



fresh^{and} fearless

Key Cultural Dates

Autumn 2020/21

October 2020

Black History Month begins

- 2nd** **Feast of the Guardian Angels** [Christian]
- 3rd** **Sukkot:** Commemorates the years that the Jews spent in the desert on their way to the Promised Land, and celebrates the way in which God protected them under difficult desert conditions [Judaism]
- 4th** **Saint Francis' Day** [Christian]
- 9th** **Birthday of Guru Ram Das:** He was the fourth of the Ten Gurus of Sikhism [Sikhism]
- 9th - 11th** **Shemini Atzeret + 10 - 11th - Simchat Torah** [Judaism]
- 16th** **World Food Day**
- 17th** **Navarati Begins** [Hinduism]
- 18th** **Feast of St. Luke:** Evangelist [Christian]
- 25th** **Vijayadashami / Dussehra:** A Hindu celebration [Hinduism]
- 28/29th** **Mawlid** or Mawlid al-Nabi al-Sharif is the observance of the birthday of Islamic prophet Muhammad [Islam]
- 31st** **Reformation Day** [Christian]

November 2020

Islamophobia Awareness Month Begins

- 1st** **All Saints' Day** [Christian]
- 2nd** **All Souls Day** [Christian]
- 2nd** **Coronation of Emperor Haile Selassie** [Rastafari]
- 5th** **National Stress Awareness Day (NSAD)**
- 10th - 17th** **Inter Faith Week**
- 11th** **Armistice Day**
- 14th** **Diwali/Deepavali** [Hinduism/Sikhism/Jainism]

- 14th** **Bandi Chhor Divas** [Sikhism]
- 15th** **Nativity Fast begins** [Christian]
- 20th** **Transgender Day of Remembrance**
- 21st** **Presentation of the Theotokos** [Christian]
- 22nd** **Feast of Christ the King** [Christian]
- 24th** **Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur** [Sikhism]
- 29th** **Advent Sunday** [Christian]
- 30th** **Saint Andrew's Day** [Christian]
- 30th** **Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev** [Sikhism]

December 2020

- 3rd** **International Day of Persons with Disabilities**
- 6th** **Saint Nicholas' Day** [Christian]
- 8th** **Feast of the Immaculate Conception** [Christian]
- 8th** **Rohatsu: the anniversary of the Buddha's Enlightenment** [Buddhism]
- 10th** **Human Rights Day**
- 10th - 18th** **Hanukkah/Chanukah** [Judaism]
- 12th** **Feast Day of our Lady Guadalupe** [Christian]
- 24th** **Christmas Eve** [Christian]
- 25th** **Christmas Day** [Christian]
- 26th** **Saint Stephen's Day** [Christian]

January 2021

- 4th** **World Braille Day**
- 5th** **Twelfth Night** [Christian]

- 10th** **Baptism of Jesus** [Christian]
- 11th** **Seijin no Hi/Coming of Age Day:** Congratulates and encourages all those who have reached the age of maturity (20 years old) over the past year and celebrates adulthood [Shinto]
- 13th** **Lohri - Maghi** [Sikhism/Hinduism]
- 14th** **Hindu Harvest festival** [Hinduism]
- 20th** **Guru Gobind Singh Jayanti:** Sikh festival that commemorates the birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Ji, the tenth Guru of the Sikhs. [Sikhism]
- 20th** **Bodhi Day The enlightenment of Gautama Buddha** [Buddhism]
- 24th** **International Day of Education:** The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 24 January as International Day of Education, in celebration of the role of education for peace and development
- 25th** **Robert Burns Night** [Scottish Holiday]
- 27th - 28th** **Tu B'Shevat** [Judaism]
- 28th** **Mahayana New Year** [Buddhism]
- 28th** **Thaipusam:** A festival celebrated by the Tamil community on the full moon in the Tamil month [Hinduism]

February 2021

- 2nd** **Candlemas** [Christian]
- 3rd** **Setsubun** [Shinto]
- 8th** **World Opera Day**
- 12th** **Chinese New Year:** The Year of the Ox
- 13th** **World Hijab Day:** Recognition of millions of Muslim women who choose to wear the hijab
- 15th** **Nirvana Day:** Commemorate Buddha's death and his entry into Nirvana [Buddhism]
- 16th** **Vasant Panchami:** A festival dedicated to the Goddess Saraswati, the goddess of knowledge, language, music and all arts [Hinduism]
- 17th** **Ash Wednesday** [Christian]

25th **Guru Harrai Jayant:** Seventh of ten Gurus of the Sikh religion [Sikhism]

