage Month Canada** Proclaimed by the Parliament of Canada on June 21, 2018, this month is an opportunity for Canadians to recognize the valuable contribution of members of the Latin American community to this country's social, economic, political and cultural fabric.

**Oct 2 Mehregan Iran, Zoroastrian** The word 'Mehr' in Persian means kindness, love and friendship. Mehregan is celebrated by Zoroastrian and Persian (Iranian) people and was based on the concept that all of the farmers would bring their harvest in the middle of the town square and split it up evenly.

**Oct 2 Gandhi's Birthday India** Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi (1869-1948) is known as Father of the Nation in India, adopted 'non-violence' in fighting for the country's freedom.

**Oct 3 Simchat Torah Jewish** Simchat Torah or Rejoicing in the Torah is the beginning of the synagogue's annual reading cycle. It begins at previous sundown.

**Oct 4 Shemini Atzeret Jewish** On the eighth day of Sukkot, special prayers for rain are offered.

**Oct 4 Feast of St. Francis of Assisi Italy** St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals was born in 1182 at Assisi. He abandoned his dream of becoming a knight, donned the clothes of a poor farmhand and began caring for the sick. He founded the Franciscan Order, which today has about 33,000 members. He died on 3rd October 1226.

**Oct 9 Han-Gul Day Korea** This day commemorates the creation of the Korean alphabet of 29 phonetic symbols called han-gul by King Sejong between 1443 and 1446.

**Oct 10 Double Tenth Day Taiwan** A commemoration of the proclamation of the Chinese Republic in 1911.

**Oct 11 Chulalongkorn Day Thailand** This day commemorates the birth of Rama V, a progressive ruler who lived in 1868-1910.

**Oct 11 Navratri Hindu** It means 'nine nights' beginning on the new moon and ending on Dussehra. It is dedicated to the goddess Durga who had nine incarnations and has the power of good to destroy demons.

**Oct 12 Thanksgiving Canada** Early Canadian settlers gave thanks for good harvests by decorating their churches with fruits and vegetables and celebrated dinner with venison and waterfowl.

An Iranian Zoroastrian cleric distributes holy dried nuts to Muslim guests at the historic **Mehregan** celebration in Abyaneh village, south of Tehran. Zoroastrians living in Iran hold the Mehregan ceremony to thank God for a good summer and cold winter during the first ten days of autumn.

Artist: Sheena Singh - mixed media

Women's History Month **Canada**Disability Employment Awareness Month **USA**Latin America History Month **USA**Black History Month **Canada, UK**

September 2026							November 2026						
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
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4	5	6	7
✓▲ Shemini Atzeret <b>Jewish</b> Feast of St. Francis of Assisi <b>Italy</b>	■ Republic Day <b>Portugal</b> ● World Habitat Day <b>UN</b> ● World Teachers' Day <b>UN</b>	■ Armed Forces Day <b>Egypt</b> ■ Constitution Day <b>Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico</b>	

11	12	13	14
▲ Navratri <b>Hindu</b> ■ Chulalongkorn Day <b>Thailand</b> ■ Coming Out Day <b>LGBT</b> ● Int'l Day of the Girl <b>UN</b>	✓ ■ Thanksgiving <b>Canada</b> ✓ ■ Indigenous Peoples' Day <b>USA</b> ✓ ■ Columbus Day <b>USA</b> ▲ Gahambar Ayathrem (12-16) <b>Zoroastrian</b> ■ Taiiku no hi <b>Japan</b> ■ Dia de la Raza <b>Mexico</b> , ■ Nossa Senhora de Aparecida <b>Brazil</b> ■ Discovery Day <b>Bahamas</b>		● Int'l Day for Natural Disaster Reduction <b>UN</b>

18	19	20	21
▲ Durga Puja <b>Hindu</b> ■ Chung Yeung Festival <b>Taiwan, China, Hong Kong</b> ■ Independence Day <b>Azerbaijan</b>		✓▲ Dussehra <b>Nepal, Hindu</b>	

25	26	27	28
■ Republic Day <b>Kazakhstan</b>	○ Full Moon		■ National Day <b>Czech Republic</b> ■ National Day 'Ochi' <b>Greece</b>

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3
■ National Day <b>China</b> ■ Independence Day <b>Cyprus, Nigeria</b> ● Int'l Day For The Elderly <b>UN</b>	■ Gandhi's Birthday <b>India</b> ■ Mehregan <b>Iran, Zoroastrian</b> ● Int'l Day of Non-Violence <b>UN</b>	✓▲ Simchat Torah <b>Jewish</b> ■ Foundation Day <b>Korea</b> ■ Day of German Unity <b>Germany</b>
8	9	10
■ Independence Day <b>Croatia</b>	■ Han-Gul Day <b>Korea</b> ■ Independence Day <b>Uganda</b> ● World Post Day <b>UN</b>	● New Moon ■ Fiji Day <b>Fiji</b> ■ Double Tenth Day <b>Taiwan</b> ■ Independence Day <b>Cuba</b> ■ Curacao Day <b>Curacao</b> ● World Mental Health Day <b>UN</b>
15	16	17
● Int'l Day for Natural Disaster Reduction <b>UN</b>	▲ 'Ilm (12th Month) <b>Bahá'í</b>	■ National Boss Day <b>Canada USA</b> ■ National Heroes Day <b>Jamaica</b> ● World Food Day <b>UN</b>
22	23	24
■ Abu Simbel Festival <b>Egypt</b>	■ Labour Day <b>New Zealand</b>	■ Suez Victory Day <b>Egypt</b> ■ Independence Day <b>Zambia</b> ● United Nations Day <b>UN</b> ● World Development Information Day <b>UN</b>
29	30	31
▲ Karva Chauth <b>Hindu</b> ■ Republic Day <b>Turkey</b>		▲ Samhain <b>Wicca</b> ■ Halloween <b>Canada, USA</b> ■ Reformation Day <b>Chile</b>

Oct 12 **Indigenous Peoples' Day USA** Many cities in USA are replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples' Day. This day honours Native American heritage.

Oct 12 - 16 **Gahambar Ayathrem Zoroastrian** This day celebrates the creation of plant life.

Oct 12 **Dia de la Raza Mexico** This day celebrates the Hispanic and Latino heritage in the Americas.

Oct 12 **Nossa Senhora de Aparecida Brazil** In 1717, a group of Brazilian fisherman pulled up a wooden statue of the Virgin Mary which was followed by an abundant catch after a fruitless fishing day. They enshrined the statue and in 1929, the Brazilian nation declared Nossa Senhora De Aparecida the Patroness of Brazil..

Oct 17 **Oktoberfest Germany** Originally it was meant to be just a simple horse race event but the bavarian character quickly took over and it became a happy gathering of cheerful beer drinkers. The Oktoberfest attracts approximately 7 million visitors each year and lasts for three weeks.

Oct 18 **Chung Yeung Festival China, Hong Kong, Taiwan** Families visit the graves of their ancestors.

Oct 18 **Durga Puja Hindu** This day celebrates the divine creative force of the universe and honours the 10-armed goddess Durga, wife of Shiva, and the destroyer of demons.

Oct 20 **Dussehra Nepal, Hindu** Dussehra means 'the tenth' and celebrates the triumph of Lord Ram over the demon Ravan who stole his wife Sita. The great Hindu epic poem, the Ramayana, is read and enacted, called Ram Lila. A big effigy of Ravan is burnt accompanied by fireworks. In Nepal it is called Dashain and is a major holiday.

Oct 22 **Abu Simbel Festival Egypt** Built by Ramses II, his temple is angled so that the inner sanctum lights up twice a year: on the anniversary of his rise to the throne and, once again, on his birthday. Crowds pack the temple before sunrise to watch the shafts of light illuminate the statues of Ramses, Ra and Amon. The other date for this event is Feb. 22.

