Celebrations, Holidays, & Traditions
for
November 2008

November 1:

*Revolution Day: (Algeria)* - commemorates the first attacks by the National Liberation Front against French-operated military installations in 1954.

*Revival Leaders’ Day: (Bulgaria)* - commemorates the solemn hoisting of Bulgaria’s national flag.

*Independence Day: (Antigua and Barbuda)* - on November 1, 1981, Antigua gained total independence for the first time in 328 years.

*Liberty Day: (Virgin Islands)* - commemorates David Hamilton Jackson and the institution of Free Press in the Danish West Indies, now it is the U.S. Virgin Islands.

*All Saints’ Day:* is a feast celebrated on November 1 in Western Christianity, and on the first Sunday after Pentecost in Eastern Christianity in honor of all the saints, known and unknown. According to Western Christianity theology, the feast commemorates all those who have attained the beatific vision in heaven.

November 2:

*First Laborers’ Day: (Mauritius)*

*All Souls’ Day:* commemorates the departed faithful who have not yet been purified and reached heaven.

November 3:

November 4:

*Saint Charles’ Day: (Andorra)* - a public holiday in Andorra

*Melbourne Cup Day: (Tonga)* - one of the world's most famous horse races - the Melbourne Cup- celebrated mostly by Australians.

*Community Service Day: (Dominica)* - national day of community service.

*Chhat Festival: (Nepal)* - a Hindu festival dedicated to the Sun God, considered to be a means to thank the sun for bestowing the bounties of life in earth and fulfilling particular wishes.
Flag Day: (Panama)- a national holiday to remember Panama’s independence from Columbian rule.

Unity Day: (Russia)- commemorates the popular uprising which expelled the Polish-Lithuanian occupation force from Moscow in November 1612, and more generally the end of the Time of Troubles and foreign intervention in Russia in the Polish-Muscovite War (1605-1618).

Tonga National Day: (Tonga)

November 5:

Colon Day: (Panama)- In 1903, Panama became an independent nation. Panamanians celebrate this day with parades. Colon Day is Panama’s version of America’s Columbus Day.

November 6:

Thanksgiving Day: (Liberia)- celebrated every first Thursday of November in Liberia.

Green March Day: (Morocco)- a day of national pride and an important symbol of Moroccan nationalism as it remembers the day in 1975 when 350,000 unarmed Moroccan civilians marched into the Western Sahara area to reclaim Morocco from Spain. This day is a national holiday throughout Morocco.

November 7:

Revolution Day: (Bangladesh)

Social Revolution Day: (Kyrgyzstan)

Arbor Day: (Samoa)- celebrated to encourage the planting of trees.

October Revolution Day: the second phase of the overall Russian Revolution of 1917, after the February Revolution of the same year. The October Revolution overthrew the Russian Provisional Government and gave the power to the Soviets dominated by Bolsheviks.

New Era Day: (Tunisia)

November 8:

Pohnpei Constitution Day: (Micronesia)
November 9:

**Independence Day: (Cambodia)** - King Sihanouk gained independence for Cambodia from France. King Sihamoni lit the victory fire at the Independence Monument to commemorate the occasion.

**Imam Reza’s Birthday: (Iran)** - the birth anniversary of the Eighth Imam of the Household of the Prophet.

**Iqbal Day: (Pakistan)** - a day to celebrate Muhammad Iqbal, a Muslim poet, philosopher and politician whose vision of an independent state for the Muslims of British India was to inspire the creation of Pakistan.

**La Almudena: (Madrid)** - Madrid's cathedral, The Cathedral de la Almudena, took more than 100 years to complete. It was consecrated by Pope John-Paul II in 1993.

November 10:

**Independence Day: (Cambodia)** - on this date Cambodia gained its freedom from France. This a very special and important day, the most popular festivals and events occur on this day.

**Remembrance Day: (Cayman Islands)** - the annual tribute to veterans who defended their countries during times of war.

**Constitution Day: (Dominican Republic)** - a holiday to honor the constitution of a country. Constitution Day is often celebrated on the anniversary of the signing, promulgation or adoption of the constitution.

**Maputo Day: (Mozambique)**

**Los Santos Uprising Day: (Panama)** - the folks in the province of Los Santos proclaimed independence from Spain before the people in Panama City

**Heir to the Throne Day: (Tuvalu)** - a system of government in which a hereditary monarch is the sovereign of Tuvalu.

November 11:

**Veterans’ Day: (United States)** - an annual American holiday honoring military veterans. It is both a federal holiday and a state holiday for all states.