25th - 26th **Purim** [Judaism]

March 2021

3rd **World Hearing Day**

8th **International Women's Day**

11th **Lailat al Miraj** [Islam]

11th **Maha Shivaratri** [Hinduism]

17th **Saint Patrick's Day**

19th **Saint Joseph Day** [Christian]

20th **Naw-Rúz The Bahá'í New Year** [Bahá'í]

21st **World Down Syndrome Day**

27th **Passover (Pesach)** [Judaism]

28th **Magha Puja:** A historical meeting was held between the Buddha and his first 1,250 disciples [Buddhism]

28th - 29th **Holika Dahan/Holi Festival** [Hinduism]

28th - 29th **Laylat al Bara'at** [Islam]

29th **Hola Mohalla:** A Sikh festival which includes mock battles, exhibitions, display of weapons, etc., are held followed by kirtan, music and poetry competitions [Sikhism]

April 2021

2nd **World Autism Day**

2nd **Good Friday**

4th **Last Day of Passover** [Judaism]

4th **Easter Sunday**

5th **Easter Monday**

- 8th** **Yom HaShoah:** Many people in the UK commemorate the murder of about 6 million Jews during the Holocaust [Judaism]
- 8th** **Birthday of Buddha** [Buddhism]
- 12th** **Hindi New Year**
- 13th** **Hindi New Year**
- 14th** **Vaisakhi:** Commemorates the formation of Khalsa panth of warriors under Guru Gobind Singh in 1699 [Hinduism/Sikhism]
- 14th** **Tamil New Year**
- 15th** **Bengali New Year**
- 15th** **Yom HaZikaron** [Judaism]
- 20th** **First Day of Ridván** [Bahá'í]
- 21st** **Rama Navami:** Celebration of the birth of Lord Rama [Hinduism]
- 23rd** **Saint George's Day** [Christian]
- 25th** **Mahavir Jayanti** [Jainism]
- 26th** **Hanuman Jayanti** [Hinduism]
- 29th** **Lag B'Omer** [Judaism]

May 2021

- 1st** **Guru Tegh Bahadur Jayanti** [Sikhism]
- 8th/9th** **Laylatul Qadr (Night of Power)** [Islam]
- 11th** **Ramadan Ends** [Islam]
- 13th** **Eid ul Fitr** [Islam]
- 14th** **Akshaya Tritiya** [Hinduism/Jainism]
- 16th - 18th** **Shavuot** [Judaism]
- 16th - 22nd** **Mental Health Week**
- 17th** **International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia**
- 26th** **Vesak/Buddha Day** [Buddhism]

28th Shavuot [Judaism]

30th Trinity Sunday [Christian]

June 2021

Pride Month

11th Sacred Heart of Jesus

22nd Windrush Day

24th Nativity of Saint John the Baptist [Christian]

29th Feast of Saints Peter and Paul [Christian]

July 2021

11th Ratha Yatra [Hinduism]

17th - 18th Tisha B'Av [Judaism]

18th - 19th Waqf al Arafa: Hajj pilgrimage [Islam]

24th Guru Purnima [Hinduism]

20th Eid ul Adha [Islam]

August 2021

10th Muharram/Islamic New Year [Islam]

13th Nag Panchami: Women worship Nag Devta and offer milk to snakes on this day [Hinduism]

13th - 15th Obon: Honours the spirits of one's ancestors [Buddhism]

15th Assumption of Mary [Christian]

19th Ashura [Islam]

20th Varalakshmi Vrat [Hinduism]

- 22nd** **Raksha Bandhan:** Celebration of any brother-sister like relationship [Hinduism]
- 30th** **Janmashtami:** Celebration of the birth of Krishna [Hinduism]

September 2021

- 6th - 8th** **Rosh Hashanah:** Jewish New Year [Judaism]
- 8th** **The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary:** The Nativity of Mary, or the Birth of the Virgin Mary, refers to a Christian feast day celebrating the birth of Mary, mother of Jesus [Christian]
- 10th** **World Suicide Prevention Day**
- 14th** **Feast of the Cross** [Christian]
- 15th - 16th** **Yom Kippur:** Yom Kippur is the "Day of Atonement" in the Jewish religion [Judaism]
- 19th** **Anant Chaturdashi:** Hindus and Jains celebrate Lord Vishnu and show their devotion with the Anant Chaturdashi festival [Hinduism/Jainism]
- 21st** **International Day of Peace**
- 26th** **World Deaf Day**
- 29th** **Michaelmas** [Christian]



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