

ISLAMIC RELIEF USA 2024 CALENDAR

ISLAMIC CALENDAR

There is rich history and symbolism for each of the 12 months of the Islamic calendar, a calendar that differs from the Gregorian calendar because it follows the lunar (moon) cycle rather than the solar (sun) cycle. For example, four of the months-Muharram, Safar, Rajab, Dhu al-Qadah-prohibit fighting and violence for various reasons. Read more to learn of the significance of each month in the Islamic calendar.

MUHARRAM

This is the first month, and its name translates to "forbidden." Its sacredness relates to being the first of four sacred months when fighting is prohibited so Muslims can return safely from Hajj. The 10th day, Ashura, commemorates key historical events.

SAFAR

Safar is the second month in the Islamic calendar and means "void" or "empty," which is in reference to how houses would be empty as people would go out to gather food and provisions. The word "Safar" has the same Arabic root letters as the word "travel."

RABIAL-AWWAL

This joyous third month marks the birth and death of Prophet Muhammad [SAW]. Rabi al-Awwal means "the first spring" or "to graze," referring to the season when cattle would graze due to the new growth of grass.

RABIAL-THANI

The name of this fourth month translates to "the second spring." Key deaths occurred during Rabi al-Thani, making it a time of mourning for some Muslims.

JUMADA AL-AWWAL

The origin of the month's name is theorized by some as coming from the word jamād meaning "arid, dry, or cold," denoting the dry and parched land and hence the dry months of the pre-Islamic Arabian calendar.

JUMADA AL-THANI

The name of this sixth month means "the last parched land," relating to Arabs scattering to find water. It was a special month for the Prophet Muhammad (SAW), as it is the month in which his most beloved daughter Sayyida Fatima Zahra (AS) was born.

RAJAB

The seventh month of the Islamic calendar is one of the four sacred months when fighting is prohibited; in this case, it was so Muslims could safely make the Umrah pilqrimage. The name Rajab means "respect" or "honor."

SHA'BAN

This eighth month is known as the month of Prophet Muhammad (SAW). Its name means "scattered," relating to the historical need to spread out to find water. Muslims often use Sha'ban to prepare for Ramadan.

RAMADAN

This ninth month is considered one of the holiest times for Muslims and is marked by fasting each day from dawn until dusk. This practice is meant to purify observers, and remind them to be compassionate and understanding of the less fortunate. It is also a time to focus on the Holy Qur'an, which was sent down on Laylatul Qadr ["Night of Power"], increase prayers and good deeds, and fulfill the pillar of zakat [almsgiving] to provide for those in need. The name "Ramadan" means "burning heat."

SHAWWAL

This tenth month starts with Eid al-Fitr, the holiday that follows Ramadan. Shawwal stems from the verb *shala* which means to 'lift or carry, generally to take or move things from one place to another, so named because a female camel normally would be carrying a fetus at this time of year.

DHU AL-QADAH

The eleventh month's name means "the month of truce." Dhu al-Qadah is the third of the sacred months that violence is forbidden, this time, to allow for the safe passage of Muslims from Mecca to Hajj (pilgrimage). Good and bad deeds are believed to carry more weight than normal during this month.

DHU AL-HIJJAH

The final, sacred month is the time when Muslims carry out the Hajj pilgrimage. Its name means "pilgrimage." Key dates this month honor Prophet Ibrahim's [AS] devotion to Allah, and the completion of the religion of Islam. Eid al-Adha is a holiday when observers celebrate the completion of Hajj, and share meat provisions with the less fortunate.

SUNNAH FASTING DAYS

Prophet Muhammad (SAW) once said, "Verily, the supplication of a fasting person is not turned away at the time of breaking fast." Remember Islamic Relief and those we serve in your prayers as you break your fast.

Fasting for Allah (SWT) holds immense rewards—just one-day's fast safeguards an observer from hell-fire for 70 years. Fasting nurtures piety, discipline, and spiritual growth, fostering a more fulfilling life. Beyond the benefits and rewards for fasting during Ramadan, the rewards of voluntary fasting bring about deep virtues and blessings throughout the year.

MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS

Fasting on Mondays and Thursdays is a practice that was observed by the Prophet (SAW). Recent studies affirm the health benefits associated with intermittent fasting, highlighting its potential to enhance metabolic rates and aid in cleansing the body.