Oct 26 **Kathina Buddhist** New robes and necessities are given to ordained monks and nuns.

Oct 29 **Karva Chauth Hindu** A one-day fast kept by married Hindu women for the well-being and longevity of their husbands. The husbands feed the first bite to their wives only after they see the moon.

Oct 31 **Samhain Wicca** Traditionally, animals were slaughtered for winter provisions and the spirits of those who have died in the last year are invited to a final celebration.

Oct 31 **Halloween Canada, USA** This tradition goes back to the Celtic people 2,000 years ago who celebrated their New Year in late autumn and honoured Samhain or Lord of the Dead. They put candles on windows and lit bonfires to scare the disembodied spirits off. They wore disguises so as not be recognized and always carried a lantern. The Irish traditionally carved lanterns out of turnips or potatoes, but in North America they used pumpkins which were more readily available. Black and orange are the traditional colors of Halloween.



Traditional **Thanksgiving** dishes like turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, and pumpkin ceremoniously star in millions of Thanksgiving dinners across America and Canada. The Stanleys share dinner with their Chinese neighbours.

Artist: Sheena Singh -  
mixed media

# November 2026

**National Indigenous Month USA.** Since 1900, many have sought to recognize the great influence American Natives have had on the history, cultural development, and continuing growth of the US. Various dates and weeks were acknowledged until 1976, when Congress authorized a week in October as Native American Awareness Week. Finally, in 1990, the month of November was chosen because it is traditionally a time when many American Natives gather for fall harvest festivals, world-renewal ceremonies, and pow wows.

**Oct-Nov Iroquois Harvest Ceremony Indigenous** This a day-long ceremony to give thanks to earth spirits for providing now and in the future.

**Nov 1 All Saints' Day Christian** This day is for honouring saints, known and unknown.

**Nov 2 All Souls Day Christian** Catholic Christians day of prayers of intercession for the dead. Prayers of the faithful are seen as helping to cleanse the souls of the departed.

**Nov 2 Birthday Of The Báb Bahá'í** Born Siyyid 'Ali Muhammad in Southwestern Iran in 1819. His title, in Arabic, means 'The Gate'. Work is suspended and Bahá'ís come together for prayer and festivities.

**Nov 2 Dia de los Muertos Mexico** This day is also known as the Day of the Dead, and is celebrated in parts of the United States and Central America. Families build altars in their homes surrounded with flowers, food and burning candles.

**Nov 2 Dia de Finados Portugal** This holiday is celebrated by people visiting the deceased. They bring hearts and crowns made of flowers to the graves.

**Nov 3 Birth Of Bahá'u'lláh Bahá'í** Born Mirza Husayn 'Ali into one of the leading noble families of Persia in 1817. His name is a title, in Arabic, meaning 'The Glory of God'.

**Nov 3 Bunka No Hi Japan** A national holiday dedicated to the love of freedom and promotion of Japanese culture.

**Nov 5 Guy Fawkes Day UK, England** This is also known as Bonfire Night. Guy Fawkes was a leader of a group of Catholic men who were plotting to blow up the king and Parliament but were arrested in time. The English and Irish burn bonfires topped by a figure known as the guy.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS International  ▲ All Saints' Day Christian ■ Independence Day Antigua & Barbuda ■ Revolution Day Algeria	2  ▲ All Souls Day Christian ▲ Birthday Of The Báb Bahá'í ■ Dia de los Muertos Mexico ■ Dia de Finados Portugal	3  ▲ Birth Of Bahá'u'lláh Bahá'í ■ Bunka No Hi Japan ■ Independence Day Panama, Dominica	4  ▲ Qudrat (13th Month) Bahá'í ■ Take Our Kids To Work Canada	5  ■ Guy Fawkes Day UK, England	6  ● Int'l Day For Preventing Exploitation Of The Environment UN	7
8  ✓▲ Diwali Hindu, Sikh ▲ Mahavira Nirvana Jain ■ Independence Day Cambodia	9 ● New Moon	10	11  ■ Veterans Day USA ■ Remembrance Day Australia, Canada, UK ■ Armistice Day France ■ Independence Day Poland	12	13  ● Int'l World Kindness Day International	14  ● World Diabetes Day UN
15  ■ Shichi-Go-San Japan ■ National Day Palestine ■ Republic Day Brazil	16  ● Int'l Day of Tolerance UN	17	18  ■ Independence Day Latvia, Morocco	19  ■ Discovery Day Puerto Rico ● Int'l Men's Day International ● World Toilet Day UN ● Universal Children's Day UN	20  ■ Transgender Day of Remembrance LGBT ■ National Sovereignty Day Argentina ● World Television Day UN	21
22  ▲ Qawl (14th Month) Bahá'í ■ Independence Day Lebanon	23  ■ Kinro Kansha No Hi Japan	24 ○ Full Moon  ✓▲ Guru Nanak's Birthday (Bikarami) Sikh ▲ Lokashah Jayanti Jain ▲ Martyrdom of Guru Teg Bahadur Sikh	25  ■ St. Catherine's Day Canada, France ■ National Day Bosnia ● Int'l Day For Elimination Of Violence Against Women UN  ✓■ Thanksgiving Day USA ▲ Day of Covenant Bahá'í	26	27  ▲ Ascension Of Abdu'l-Bahá Bahá'í ■ Independence Day Albania ■ National Day Panama	28
29  ▲ First Sunday of Advent Christian ● Int'l Day of Solidarity with Palestinian People UN	30  ■ St. Andrew's Day Scotland, Romania ■ Independence Day Barbados	<p>National Indigenous Peoples Month USA</p> <p>It's time to order your 2027 calendar!</p>				

October 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

December 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**Nov 8** **Diwali Sikh, Hindu** It means 'row of lights' and is the Hindu New Year. Diwali lasts for 5 days: Day 1 - New Year for business, Day 2 - the triumph of god Vishnu over the evil demon, Day 3 - Lakshmi, the goddess of prosperity visits homes lit by lamps, Day 4 - Bali worship day, Day 5 - devoted to brothers and sisters.

**Nov 8** **Mahavira Nirvana Jain** This day celebrates the attainment of Moksa by Lord Mahavira and is the 'Festival of Lamps'.

**Nov 11** **Veterans Day USA** It was first proclaimed as Armistice Day in 1919 to commemorate the termination (at 11 AM on November 11, 1918) of World War I.

**Nov 11** **Remembrance Day Canada, Australia, UK** This day commemorates the soldiers killed in World Wars I and II and is in remembrance for all those who have given their lives in service of their country. Canadians always set aside this day in memory of those who gave their lives for freedom. Many observers wear red poppies as a symbol of this day.

**Nov 15** **Shichi-Go-San Japan** Prayers are offered for children's growth. The ages of three and five for boys, three and seven for girls are celebrated. On this day, children dress up in their gala dresses and go with their parents to a Shinto shrine to pay a visit to the tutelary deity. Children are given thousand-year candy which is red and white (auspicious colours) with crane and turtle illustrations (symbols of long life).

**Nov 23** **Kinro Kansha No Hi Japan** This is the Japanese Labour Thanksgiving Day when people express gratitude to each other for their labours throughout the year.

**Nov 24** **Guru Nanak's Birthday (Bikarami) Sikh** Born in 1469 CE, he was the first of the Ten Gurus of the Sikh faith and founded Sikhism. An accomplished poet, 974 of his hymns are in the Sikh scriptures, the Sri Guru Granth Sahib.

