

# Select Cultural & Religious Dates: August 2009 - June 2010

The following dates are presented in rough relation to one another and according to their spacing throughout the year.

	Civil/Secular/Cultural	Jewish	Muslim <sup>1</sup>	Christian
<b>AUG</b>			8/21/09 – Ramadan begins after sighting of the crescent moon [--but see note <sup>1</sup> ]	
<b>SEP</b>	9/7/09 – Labor Day	9/18/09 – Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown: New Year 5770 [two-day holiday] 9/27/09 – Yom Kippur begins at sundown	9/20/09 – Ramadan ends / Eid al-Fitr, the Breaking of the Ramadan Fast [--but see note <sup>1</sup> ]	
<b>OCT</b>	10/12/09 – Columbus Day	10/2/09 – Sukkot begins at sundown [the first two days are a special holiday] <sup>2</sup> 10/9/09 – Shemini Atzeret begins at sundown <sup>3</sup> 10/10/09 – Simhat Torah begins at sundown <sup>3</sup>		
<b>NOV</b>	11/11/09 – Veterans' Day (obs.) 11/26/09 – Thanksgiving Day		11/26/09 – Eid al-Adha (culmination of the Hajj)	11/29/09 – 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent (by the Gregorian calendar)
<b>DEC</b>	12/1/09 – World AIDS Day  12/26/09 – Kwanzaa begins (seven days)	12/11/09 – Hanukkah begins at sundown 12/19/09 – Last day of Hanukkah	12/17/09 – New Year 1431 begins after crescent moon sighting	12/25/09 – Christmas (by the Gregorian calendar)
<b>JAN</b>	1/1/10 – New Year 2010 CE  1/18/10 – Martin Luther King Jr's birthday holiday [Note: the 15 <sup>th</sup> is the <i>actual</i> birthday]			1/7/10 – Christmas/Feast of the Nativity (by the <i>Julian</i> calendar)
<b>FEB</b>	2/14/10 – Chinese New Year 4708 2/15/10 – Presidents' Day	2/27/10 – Purim begins at sundown		2/17/10 – Ash Wednesday / Lenten season begins (by the Gregorian calendar) 3/28/10 – Palm Sunday / Holy Week begins (by the Gregorian calendar)
<b>MAR</b>		3/29/10 – Pesah (Passover) begins at sundown / 1 <sup>st</sup> Seder [the first two days are a special holiday] <sup>2</sup>		
<b>APR</b>	4/10-11/10 – Holocaust Remembrance  5/5/10 – Cinco de Mayo 5/9/10 – Mothers' Day	4/4/10 - 4/6/10 – Last days of Pesah [the last two days are a special holiday] <sup>2</sup> 4/10/09 – Yom ha-Shoah [day begins at sundown]		4/4/10 – Easter Sunday (by both the Gregorian and Julian calendars)
<b>MAY</b>	5/31/10 – Memorial Day	5/18/10 – Shavuot begins at sundown [two-day holiday] <sup>2</sup>		5/23/10 – Pentecost (by the Gregorian calendar)
<b>JUN</b>	6/20/10 – Fathers' Day			

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7/28/10 (corrected)

<sup>1</sup> The tradition of Islamic festivals beginning only with the authoritative sighting of the crescent moon means that all dates given ahead of time should be considered approximate. The prognostication of festival dates is considered by some to be presumptuous.

<sup>2</sup> Most Reform and Reconstructionist Jews and Jews in Israel observe one day of these special holidays. Orthodox and Conservative Jews in the US observe two days. [Note by Rabbi Robert Tabak]

<sup>3</sup> Simhat Torah begins on 10/9/09, at the same time as Shemini Atzeret, for most Reform and Reconstructionist Jews and for most Jews in Israel; however, for Orthodox and Conservative Jews, it begins at sundown on 10/10/08. [Note by Rabbi Susan Schein, with dates revised]