Aishah narrated: "The Prophet used to try to fast on Mondays and Thursdays." [Tirmidhi, Nasai, and Ibn Majah]

THE WHITE DAYS

The 13th, 14th, and 15th of each lunar month, known as the "White Days," offer a chance for meritorious fasting. The Prophet [SAW] conveyed that fasting during these days accrues rewards equivalent to fasting for a lifetime.

Abdullah ibn Amr ibn al-Aas said: "The Messenger of Allah, peace be upon him, said to me: 'It is sufficient for you to fast three days every month because for every good deed you will have [the reward of] 10 like it, so that will be like fasting for a lifetime.'" [Bukhari and Muslim]

SHA'BAN

Preceding Ramadan, Sha'ban serves as a preparatory period. The Prophet [SAW] expressed his inclination towards supplementary fasting during this month.

Aisha (RA) reported: "The most beloved month to the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, for fasting was Sha'ban, then he would connect it with Ramadan."

THE SIX DAYS OF SHAWWAL

Following Ramadan, Shawwal presents an occasion to observe six days of fasting. It is believed that fasting these six days carries immense blessings, equating to a lifetime of fasting.

Abu Ayyoob reported that the Messenger of Allah [SAW] said: "Whoever fasts Ramadan and follows it with six days of Shawwal, it will be as if he fasted for a lifetime." [Muslim]

ARAFAH

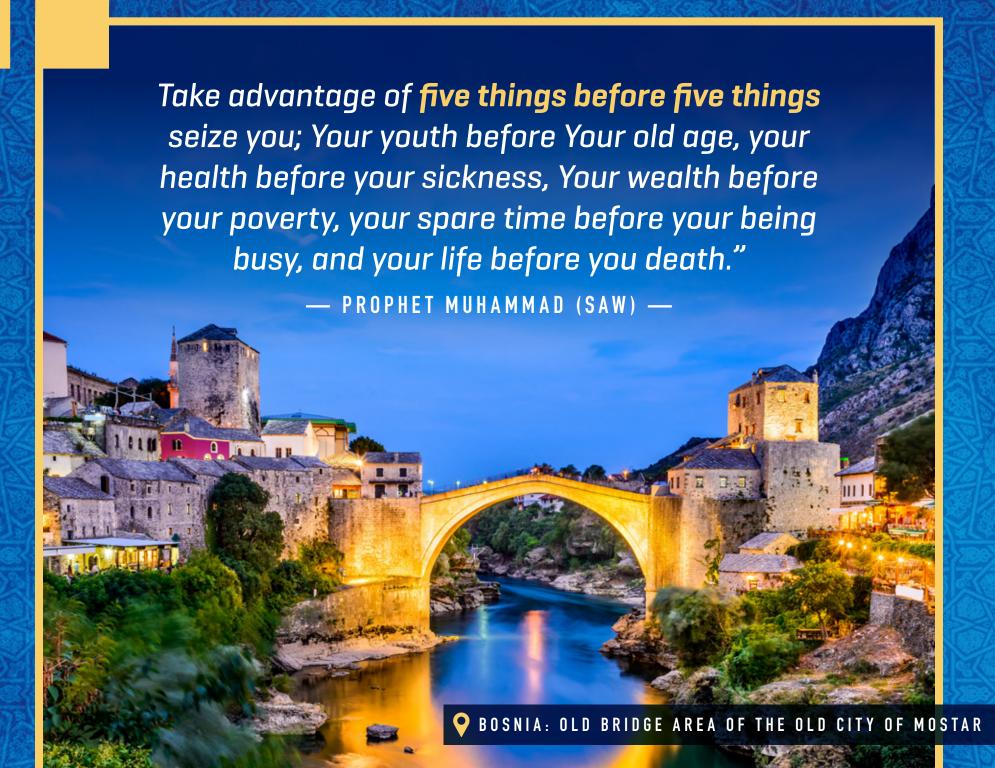
The Day of Arafah (or Waqf Arafah) is the ninth day of Dhu al-Hijjah. For those not partaking in Hajj, fasting the initial nine days of Dhu al-Hijjah is recommended, with particular emphasis on the Day of Arafah. This day serves as an expiation for sins from the preceding and current years.

Abu Qatadah reported: "The Messenger of Allah, peace be upon him, was asked about the observance of fasting on the day of Arafah. He said, 'It is an expiation for the sins of the preceding year and the current year.'"
[Muslim]

DAY OF ASHURA

The 10th of Muharram commemorates the salvation of Prophet Musa [AS] and his followers. It stands as an important day for fasting, and the Prophet [SAW] recommended fasting Ashura and the day before it.