**Nov 24** **Lokashah Jayanti Jain** This day commemorates the birth of a famous 15th century reformer, Lonka Saha, who opposed temple worship and use of images.

**Nov 24** **Martyrdom of Guru Teg Bahadur Sikh** This day commemorates his martyrdom (1621-1675). He was the ninth of the Ten Sikh Gurus and executed in Delhi by the Mughal emperor. He died for the Sikh faith and also for religious liberty.

**Nov 25** **St. Catherine's Day Canada, France** She is the patron saint of virgins and philosophers, lived in Alexandria in the 4th century A.D. and was martyred after being tortured on a spiked wheel. At one time, match-making balls were held on this day.

**Nov 26** **Day of Covenant Bahá'í** The eldest son and appointed successor of Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, referred to this day as the 'Centre of the Covenant' which was established to safeguard the unity of the community.

**Nov 26** **Thanksgiving Day USA** Early American settlers gave thanks for good harvests by decorating their churches with fruits and vegetables and celebrating dinner with venison and waterfowl.

**Nov 28** **Ascension Of Abdu'l-Bahá Bahá'í** After years of serving his father and safeguarding the unity of the Faith, Abdu'l-Bahá passed away in Haifa, Israel in 1921.

**Nov 29** **First Sunday of Advent Christian** The Christian church year begins with Advent (from the Latin adventus meaning 'coming' or 'arrival') which is also a time when Christians prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ.

**Nov 30** **St. Andrew's Day Romania, Scotland** This day commemorates the life of the patron saint of Scotland.



Kwanzaa is a celebration of family, community and culture by African Americans. Every object used during the seven day celebration represents African culture: mazao (the crops), mkeka (the mat), kinara (the candle holder), muhindi (the corn), mishumaa saba (the seven candles), kikombe cha umoja (the unity cup), and zawadi (the gifts)."

Artist: Sheena Singh  
- mixed media

## December 2026

**Universal Human Rights Month** **UN** The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was adopted by the UN in 1948 as a response to the Nazi holocaust and to set a standard by which the human rights activities of all nations, rich and poor alike, are to be measured. Some of the Rights are: No one shall be subjected to cruel and inhuman punishment, being entitled to a fair and public hearing by an impartial tribunal, the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, and the right to a standard of living to include food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, the right to education, the right to participate in the cultural life of the community, not being arbitrarily deprived of his property, a speedy juried trial and right to legal counsel.

**Dec 1 Rosa Parks Day** **USA** Commemorates the arrest of Rosa Parks, in 1955, for defying segregation by refusing to give up her seat on the bus for a white passenger. The incident led to the end of segregation.

**Dec 4-12 Hannukah** **Jewish** Begins previous sundown at 6pm. The Festival of Lights is celebrated for eight days. About 164 B.C., Maccabees, a small group of Jews fighting for religious freedom won victory over the Syrians. The legend goes that to rededicate the Temple, they found only one jar of holy oil and miraculously the candelabra remained lit for 8 days. An eight candle menorah is lit.

**Dec 6 St. Nicholas Day** **Christian** He is the patron saint of Russia and came from a town in Turkey. Being known as a protector of children, the tradition of leaving shoes out in the hopes of receiving treats is practiced in the Dutch, German and Eastern European communities.

**Dec 7 Pearl Harbor Day** **USA** This day commemorates the attack of the Imperial Japanese Navy and Air Force on the armed forces of the United States stationed at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

**Dec 8 Bodhi Day** **Buddhist** In Japanese Zen, Bodhi Day is called "Rohatsu" and is the observance of enlightenment of the historical Buddha. Zen monasteries observe this day with a meditation retreat lasting several days.

**Dec 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception** **Christian** According to the Catholic religion, Mary, the mother of Jesus, was conceived without Original Sin in the womb of her mother, St. Anne.

**Dec 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe** **Mexico** An important religious festival in Mexico. It commemorates the appearance of the Blessed Virgin to an Indian boy in 1531. Processions, dances and visits are led to her Mexico City shrine.

**Dec 13 Luciadagen** **Sweden** This day is also known as 'Queen of Light'. A candlestick parade takes place.

**Dec 15 Navidades** **Mexico, Puerto Rico** Marks the beginning of the Christmas season and ends with Three Kings Day on January 6th.

Universal Human Rights Month UN		Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday	Monday	1	2	3	4	5
		<span style="color: green;">■</span> Rosa Parks Day <b>USA</b> <span style="color: green;">■</span> National Day <b>Romania, Laos, UAE</b> <span style="color: green;">■</span> Independence Day <b>Portugal</b> <span style="color: orange;">●</span> World AIDS Day <b>UN</b>	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Int'l Day for the Abolition of Slavery <b>UN</b>	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Int'l Day for Disabled Persons <b>UN</b>	<span style="color: red;">✓</span> <span style="color: purple;">▲</span> Hanukkah (Dec 4-12) <b>Jewish</b>	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Discovery Day <b>Haiti</b> <span style="color: orange;">●</span> Int'l Volunteer Day for Economic & Social Development <b>UN</b>
6	7	<span style="color: purple;">▲</span> St. Nicholas Day <b>Christian</b> <span style="color: green;">■</span> Independence Day <b>Finland</b> <span style="color: green;">■</span> Constitution Day <b>Spain</b>	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Pearl Harbor Day <b>USA</b> <span style="color: orange;">●</span> Int'l Civil Aviation Day <b>UN</b>	<span style="color: purple;">▲</span> Bodhi Day <b>Buddhist</b> <span style="color: purple;">▲</span> Feast of the Immaculate Conception <b>Christian</b>	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Independence Day <b>Tanzania</b> <span style="color: orange;">●</span> Int'l Anti-Corruption Day <b>UN</b>	<span style="color: grey;">●</span> New Moon
13	14	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Luciadagen <b>Sweden</b>	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Bill of Rights Day <b>USA</b> <span style="color: green;">■</span> Navidades <b>Puerto Rico</b>	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Posadas (Dec 16-24) <b>Mexico</b> <span style="color: green;">■</span> Day of Reconciliation <b>South Africa</b> <span style="color: green;">■</span> Bijoy Dibash <b>Bangladesh</b> <span style="color: green;">■</span> Independence Day <b>Bahrain</b>	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Constitution Day <b>Thailand</b> <span style="color: orange;">●</span> Human Rights Day <b>UN</b>	<span style="color: purple;">▲</span> Masá'il (15th Month) <b>Bahá'í</b> <span style="color: orange;">●</span> Int'l Mountain Day <b>UN</b>
20	21	WINTER SOLSTICE International		<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Human Solidarity Day <b>UN</b>	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Int'l Day of Peace <b>UN</b>	<span style="color: purple;">▲</span> Yule <b>Wicca</b> <span style="color: purple;">▲</span> Tohji-Tasai <b>Shinto</b>
27	28	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Independence Day <b>Mongolia</b>	<span style="color: purple;">▲</span> Joseph Smith's Birthday <b>Christian - Mormon</b>	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Independence Day <b>Libya</b>	<span style="color: red;">✓</span> <span style="color: purple;">▲</span> Christmas Day <b>Christian</b> <span style="color: green;">■</span> Jinnah's Birthday <b>Pakistan</b>	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Full Moon
29	30	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Sharaf (16th Month) <b>Bahá'í</b> <span style="color: green;">■</span> Rizal Day <b>Philippines</b>	<span style="color: purple;">▲</span> Gahambar Maidayarem (Dec 31-Jan 4) <b>Zoroastrian</b>	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Omisoka <b>Japan</b> <span style="color: green;">■</span> Hogmanay <b>Scotland</b>	January 2027	

**Dec 15 Bill of Rights Day USA** The first ten amendments to the United States Constitution are known as the Bill of Rights. Among the rights protected are freedom of speech, the right to bear arms, and protection from unreasonable search.

