

Interfaith Calendar 2010

At Northumbria University, we are committed to developing a greater understanding and awareness of the diversity of our student group. This includes the religions that our staff and students may follow. This calendar has been developed to help readers familiarise themselves with the significant dates in the five faiths that statistics indicate are the more popular in the university and local community: Sikhism, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and Christianity.

We recognise that there are many more faiths followed within our university and we encourage readers to familiarise themselves with these. This can be done by consulting our main source of information, the interfaith calendar: **Source:**

<http://www.interfaithcalendar.org>

JANUARY 2010

Date	Faith	Description
5	Sikh	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Tenth and last of the Gurus
6	Christian	Epiphany The recognition of Jesus by the Three Kings (Eastern Orthodox Christmas)

FEBRUARY 2010

Date	Faith	Description
12	Hindu	Maha Shivaratri A Hindu festival in honour of Lord Shiva
17	Christian	Ash Wednesday Christian observance to begin the forty day season of Lent
26	Muslim	Mawlid an Nabi The Prophet Muhammad's Birthday
28	Jewish	Purim Feast of Esther – celebration of the deliverance of the Jewish people from genocide in Persia

MARCH 2010

Date	Faith	Description
1	Hindu	Holi Spring festival dedicated to the god of pleasure
2	Sikh	Hola Mohalla A Sikh day when mock battles are fought and martial arts are displayed
30-6 April	Jewish	Pesach Passover – celebration lasting several days recalling the deliverance of the Jews from slavery in Egypt

APRIL 2010

Date	Faith	Description
2	Christian	Good Friday Part of Holy Week – the Crucifixion of Jesus is remembered
4	Christian	Easter Sunday Christians celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus
14	Sikh	Baisakhi Sikh New Year Festival

MAY 2010

Date	Faith	Description
19-20	Jewish	Shavuot Jewish celebration of Moses' descent from Mount Sinai with the Ten Commandments
23	Christian	Pentecost/Whit Sunday Christian observation of the day the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples

JUNE 2010

Date	Faith	Description
16	Sikh	Matyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev Sikh time of remembering those who have suffered for the faith

JULY 2010

Date	Faith	Description
8/9	Muslim	Lailat al Miraj Islamic observance of Muhammad's night journey from Mecca to Jerusalem
20	Jewish	Tisha B'Av A day of mourning for the destruction of the first and second Temples

AUGUST 2010

Date	Faith	Description
11	Muslim	Ramadan The holiest month of the Islamic year - devoted to the commemoration of Muhammad's reception of the divine revelation recorded in the Qur'an. There is strict fasting from sunrise to sunset. (Ramadan ends on 10 September)

SEPTEMBER 2010

Date	Faith	Description
2	Hindu	Janmashtami Krishna's Birthday
9-10	Jewish	Rosh Hashanah Jewish New Year - time of introspection, abstinence, prayer and penitence
10	Muslim	Eid al Fitr Feast of the Breaking of the Fast – a joyous celebration marking the end of the holy month of Ramadan
11	Hindu	Ganesa Chaturthi A Hindu festival honouring the god of prosperity, prudence and success
18	Jewish	Yom Kippur Day of Atonement – this holiest day of the Jewish year is observed with strict fasting and ceremonial repentance
23-29	Jewish	Sukkot Festival of Tabernacles – Jewish celebration recalling the protection of the people of Israel in the wilderness

OCTOBER 2010

Date	Faith	Description
8-16	Hindu	Navaratri Nine Nights
17	Hindu	Dussehra A celebration to mark the victory of the popular god Rama over the demon king Ravana

NOVEMBER 2010

Date	Faith	Description
5	Hindu & Sikh	Diwali Festival of Lights – festival celebrating the human urge to move toward the light
16	Muslim	Eid al Adha Festival of Sacrifice – the most important feast in Islam. It concludes the Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca)
21	Sikh	Birthday of Guru Nanak Founder of Sikhism
24	Sikh	Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ninth Guru
28	Christian	Advent Sunday Observance marking the beginning of Advent, a season in which Christians prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ

DECEMBER 2010

Date	Faith	Description
2-9	Jewish	Hanukkah Festival of Lights – this Jewish festival commemorates the Maccabean recapture and rededication of the Jerusalem Temple
7	Muslim	Al-Hijra/Muharram Islamic New Year
25	Christian	Christmas Christian celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ

Source: <http://www.interfaithcalendar.org/>