Ibn Abbas was asked about fasting on the day of Ashura, whereupon he said: "I do not know Allah's Messenger, peace be upon him, singling out any day's fast and considering it more excellent than another, except this day [the day of Ashura] and this month, meaning the month of Ramadan." [Muslim]



JANUARY

• Jumada Al-Akhirah 1445 Rajab 1445

SU		M	T	W		TH		F		SA
	₩₩ Ne	1 ew Year's Day	2	3		4		5		6
		19	20	21		22		23		24
7		8	9	10	##	11		12	(13
25		26	27	28		29		30		1st Rajab
14	1	15 MLK Jr. Day	16	17		18		19		20
2		3	4	5		6		7		8
21	##	22	23	24 Int. Day of Education	#	25		26		27
9		10	11	12		White Days 13	Whi	ite Days 14		White Days 15
28	##	29	30	31						
16		17	18	19						

NOTES	
	Important Islamic Dates
	€ New Moon
	Sunnah Fasts

DON'T PROCRASTINATE

Beware of procrastination for you are (in) today and not (in) tomorrow. If there is a tomorrow for you, be tomorrow as you are today. If there isn't a tomorrow for you, you will grievously regret the opportunity you missed today."

— PROPHET MUHAMMAD (SAW) —



FEBRUARY

• Rajab 1445 Shaban 1445

	SU		M	T	W		TH	F		SA	
							1	2		3	
							20	21		22	
	4		5	6	7	₩ 4	8	9		10	
	23		24	25	26		Isra and Mi'raj 27	28		29	
C	11		12	13	14 Ash Wednesday Valentine's Day		15	16		17	
15	st Shaban		2	3	4		5	6		7	
	18	**	19 Presidents' Day	20 World Day of Social Justice	21		22	23		24	
	8		9	10	11		12	White D	ays	White Da 14	ays
##	25		26	27	28		29				
١	White Days 15		16	17	18		19				
	NOTES								l slam	ic Holidays	
									 Impo	rtant Islamic I	Dates
									€ New	Moon	
									W Sunn	ah Fasts	

DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME

Know that in you are two (dangerous) qualities; laughing at something not amusing and laziness when not tired."

— PROPHET MUHAMMAD (SAW) —



• Shaban 1445 Ramadan 1445

MARCH

SU	М	T	W	TH	F	SA
					1 Women's History Month	2
					20	21
3	World Wildlife Day	5	6	7	8 Intl. Women's Day	9
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10	L 11	12	13	14	15	16
29	1st Ramadan	2	3	4	5	6
17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20	21	22 World Water Day	23
7	8	9	10	11	12	White Days 13
24 Palm Sunday	25	26	27	28	29 Good Friday	30
White Days 14	White Days 15	16	17	18	19	20
31 Easter	NOTES				i Islami	c Holidays
					+ Impor	tant Islamic Dates
21					New N	Moon
					Sunna Sunna	ah Fasts

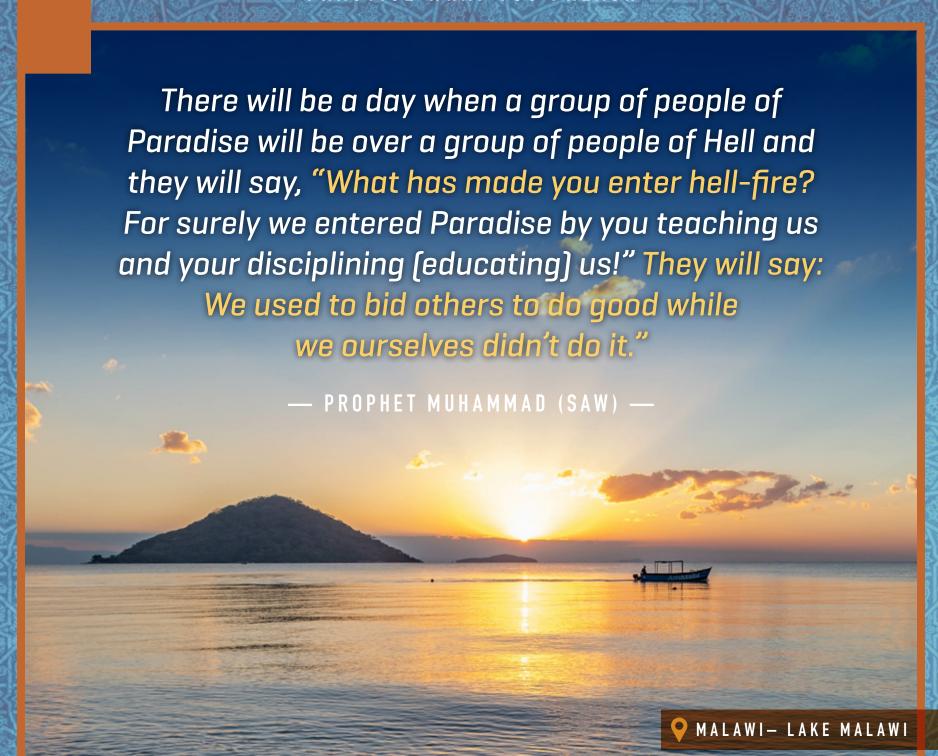
When you are asked of some knowledge you know not of say, 'I do not know!' You will be saved of its consequences. Don't make judgment of that which you haven't knowledge."