**Dec 16-24 Posadas Mexico** A nine-day traditional celebration throughout Mexico. Processions of pilgrims go door to door asking for posada, which means shelter, commemorating the search by Mary and Joseph for shelter.

**Dec 22 Yule Wicca** During the winter solstice – the longest night of the year, the rebirth of the sun which is life sustaining is celebrated. The Yule tree is decorated with fruit and candles are lit to represent the sun.

**Dec 22 Tohji-Tasai Shinto** The sun is of central importance in Japan and this day celebrates the end of the Yin period of the Sun in its declining strength and the growing power of the Yang period.

**Dec 23 Joseph Smith's Birthday Christian - Mormon** He was the American Mormon Leader, founder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

**Dec 25 Christmas Day Christian** This day celebrates Jesus Christ's birth over 2000 years ago. Customs include lighting candles, exchanging gifts and using evergreen decorations to celebrate this day, the most widely observed Christian festival of the year. In most communities it is a family day.

**Dec 26 Death of Prophet Zarathustra Zoroastrian** This day marks the death of the founder of the Zoroastrian faith.

**Dec 26 - Jan 1 Kwanzaa African-American/Canadian, USA** A professor who wanted to encourage African Americans to celebrate their heritage started Kwanzaa's in California in 1966. Kwanzaa means first fruit in Swahili and is a harvest festival. Families exchange gifts and have African-style feasts. Seven-pronged candleholders are lit on each consecutive night for the seven principles: unity, purpose, self-determination, working together, sharing, creativity and faith.

**Dec 26 - Jan 1 Junkanoo Bahamas** A festival that combines elements of Mardi Gras, mummers' parades, and ancient African tribal rituals. Continues on January 1.

**Dec 26 Wren Day/St Stephen's Day Ireland** On Wren Day, boys in wren costumes go from house to house with a captured wren, singing songs and gathering coins. These coins help to pay for a big celebratory feast in the evening.

**Dec 26 Boxing Day Canada, UK, Ireland** It was once a day when the church's poor boxes were opened. In Britain, originally a day when gifts (boxes) are given to servants, tradespeople, or others who provide services.

**Dec 30 Rizal Day Philippines** This day commemorates the death of Jose Mercado Rizal in 1896, a Philippine doctor and author whose books denounced Spanish administration. He was an inspiration to the Philippine nationalist movement.

**Dec 31 - Jan 4 Gahambar Maidayarem Zoroastrian** This day celebrates the creation of animals. It is also a time for the equitable sharing of food.

**Dec 31 Omisoka Japan** To usher in the new year, families clean their homes, eat toshi-koshi buckwheat noodles in the hope that one's life will be stretched out as long as these noodles. As midnight approaches, Shinto temples around the country begin ringing out the old year, sounding the temple bell 108 times, signifying the 108 human worldly desires removed by the striking of the bell.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2					
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

It's time to order your  
2027 calendar!

# Explanations of Religions



## Indigenous Peoples

The circle and the four cardinal directions are: sacred objects, sacred feathers, sacred herbs and sacred art.

Indigenous Peoples' religions represent examples of primal traditions that have existed for some 30,000 to 60,000 years. Due to their migrations across North America over successive time periods, generalizations regarding Indigenous People traditions are difficult to make. Differences amongst hundreds of tribal groups with their languages, together with contrasts of geography and climate to which the people have adapted has resulted in specific ceremonies unique to each tribe. In no Indigenous Peoples' language is there a term that translates as 'religion' and thus the term 'tradition' is preferable. Basic Indigenous Peoples' concepts are grounded in the experience of time and process. Therefore, the seasons of nature are understood in a cyclical manner. They have developed an interrelation with the natural environment and the sacred lore, thus the ending of seasons for activities such as hunting, fishing and agricultural pursuits are celebrated through dance, song and recital of legends, mythical stories and clan histories.

Indigenous Peoples' festivals have been listed as a separate group each month, since different tribes perform their ceremonies according to individual tribal time frames.



## Bahá'í

The nine-pointed star is used to symbolize the teachings of the Bahá'í Faith regarding the oneness of humanity and the oneness of religion.

The Bahá'í Era began in 1844 with the declaration of the Báb (1819-1850) who claimed to be the forerunner of Bahá'u'lláh (1817-1892), the Promised One of all ages and religions. There are over 5 million Bahá'ís who come from virtually every ethnic group, culture, profession and social or economic class, and are from more than 235 countries of the world. The Bahá'í World Center is located on Mount Carmel in Haifa, Israel. In the words of Bahá'u'lláh, the Founder of their Faith, "The earth is but one country, and mankind its citizens." The Badi' Calendar was established by the Báb. Based on the solar year, each year is divided into nineteen months of nineteen days, each with four intercalary days (five in leap year).

The Bahá'í year begins on March 21 and the Bahá'í day begins at sunset. Fasting season lasts 19 days beginning March 2. Bahá'í holy days begin at sundown the day before the date listed and end at sundown on the date listed.



## Buddhist

The eight-spoked wheel represents the Eight-Fold Path which, when practiced together, enables a person to reach a state of equanimity and compassion. The word buddha means 'one who has woken up'. Siddhartha, the founder was born in India in 6th century BCE and gained enlightenment at the age of 35. Buddhism teaches that the way to Nirvana is through leading a moral life and meditation on the Eight-fold path. It is based on compassion for all living beings. Buddhists accept belief in reincarnation and karma, the result of good and evil actions. Buddhism coexists with indigenous religious traditions, adapting to local folk religions such as Hinduism, Confucianism, Shinto and Taoism. The three great traditions of Buddhism are distinct historically and geographically: Southern Buddhism, with 100 million followers who live in Sri Lanka, Burma, Cambodia and Thailand; Eastern Buddhism practiced in China, Japan, Korea and Vietnam; Northern Buddhism covers Tibet, Mongolia, the Himalayas and parts of Soviet Union. There is no single Buddhist calendar and events related to the Buddha are celebrated at different times in different temples. The full moon is commonly recognized as the most important day for celebration.



## Christian

The Crucifix is a symbol used to represent the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The term 'Christian' was first recorded in the New Testament in Acts 11:26 in Antioch, Syria to describe a group of people who demonstrated attachment to 'Christos', a Greek translation of the Hebrew term 'Messiah' used by the Jews.

The Christian movement has produced a diversity of expressions, but allegiance to 'Christ', Jesus the Son of God, who began preaching at age 30, is crucial to them all. Jesus proclaimed the coming of the Kingdom of God here on earth and taught that the greatest commandments of the Bible are to love God and to love our neighbours as ourselves. Sharpened by geographical isolation, five 'great traditions' of Christianity have developed. These may be identified as Eastern, Oriental, Latin, Western and African. In most Christian communities, Sunday is the first day of the week, although many minority groups i.e. Seventh-day Adventists and many African churches, insist on a literal observance of the Ten Commandments and the special status of Saturday.

The Gregorian (Western) calendar has been adopted by all Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches. Most Eastern churches, however, continue to use the Julian (Eastern) calendar for religious purposes, though only a few use it exclusively. At the present time, the Julian and Gregorian calendars are approximately 13 days out of phase.

## Christian - Coptic and Eastern Orthodox

The Eastern Orthodoxy is the main group of the Eastern Christianity. The Eastern Orthodox Church comprises of Russian Orthodox, Greek and Cypriot Churches and uses the Julian (Eastern) Calendar for moveable feasts such as Easter. The modern use of the term "Coptic" describes Egyptian Christians. The Coptic Church is based on the teachings of Saint Mark who brought Christianity to Egypt during the reign of the Roman emperor Nero in the first century. The Coptic Orthodox Church's clergy is headed by the Pope of Alexandria and includes Bishops who oversee the priests ordained in their dioceses. There are over 10 million Copts in Egypt and another 2.2 million emigrant Copts all over the world.

## Christian - Mormon

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, widely known as the LDS Church or the Mormon Church was founded by Joseph Smith Apr. 6 1830. The church is headquartered in Salt Lake City Utah and has established congregations and temples worldwide. The church teaches that it is a restoration of the church instituted by Jesus Christ. It teaches that before Joseph Smith restored the true church, an apostasy occurred shortly after the death of Peter and the other original apostles.

Latter-day Saints believe in the divine authority of the Old Testament and New Testament and also have additional books in the scriptural canon: The Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants and the Pearl of Great Price.



## Hindu

OM expresses the complete nature of God. 'Hindu' is, in origin, simply the Persian word for people of the Indus Valley civilization. The earliest indications are derive from artifacts 4000-2200 BCE. Hinduism teaches that there is one ultimate reality or energy behind the universe, called Brahman. The many gods and goddesses are the various manifestations of Brahman. God also takes birth on earth as different Incarnations or Avatars. The same reality exists in human beings, who through reincarnation, or repeated births, try to realize their unity with God. The word 'Hinduism' is used to refer to the complex religious tradition which has evolved in the Indian subcontinent and is represented by highly diverse beliefs and practices of over 500 million Hindus. Hinduism has no founder nor is it prophetic. No particular doctrine, dogma or practice is essential to it. The major scriptures of Hinduism are the Vedas, the Upanishads and the Bhagavad Gita. Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism arose within the Hindu tradition. Hinduism has been described as a religion of fasts, feasts and festivals. As with pilgrimage, festivals are local, regional and all-Indian. Festivals are connected with seasons as well as with major gods of Hinduism. Hindu festivals and holy days are based on a lunar calendar.



## Islam

The Islamic crescent symbolizes the new moon that determines the Islamic calendar. For its followers, Islam is a total way of life. Islam, which in Arabic means 'submission' (to God), proclaims a religious faith and sets forth certain rituals as well as prescribing patterns of order for society in matters of family life, law, business, food, dress and etiquette. There are five fundamental religious duties, called the Pillars of Islam, incumbent upon every Muslim. Muslims believe that God's final message was revealed to Muhammad (born approximately 570 AD) through the angel Gabriel, and is contained in the Qu'ran. With over 700 million Muslims, Islam is the second largest religious group in the world. There are over 72 sects, the major ones being the Sunnis and the Shi'ites.. The largest Islamic community is in the Indian sub-continent, followed by South-East Asia and Indonesia; Arab countries; Turkey, Iran and Afghanistan; Sub-Saharan Africa; Russia and China; and Europe (Balkans). The times of observance of annual practices, notably Ramadan and the pilgrimage to Mecca, are determined by the Islamic lunar year of 354 days.

Although Islamic dates are always on the same day of the Islamic calendar, the date on the Gregorian calendar varies from year to year, since the Gregorian calendar is a solar calendar and the Islamic calendar is a lunar calendar. This difference means the Islamic dates move in the Gregorian calendar approximately 11 days every year. The dates also vary from country to country depending on whether the moon has been sighted or not. The dates vary by a day depending on whether the Saudi Arabia or the North American Calendar is being observed. This calendar follows the North American dates which is a day later.

### Islam Ismaili

The Ismailis are considered another branch of Shia Islam. It grew out of a dispute over who should lead the Shia community after the death of the Sixth Imam, Jaafar al-Sadiq. Ismailis believe it was Ismail, the son of the sixth Imam, and so the sect takes its name from Ismail. Ismaili groups today can be found in India, Pakistan, Yemen, and East Africa. They are led today by the Harvard-educated Aga Khan who oversees a global economic development and charitable program much respected in progressive Western circles.



## Jain

The stylized hand is in a gesture of blessing. On the palm is inscribed "Ahimsa" meaning 'non-injury'. The phrase at the bottom of the symbol translates "All life is bound by mutual support and interdependence."

Jainism is one of the oldest religions of the world. Jains take their name from the term 'Jina' which means 'conqueror' and is given to honour the twenty-four great teachers. The founder of Jainism, Vardhamana Mahavira (599-527 BCE) was the last of the great teachers. India's most famous Jain was Mahatma Gandhi, the greatest champion of non-violence. The Jain philosophy encompasses the principal of non-violence, harmony through compassion towards all living beings, tolerance and forgiveness, and following a vegetarian diet. At present, the community includes approximately 10 million Jains (about one-half of one per cent of India's population). Because of their philosophy of non-injury towards any living thing, most Jains are members of mercantile and professional classes.



## Jewish

The Shield of David or "six-pointed star" is the symbol of Judaism. Judaism is based on the covenant, or promise made by the Jewish people to follow the teachings of the Torah and by God to protect the people who followed those laws. Though Abraham is considered the first Jew because he eschewed idols for an invisible, all powerful deity, the covenant took place when God gave the Torah, or sacred law, to the Jewish people through Moses at Mount Sinai about 4000 years ago. The Torah, which means laws, consists of the first five books of Moses.

Modern religious Jews, whether affiliated with an Orthodox, Conservative, Reconstructionist, or Reform synagogues, are members of a worldwide faith community. Today there are nearly 15 million Jews in the world, the biggest concentration in the U.S.A., followed by Israel and the Soviet Union. Jews of all races live throughout the world, primarily in France, Britain, Canada, South America and South Africa.

The main precepts of Judaism are obedience to moral law, justice, mercy, and compassion. The Jewish year is based on a lunar calendar of 12 months. Each month begins with the new moon. The year begins in late September/early October with Rosh Hashanah, the "head of the year," and the holy day on which Jews reflect on their actions the previous year. A week later on Yom Kippur, Jews repent for their mistakes and sins, but not before having asked how to make retribution to those wronged. All holidays and Sabbaths (Friday -Sat). begin and end at sundown. No matter where Jews live, their rituals, music, holidays and Sabbaths are celebrated in fundamentally the same ways. The language of prayer is Hebrew.

The word 'Sikh' literally means 'student' or 'one who is learning'. Sikhs are easily recognized by their turbans. Those who take on the full discipline adopt the five "K's": Kangha (wooden comb); Kara (steel bracelet); Kirpan (sword); Kaccha (pair of shorts); Kesh (long hair).

Today, it is the fifth largest world religion with more than 25 million adherents living mainly in Punjab, Hong Kong, Singapore and other Commonwealth countries. Approximately 1.2 million Sikhs now call North America their home. Since 1999, Sikh high holidays have been demarcated in the solar Nanakshahi Calendar, which does not vary from year to year (as was the case with the traditional lunar Bikarami calendar) and is now in accordance with the western calendar.



## Wicca

The Pentacle is the most common symbol used in Wicca. Its five points symbolize Air, Fire, Water, Earth and Spirit, in the circle of eternity. Wicca is the common term for many different traditions of

Neo-Pagan nature religions that celebrate seasonal and life cycles, and revere a Goddess and a God. There are eight seasonal festivals called Sabbats: four equinoxes and four agricultural and herd-farming times. The basic tenets are: worship of the Goddess in her three aspects, Maiden, Mother and Crone; worship of her consort Pan, the Horned God; the use of magic within a definite code of ethics, including the Wiccan rede, "And ye harm none, do what ye will"; reverence for nature and ecological principles; belief that the divine is in everything; that there are multiple deities and many different pathways to the divine; and acceptance of reincarnation. Wiccans are found in Great Britain, U.S.A., Canada, Australia, Germany and Holland.