— PROPHET MUHAMMAD (SAW) —

• Ramadan 1445 Shawwal 1445

APRIL

SU	M	T		W		TH		F		SA
	1 Volunteer Month	2		3		4	•	5		6
	22	23		24		25		Laylat al-Qadr 26		27
7 World Health Day	8	9	1	10		11		12		13
28	29	30	1s	Eid al-Fitr t Shawwal		2		3		4
14 Volunteer Week Starts	15 Tax Day	16		17		18		19	Voluni	20 teer Week Ends
5	6	7		8		9		10		11
21	22 Earth Day	23 Passover		24	44	25 World Malaria Day		26		27
12	White Days 13	White Days 14	1	White Days 15		16		17		18
28	29	30								
19	20	21								
NOTES								i Islam	nic Holid	ays
										lamic Dates
								New	Moon	
								Sunr	nah Fast	ts



• Shawwal 1445 Dhul Qadah 1445

MAY

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
			1	Nat. Day of Prayer	3 Orthodox Good Friday	4
			22	23	24	25
5 Cinco de Mayo Orthodox Easter	6	7	8	*** C 9	10	11
26	27	28	29	1st Dhul Qadah	2	3
12 Mother's Day	13	14	15	16	17	18
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
11	12	White Days 13	White Days 14	White Days 15	16	17
26	27 Memorial Day	28	29	30	31	
18	19	20	21	22	23	
NOTES						c Holidays tant Islamic Dates
					€ New M	Moon
					Sunna Sunna	ah Fasts

DON'T BELITTLE YOUR SINS

Surely the believer sees his sin as if it is a boulder, he fears that it will fall on him and surely the unbeliever sees his sin as if it is a fly passing on his nose. Surely Allah (SWT), when He wills good for a servant he puts his sins before his two eyes. When he wills bad for a servant he makes him forget his sins."