## Zoroastrian

FRAVASHI, the divinity in humanity, is represented by symbol. The prophet Zarathustra lived in Persia around 1800 BCE. The Zoroastrians of India are called Parsis and follow the Shenshai calendar. The Zoroastrians in Iran follow the Fasli calendar. Zarathustra in his Gathas or 'verses' declared the sovereignty of the one God, Ahura Mazda "Lord of All Wisdom", and the opposition of good and evil forces. Zoroastrian worship centers around a continually burning sacred fire. Although prosperous, the community is numerically very small, residing primarily in India, Iran, England, Canada, Australia and the U.S.A. There are seven obligatory holy days known as the six gahambars and Nowruz ('New Day') which celebrates the beginning of the year and is dedicated to the seventh creation, fire, the symbol of righteousness.



## Shinto

The torii is the gateway to a Shinto shrine. The ends of the horizontal bars reach toward heaven. Shinto means "Way of the Kami", and is the oldest religion in Japan. The Shinto worship all the deities of Heaven and Earth and their belief is that the world is populated by millions of Kami, spirits that inhabit the nature world which is regarded with awe and respect rocks, trees, heavenly bodies; the guardian deities: souls of ancestors, renowned persons and Buddha incarnations. Shinto ceremonies dedicated to Kami, are held at shrines in homes and processions.



## Sikh

The Sikh symbol, known as the "Khanda", represents two basic principles of the faith: the need to balance temporal obligations with spiritual duties, and the duty of every Sikh to first serve those who are poor, oppressed, voiceless or disadvantaged in any way. Sikhism began in 15th century Punjab - a land that now spans across modern-day India and Pakistan - with the simple message that there is One Creator, and therefore all people, regardless of gender, caste, race, colour, ethnicity or religious belief, are equal. Sikhs are unequivocally monotheistic and reject all forms of ritual, superstition and idol worship. They are guided by the teachings of Ten Teachers, the first being Nanak (1439-1539) and the last Gobind Singh (1666-1708). Their compositions, in poetry and set to music, constitute the Guru Granth Sahib, the Sikh Scripture also revered as the Living Teacher.

# Summary of Religious Holidays for 2026



## Indigenous Peoples

Indigenous Peoples' Day - Canada	✓ Jun 21
National Day of Truth and Reconciliation - Canada	Sep 30
Indigenous Peoples' Day - USA	✓ Oct 14



All holy days begin at sunset the day before the date listed and end at sundown on the date listed

Intercalary Days	Feb 25-Mar 1
Alá (19-Day Fast Begins)	Mar 2-Mar 19
Now Ruz (New Year)	✓ Mar 20
Feast Of Ridvan	✓ Apr 21-May 1
Declaration of Báb	May 23
Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh	✓ May 29
Martyrdom of The Báb	Jul 10
Birthday Of The Báb	Nov 2
Birth Of Bahá'u'lláh	Nov 3
Day of Covenant	Nov 26
Ascension Of Abdu'l-Bahá	Nov 28



## Buddhist

Chinese New Year	✓
Losar (New Year Tibet)	✓
Great Prayer Festival (Tibet)	
Wesak	✓
Dalai Lama's Birthday (Tibet)	
Wassana / Dhamma Day	
Pavarana	
Kathina	
Bodhi Day	



## Christian

Occidental calendar (Gregorian)

Epiphany	Jan 6
Three Kings' Day	Jan 6
Christmas - Armenia	✓ Jan 6
Shrove Tuesday	Feb 17
Ash Wednesday (Lent Begins)	Feb 18
St. Joseph's Day	Mar 19
Annunciation	Mar 25
Palm Sunday	Mar 29
Holy Thursday	Apr 2
Good Friday	✓ Apr 3
Easter	Apr 5

Easter Monday  
St. George's Day  
Ascension  
Pentecost  
Assumption  
All Saints' Day  
All Souls Day  
First Sunday of Advent  
St. Nicholas Day  
Feast of the Immaculate Conception  
Christmas Day

Apr 6  
Apr 23  
May 14  
May 24  
Aug 15  
Nov 1  
Nov 2  
Nov 29  
Dec 6  
Dec 8  
Dec 25  
Dec 25

## Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox

Coptic & Eastern Orthodox (Julian) Calendar

Christmas  
New Year - Eastern Orthodox  
Timkat / Theophany  
Clean Monday (Great Lent Begins)  
Maundy Thursday  
Holy Friday  
Pasha/Easter  
Easter Monday  
Pentecost

Jan 7  
Jan 14  
Jan 19  
Feb 23  
Apr 9  
Apr 10  
Apr 12  
Apr 13  
May 31

## Christian - Mormon

Organization of The Church  
Pioneer Day  
Joseph Smith's Birthday

Apr 6  
Jul 24  
Dec 23

## Hindu

Lohri  
Makar Sankranti  
Basant Panchami  
Shivratri  
Holi  
Ram Navami  
Baisakhi  
Guru Purnima  
Raksha Bandhan  
Janmashtami  
Ganesh Chaturthi  
Navratri  
Durga Puja  
Dussehra  
Karva Chauth  
Diwali

Jan 13  
Jan 14  
Jan 23  
Feb 15  
Mar 3  
Mar 26  
Apr 14  
Jul 29  
Aug 28  
Sep 4  
Sep 14  
Oct 11  
Oct 18  
Oct 20  
Oct 29  
Nov 9

✓ THE MOST IMPORTANT DATES TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN SCHEDULING MEETINGS AND EVENTS AT WORK. SOME FORM OF ACCOMMODATION FOR RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES MAY BE REQUIRED.



## Islam

Dates are subject to sighting of moon

Ramadan Begins  
Laylat al-Qadr  
Eid-ul-Fitr  
Day of Hajj (Day of Arafat)  
Eid-ul-Adha  
1st Muharram - Islamic New Year  
Ashura  
Eid-Maulad-un-Nabi

Feb 18  
Mar 15  
Mar 20  
May 26  
May 27  
Jun 16  
Jun 26  
Aug 26

## Islam Ismaili

Imamat Day  
Now Ruz (New Year)

Feb 4  
Mar 21



Mahavira Jayanti  
Guru Purnima  
Paryushana-Parva  
Samvatsari  
Dashalakshani-Parva  
Ananta-Chaturdasi  
Ksamatvani  
Mahavira Nirvana  
Lokashah Jayanti

Mar 31  
Jul 29  
Sep 9-16  
Sep 16  
Sep 16  
Sep 25  
Sep 26  
Nov 8  
Nov 24

## Shinto



Gantan-Sai  
Shunki-Sorei-Sai  
Oh-Harai-Taisai  
Shuki sorei sai  
Tohji-Tasai

Jan 1  
Mar 20  
Jul 30  
Sep 22  
Dec 22



## Sikh

The old lunar calendar is Bikarami; the new solar calendar is Nanakshahi. The dates below are mostly Nanakshahi unless otherwise indicated

Guru Gobind Singh's Birthday  
Lohri  
Holi  
Hola Mohalla (Bikarami)  
Baisakhi  
Martydom of Guru Arjan Dev  
Diwali  
Guru Nanak's Birthday (Bikarami)  
Martyrdom of Guru Teg Bahadur

Jan 5  
Jan 13  
Mar 3  
Mar 4  
Apr 14  
Jun 16  
Nov 8  
Nov 24  
Nov 24

## Wicca



Imbolg  
Eostre  
Beltane  
Litha  
Lugnasad  
Mabon  
Samhain  
Yule

Feb 2  
Mar 20  
May 1  
Jun 21  
Aug 1  
Sep 22  
Oct 31  
Dec 22



## Zoroastrian

Sadeh  
Gahambar Hamaspathermaedem Mar  
Now Ruz (New Year)  
Birth Of Prophet Zarathustra (Fasli)  
Gahambar Maidyozarem  
Gahambar Maidyoshem  
Fravardeghan  
Now Ruz (Shenshai)  
Birth of Prophet Zarathustra (Shenshai)  
Gahambar Paitishahem  
Mehragan  
Gahambar Ayathrem  
Death of Prophet Zarathustra  
Gahambar Maidyarem