— PROPHET MUHAMMAD (SAW) —



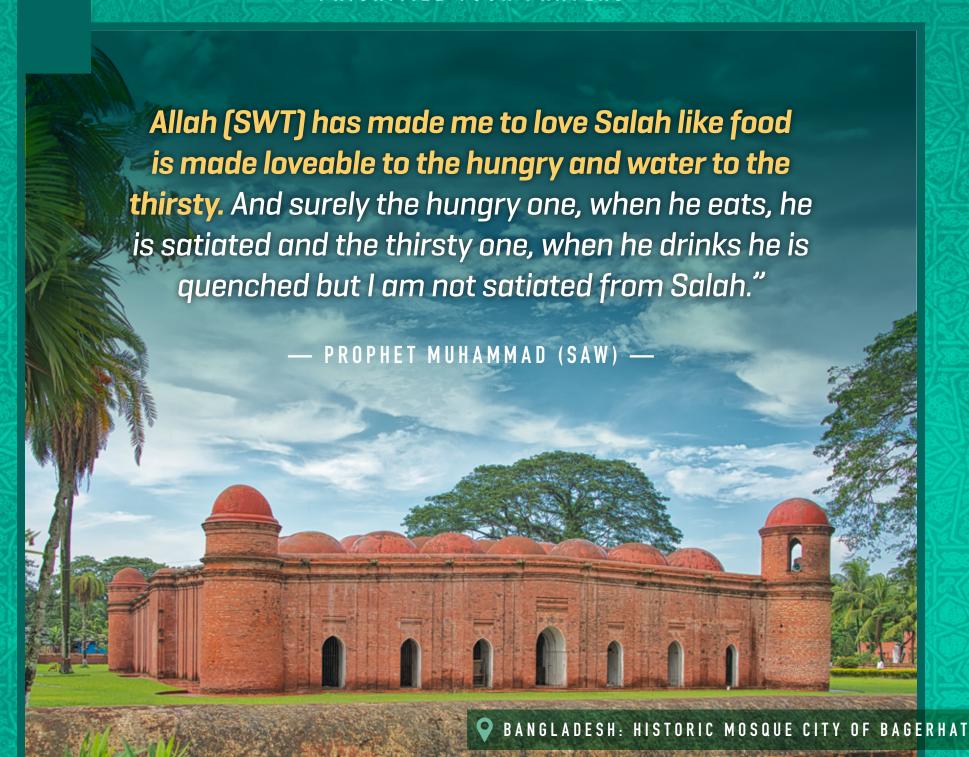
SOUTH AFRICA: TABLE MOUNTAIN

• Dhul Qadah 1445 Dhul Hijjah 1445

JUNE

	SU		M	T		W		TH		F		SA
												1
												24
	2		3	4	World	5 d Environment Day		6		7		8
	25		26	27		28		29	1st [Ohul Hijjah		2
##	9	***	10	11		12	#	13		14	**	15
	3		4	5		6		7	Н	ajj Begins 8	Day	y of Arafah 9
•	16 Father's Day		17	18		19 Juneteenth	##	20 World Refugee Day	44	21		22
	Eid al-Adha 10		11	12		White Days		White Days 14	W	/hite Days 15		16
	23	#	24	25		26		27		28		29
	17		18	19		20		21		22		23
	30	NOTES									ic Holida	
	0/									impo	rtant Isla	amic Dates
	24									_ New	Moon	
										Sunn	ah Fast	s

PRIORITIZE YOUR PRAYERS



• Dhul Hijjah 1445 Muharram 1446

JULY

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
	1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6
	25	26	27	28	29	30
C 7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Islamic New Year 1st Muharram	2	3	4	5	6	7
14	15	₩ 💠 16	17	18 Nelson Mandela Intl. Day	19	20
8	9	Ashura 10	11	12	White Days 13	White Days 14
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
White Days 15	16	17	18	19	20	21
28	29	30	31			
22	23	24	25			

NOTES	■ Islamic Holidays
	♠ Important Islamic Dates
	■ New Moon
	Sunnah Fasts

DON'T BECOME ATTACHED TO THIS WORLD

This world is the **prison** of the believer and the **paradise** of the unbeliever."

— PROPHET MUHAMMAD (SAW) —



AUGUST

• Muharram 1446 Safar 1446

SU	M	T	W		TH	F	SA
				##	1	2	3
					26	27	28
4	5	6	7		8	9 Intl. Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples	10
29	1st Safar	2	3		4	5	6
11	12	13	14		15	16	17
7	8	9	10		11	12	White Days 13
18	19 World Humanitarian Day	20	21		22	23	24
White Days 14	White Days 15	16	17		18	19	20
25	Women's Equality Day	27	28		29	30	31
21	22	23	24		25	26	27
NOTES							ic Holidays
							rtant Islamic Dates
						New	
						Sunn	ah Fasts

BE YOUR OWN ACCOUNTANT FOR YOUR DEEDS

Take account of yourself before you're taken account of so your accounting will be easier tomorrow. And weigh yourself before you are weighed and prepare for the great staging; the day you will be presented, not the least of a hidden thing of you will be hidden from Allah."