Jan 30  
16-20  
Mar 21  
Mar 26  
Apr 30-May 4  
Jun 29-Jul 3  
Aug 8-17  
Aug 15  
Aug 24  
Sep 12-16  
Oct 2  
Oct 12-16  
Dec 26  
Dec 31-Jan 4

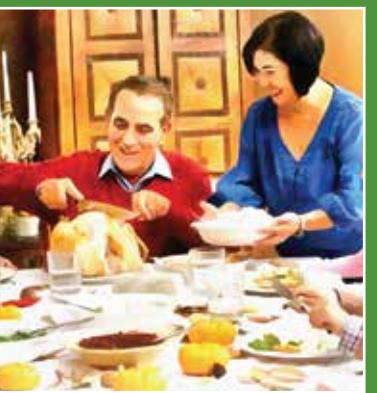
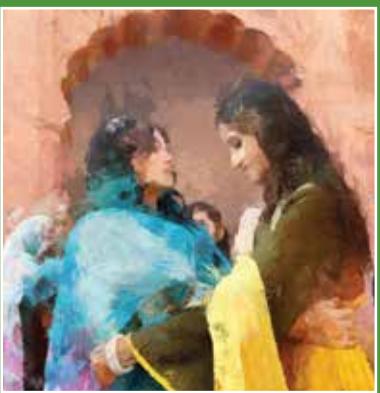
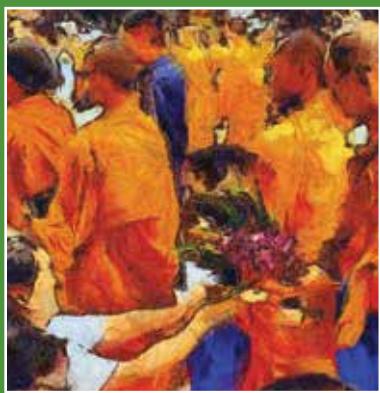
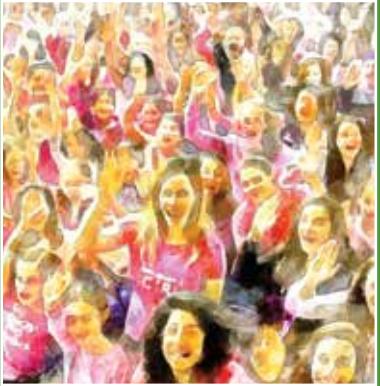
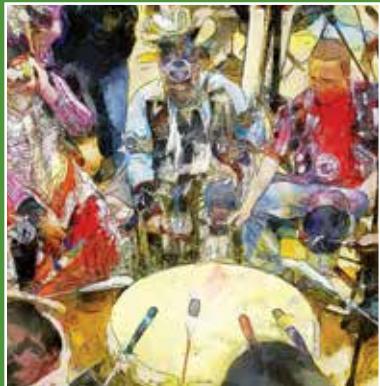


All holy days begin at previous sundown  
\*Some Jews may abstain from work

Tu B'Shevat (Arbor Day)  
Purim  
Pesach /Passover  
Yom HaShoah  
Lag BaOmer  
Shavuot  
Tish'a B'Av  
Rosh Hashana  
Yom Kippur  
Sukkot  
Simchat Torah  
Shemini Atzeret  
Hannukah

Feb 1  
Mar 3  
Apr 2-9  
Apr 14  
May 5  
May 22-23  
Jul 23  
Sep 12-13  
Sep 21  
Sep 26 - Oct 2  
Oct 3  
Oct 4  
Dec 4-12

Country Index		Canada - Indigenous		Dominican Republic		India		Kirin Kansa No Hi		Nepal		Saudi Arabia		Uganda	
Afghanistan	Louis Riel Day	Feb 16	Independence Day	Feb 27	Pongol	Jan 14	Kirin Kansa No Hi	Nov 23	Ugadi	Mar 19	Unification Day	Sep 23	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Nowruz (New Year)	Indigenous Peoples Day	Jun 21	National Day of Truth and Reconciliation Canada	Sep 30	Our Lady of Las Mercedes	Feb 24	Omisoka	Dec 31	Republic Day	May 27	Scotland	United Kingdom	United Kingdom	Feb 14	
Independence Day	Independence Day	Aug 19	Canada	Ecuador	Constitution Day	Oct 6	Makar Sankranti	Jan 14	Dussehra	Oct 20	New Year's Bank Holiday	Jan 2	Valentine's Day	Feb 14	
African-American/Canadian	African-American/Canadian	Independence Day	Independence Day	Egypt	Simon Bolivar Day	Jul 24	Independence Day	Jan 26	Independence Day	Apr 27	Robert Burns' Night	Jan 25	Mothering Sunday	Mar 15	
Kwanzaa	Albania	Dec 26	Groundhog Day	Feb 2	Independence Day	Aug 10	Thaipoosam Cavadee	Feb 1	Kazakhstan	May 4	Summer Bank Holiday	Aug 3	Pancake Tuesday	Mar 17	
Independence Day	Independence Day	Nov 28	Boy Scout Day	Feb 8	Independence Day	Aug 15	Songkran/New Year	Mar 19	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	St. Andrew's Day	Nov 30	April Fools' Day	Apr 1	
Albania	Algeria	Revolution Day	Valentine's Day	Feb 14	Abu Simbel Festival	Oct 6	Independence Day	Apr 14	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	Hogmanay	Dec 31	Trooping The Colour	Jun 13	
Revolution Day	Revolution Day	Nov 1	National Flag Day	Feb 15	Armed Forces Day	Oct 22	Independence Day	Aug 15	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	Independence Day - Senegal	Apr 4	Father's Day	Jun 21	
Antigua & Barbuda	Argentina	Independence Day	Family Day	Feb 16	Abu Simbel Festival	Oct 24	Jamhuri (Independence Day)	Mar 19	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	Independence Day	Feb 15	Summer Bank Holiday	Aug 24	
Independence Day	Argentina	Nov 1	Girl Guides Thinking Day	Feb 22	Suez Victory Day	Oct 24	Kartini Day	Apr 14	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	Guy Fawkes Day	Nov 5	Remembrance Day	Nov 11	
Antigua & Barbuda	Argentina	Anti-Bullying Day	Anti-Bullying Day	Feb 25	Independence Day	Oct 24	Independence Day	Aug 17	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	Boxing Day	Dec 26	Boxing Day	Dec 26	
Argentina	Argentina	Revolution Day	Girl Scout Day	Mar 12	England	Sep 15	International	Jan 1	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Independence Day	Argentina	May 25	April Fools' Day	Mar 12	England	Apr 1	New Year's Day	Feb 14	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Independence Day	Argentina	Independence Day	Day of Respect for Cultural Diversity	Jul 9	England	Apr 22	Mothering Sunday	Mar 15	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Day of Respect for Cultural Diversity	Argentina	Oct 12	Admin. Professionals Day	Apr 22	England	Apr 22	Pancake Tuesday	Mar 17	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
National Sovereignty Day	Armenia	National Sovereignty Day	Mother's Day	May 10	England	Mar 17	World Day Of Prayer	Mar 17	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
National Sovereignty Day	Armenia	Oct 20	Trooping The Colour	May 10	England	Mar 17	Spring Equinox	Jun 13	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Martyrs Day	Armenia	Apr 24	Day of the Patriots-Quebec	May 18	England	Mar 17	Int'l Day of the Francophonie	Aug 24	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Independence Day	Armenia	Sep 21	Father's Day	May 18	England	Mar 17	Summer Bank Holiday	Aug 24	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Aruba	Aruba	Flag Day	Multiculturalism Day	Jun 21	Eritrea	May 1	Day of Pink	Nov 5	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Aruba	Aruba	Mar 18	Canada Day	Jun 21	Eritrea	May 1	Remembrance Day	Nov 11	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Aruba	Aruba	Australia	Civic Holiday	Jul 1	Eritrea	May 1	Boxing Day	Dec 26	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Australia	Australia	Australia Day	Hiroshima Day	Aug 3	Eritrea	May 23	World Red Cross Day	May 1	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Australia	Australia	Harmony Day	St. Jean Baptiste Day (Quebec)	Aug 6	Eritrea	May 23	African Liberation Day	May 8	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Australia	Australia	Anzac Day	Labour Day	Aug 24	Eritrea	May 23	Int'l Non-Binary Peoples Day	May 14	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Australia	Australia	National Sorry Day	National Day of Truth and Reconciliation	Sep 1	Eritrea	Jun 14	Independence Day	Jun 21	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Australia	Australia	NAIDOC	Reconciliation	Sep 30	Eritrea	Jun 14	Summer Solstice	Jun 21	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Australia	Australia	Remembrance Day	Victoria Day	May 10	Eritrea	Jun 14	Transgender Day of Visibility	Mar 22	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Austria	Austria	Take Our Kids to Work	Fiji Day	Oct 12	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Int'l Day Against Homophobia	Mar 25	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Austria	Austria	National Day	Remembrance Day	Oct 26	Ethiopia	Jun 14	International Men's Day	Mar 20	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Azerbaijan	Azerbaijan	Martyrs' Memorial Day	St. Catherine's Day	Nov 4	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Solstice	Dec 21	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Azerbaijan	Azerbaijan	Republic Day	Boxing Day	Nov 25	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Iran	Jan 10	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Bahamas	Bahamas	Independence Day	Cayman Islands	Jan 20	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Sadeh	Jan 30	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Bahamas	Bahamas	Labour Day	Channel Islands	Oct 18	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Independence Day	Feb 28	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Bahrain	Bahrain	Independence Day	Independence Day	Jul 1	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Republic Day	Mar 1	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Bangladesh	Bangladesh	Bangladesh	China	Feb 11	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Ireland	Jan 25	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Bangladesh	Bangladesh	Independence Day	Independence Day	Feb 17	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Robert Burns' Night	Jan 31	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Barbados	Barbados	Bijoy Dibash	Chile	May 9	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Bastille Day	Mar 15	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Barbados	Barbados	Independence Day	Dragon Boat Festival	May 21	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Armistice Day	Nov 11	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Belgium	Belgium	Independence Day	Mid Autumn Festival	Jun 19	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Mothering Sunday	Mar 25	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Bermuda	Bermuda	Bermuda Day	St. Peter and Paul Day	Dec 26	Ethiopia	Jun 14	St. Patrick's Day	Mar 17	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Bhutan	Bhutan	Independence Day	Independence Day	Oct 1	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Battle of Boyne	Jul 12	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Bolivia	Bolivia	Independence Day	Chung Yeung Festival	Oct 18	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Summer Bank Holiday	Aug 24	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Bosnia	Bosnia	Independence Day	Independence Day	Oct 26	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Independence Day	Oct 26	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Brazil	Brazil	Brazil	Independence Day	Oct 26	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Independence Day	Oct 26	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Cambodia	Cambodia	Songkran/New Year	Independence Day	Aug 6	Ethiopia	Jun 14	St. Basil's Day	Jan 1	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Cameroon	Cameroon	Independence Day	Independence Day	Mar 1	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Greek Education Day	Jan 30	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Canada	Canada	Canada - Indigenous	Independence Day	Mar 17	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Evangelismou	Mar 25	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Curacao	Curacao	Curacao	Independence Day	Oct 10	Ethiopia	Jun 14	National Day 'Ochi'	Oct 28	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Cuba	Cuba	Independence Day	Independence Day	Jul 26	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Independence Day	Jul 20	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Croatia	Croatia	Croatia	Independence Day	Oct 8	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Independence Day	Oct 18	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Haiti	Haiti	Haiti	Independence Day	Oct 8	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Independence Day	Oct 18	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Japan	Japan	Japan	Independence Day	May 26	Ethiopia	Jun 14	National Heroes Day	Oct 16	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Japan	Japan	Japan	Independence Day	Jan 1	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Gantan-Sai	Jan 1	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Japan	Japan	Japan	Independence Day	Dec 5	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Sejin No Hi	Jan 12	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Japan	Japan	Japan	Independence Day	Feb 11	Ethiopia	Jun 14	National Foundation Day	Feb 11	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Japan	Japan	Japan	Independence Day	Feb 15	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Heisei Emperor's Birthday	Feb 23	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Japan	Japan	Japan	Independence Day	Feb 17	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Shunbun no hi	Feb 23	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Japan	Japan	Japan	Independence Day	Jun 19	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Midori No Hi	Feb 29	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Japan	Japan	Japan	Independence Day	Jul 1	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Showa no hi	Mar 3	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Japan	Japan	Japan	Independence Day	Sep 26	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Constitution Day	Sep 26	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Japan	Japan	Japan	Independence Day	Oct 1	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Kodomo No Hi	Oct 1	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Japan	Japan	Japan	Independence Day	Oct 18	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Tanabata	Oct 1	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Japan	Japan	Japan	Independence Day	Jul 7	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Umi no hi	Jul 7	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Japan	Japan	Japan	Independence Day	Aug 6	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Hiroshima Day	Aug 6	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Japan	Japan	Japan	Independence Day	Sep 14	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Keiro No Hi	Sep 14	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Japan	Japan	Japan	Independence Day	Sep 22	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Shuki sorei sai	Sep 22	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Japan	Japan	Japan	Independence Day	Oct 12	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Taiku no hi	Oct 12	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Japan	Japan	Japan	Independence Day	Nov 17	Ethiopia	Jun 14	Shichi-Go-San	Nov 15	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Jordan	Jordan	Jordan	Independence Day	Jan 14	Ecuador	Jan 14	Independence Day	Jan 14	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Kazakhstan	Kazakhstan	Kazakhstan	Independence Day	Jan 26	Ecuador	Jan 14	Thaipoosam Cavadee	Feb 1	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Kenya	Kenya	Kenya	Independence Day	Mar 19	Ecuador	Jan 14	Republic Day	Mar 19	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Korea	Korea	Korea	Independence Day	Apr 14	Ecuador	Jan 14	Korean Liberation Day	Apr 14	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Korea	Korea	Korea	Independence Day	Aug 17	Ecuador	Jan 14	Chuseok	Aug 17	Kirin Kansa No Hi	May 5	UAE	Dec 1	Independence Day	Oct 9	
Korea	Korea	K													



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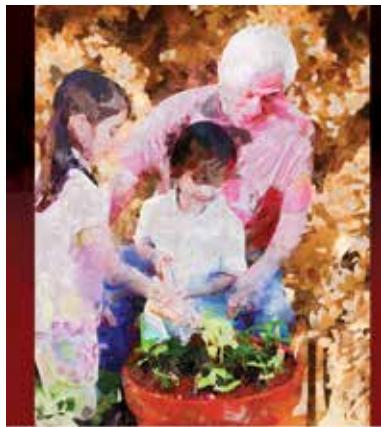


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