— PROPHET MUHAMMAD (SAW) —



USA: GRAND CANYON

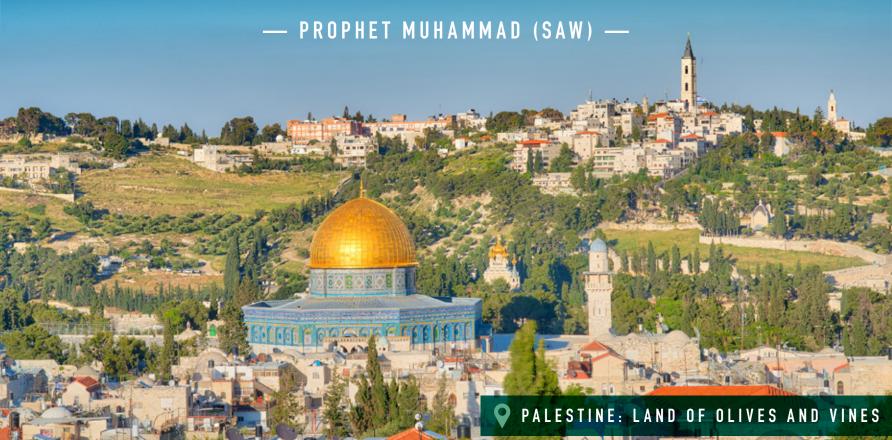
SEPTEMBER

• Safar 1446 Rabi ul Awal 1446

SU	М	T		W	TH	F		SA
1	2 Labor Day	3	(4	5 Intl. Day of Charity	6		7
28	29	30	1st F	Rabi ul Awal	2	3		4
8 Int. Literacy Day	9	10		11	12	13		14
5	6	7		8	9	10		11
• 15	16	17		18	19	20		21 Int. Day of Peace
Birth of the Prophet (SAW) 12	White Days 13	White Days 14	\	White Days 15	16	17		18
22	23	24		25	26	27		28
19	20	21		22	23	24		25
29	30							
26	27							
NOTES							l slam	ic Holidays
							impo	rtant Islamic Dates
							€ New	Moon
							Sunn Sunn	ah Fasts

QUALITY IS BETTER THAN QUANTITY

The virtue of knowledge is greater than that of worship. And know you that if you prayed until your back becomes bent and you fasted until you became thin as strings that would not benefit you unless it is done with piety."

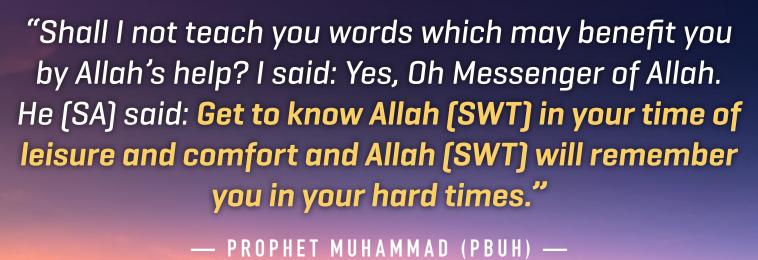


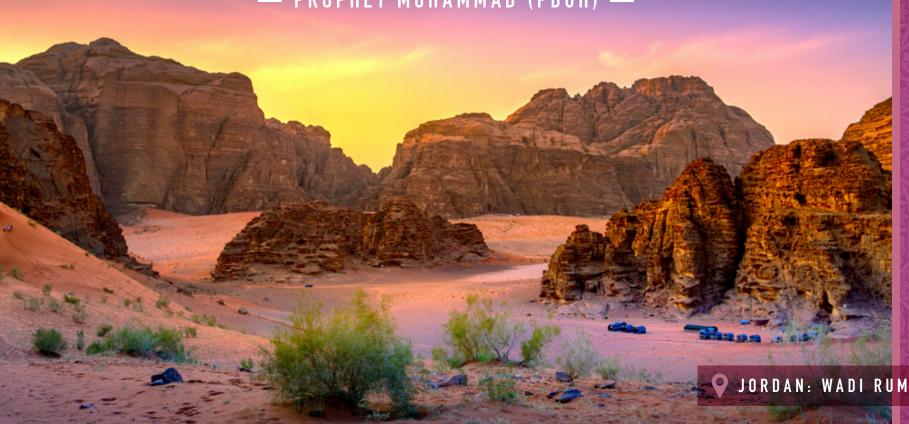
• Rabi ul Awal 1446 Rabi Al-Akhar 1446

OCTOBER

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
		1	2	Rosh Hashanah	4	5
		28	29	30	1st Rabi Al-Akhar	2
6	7 Child Health Day	8	9	10	11 Intl. Day of the Girl	12
3	4	5	6	7	8	Yom Kippur 9
13	14 Indigenous Peoples' Day	15	16 World Food Day	Intl. Day for the Eradication of Poverty	18	19
10	11	12	White Days 13	White Days 14	White Days 15	16
20	21 Charity Week Starts	22	23	24	25	26
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
27 Charity Week Ends	28	29	30	31		
24	25	26	27	28		
NOTES					l Islam	ic Holidays
					impo	rtant Islamic Dates
					■ New	Moon
					W Sunn	ah Fasts

REMEMBER GOD IN TIMES OF EASE



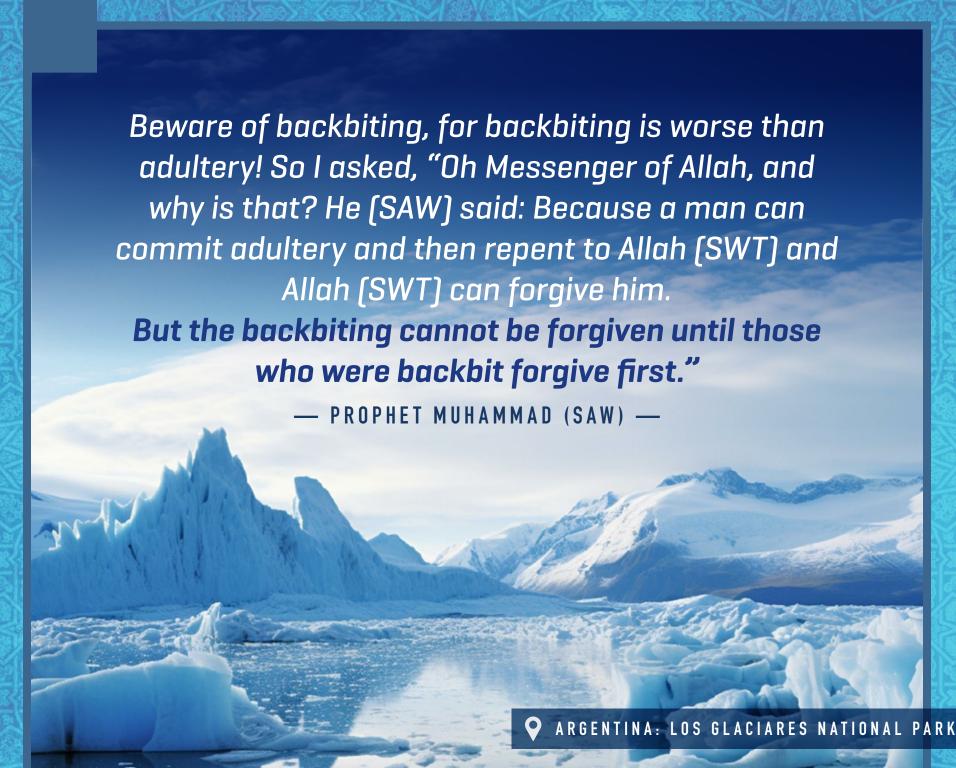


NOVEMBER

• Rabi Al-Akhar 1446 Jumada Al-Awwal 1446

	SU		М	T	W		TH	F	SA		
		44						1	2		
								29	30		
C	3		4	5 Election Day	6		7	8	9		
1st Jum	ada Al-Awwal		2	3	4		5	6	7		
	10		11 Veterans Day	12	13		14	15	16		
	8		9	10	11		12	White Days 13	White Days 14		
	17		18	19	20 World Children's Day		21	22	23		
W	Vhite Days 15		16	17	18		19	20	21		
	24	##	25	26	27	44 (N	28 Thanksgiving lational Day of Mourning)	29 Native American Heritage Day	30		
	22		23	24	25		26	27	28		
1	NOTES Islamic Holidays										
-		♣ Impo	🔶 Important Islamic Dates								
-	C New Moon							Moon			
-								Sunn	ah Fasts		

STAY AWAY FROM GOSSIP



DECEMBER

• Jumada Al-Awwal 1446 Jumada Al-Akhirah 1446

	SU		M	T	W	TI	H F	SA		
	1	##	2	3 Giving Tuesday	4 Giving Tuesday	Intl. Volun	6 fatteer Day	7		
	29	1st Ju	ımada Al-Akhirah	2	3	4	5	6		
	8		9	10 Human Rights Day	11	12	2 13	14		
	7		8	9	10	11	1 12	White Days 13		
	15		16	17	18	19	9 20	21		
,	White Days 14		White Days 15	16	17	18		20		
	22		23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	Hanukkal Kwar	6 27 h Begins	28		
	21		22	23	24	25		27		
	29	**	30	31 New Year's Eve						
	28		29	30						
	NOTES			lslamic Holidays						
			Important Islamic Dates							
								New Moon		
							4	Sunnah Fasts		



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