**Independence Day: (Angola)** - an annual celebration commemorating the anniversary of a nation's assumption of independent statehood, usually after ceasing to be a colony or part of another state, more rarely after the end of a military occupation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 11</td>
<td>Remembrance Day: (Bermuda, Canada)- a day to commemorate the sacrifices of members of the armed forces and of civilians in times of war, specifically since the First World War. It is observed on November 11 to recall the end of World War I in 1918.</td>
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<td>November 11</td>
<td>Bonn Om Touk: (Cambodia)- celebrates the Tonle Sap River, which is the only waterway in the world which flows in opposite directions at different times of the year, with three days of boat races, fairs, festivals, shows, parades, fireworks, music and dancing.</td>
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<td>November 12</td>
<td>Birth Anniversary of Fourth Druk Gyalpo: (Bhutan)</td>
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<td>Constitution Day: (Azerbaijan)- a day to honor the constitution of Azerbaijan.</td>
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<td>November 13</td>
<td>Tazaung Full Moon: (Myanmar)- an offering ceremony that usually attracts crowds, as it is known as the Buddhist place of retreat per excellence in the country with a concentration of monasteries, nunneries and pagodas in that area.</td>
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<td>November 13</td>
<td>Full Moon Poya Day: (Sri Lanka)- celebrates the obtaining of Vivarana (the assurance of becoming a Buddha) by the Bodhisatta Maitriya and the commissioning of 60 disciples by The Buddha to disperse his teachings. Also, the conclusion of the three month retreat (vassana).</td>
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<td>November 14</td>
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<td>Guru Nanak Jayanti: (India)- is the central figure in Sikhism, and named as the first of the ten Sikh Gurus.</td>
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<td>Birthday of Guru Nanek Dev Sahib: (Sikh)- is the central figure in Sikhism and named as the first of the ten Sikh Gurus. The date varies from year to year and is based on the traditional dates of the Indian Calendar.</td>
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<td>November 15</td>
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<td>Readjustment Movement Day:(Guinea-Bissau)- on November 14, 2002, the President dismissed the Government of Prime Minister Alamara Nhasse, dissolved the National Assembly, and called for legislative elections. Two days later, the President appointed Prime Minister Mario Pires as leader of the government.</td>
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<td>November 15</td>
<td>King’s Birthday/German Community Day: (Belgium)- a public holiday for the German-speaking Community of Belgium but it is not celebrated elsewhere in Belgium.</td>
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<td>Republic Day: (Brazil)- is celebrated in Brazil to commemorate the day in 1889 when Dom Pedro -the of Independence Day - was removed from power.</td>
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<td>November 15</td>
<td>Independence Day: (West Bank)</td>
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Nativity Fast Begins: (Orthodox Christian)- a period of abstinence and penance practiced by the Eastern Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox, and Eastern Catholic Churches in preparation for the Nativity of Christ. The fast is similar to the Western Advent, except that it runs for 40 days instead of four weeks. The fast is observed from November 15 to December 24, inclusively.

November 16:

November 17:

Revival Day: (Azerbaijan)- on this day in 1988, began a several day meeting on former Lenin square. This meeting was organized by students of the Republic to protest against Moscow's policies toward Azerbaijan and the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Cartagena Independence Day: (Colombia)- commemorates the city of Cartagena's declaration of independence made in 1811.

Freedom and Democracy Day: (Czech Republic, Slovakia)- commemorating the student demonstration against Nazi occupation in 1939, and especially, the demonstration in Prague that occurred in 1989 is considered to mark the beginning of the Velvet Revolution.

Revolution Day: (Mexico)- In 1910, the war to overthrow the dictator Porfirio Diaz began. Mexico celebrates the anniversary of its Revolution.

Independence Day: (Latvia)- In 1918, Latvia gained independence from Russia and in 1990 gained independence from Soviet Union.

November 18:

Vetieres Battle Day: (Haiti)- celebrates the Second War of Haitian Independence, fought between Haitian rebels and French expeditionary forces, as the final part of the Haitian Revolution on November 18, 1803 at Vertières

National Day: (Oman)- an occasion for Omani citizens to celebrate and relish their country's many accomplishments since the beginning of its modern renaissance under His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said.

November 19:

Garifuna Day: (Belize)- in 1802, the Garifune people of Belize, descendents from African slaves who were shipwrecked off St. Vincent around 1635, arrived in the area. The Garifuna people make up about 8 percent of the current population of Belizeans.

Descending Day of the Lord Buddha: (Bhutan)

Repentance Day: (Germany)- a public holiday in the State of Saxony; the German name is "Buss und Bettag".
National Day: (Monaco)-a national holiday in Monaco. It is celebrated with festivals and parades.

Sultan’s Birthday: (Oman)- Sultanate of Oman is considered to be one of the most peaceful and attractive holiday destinations in the Middle East. The capital of this oil rich Arab country is Muscat. Sultan Sayyed Qaboos bin Sa'id Al ‘Bu Sa'id birthday coincides with the National Day.

Discovery Day: (Puerto Rico)- a Commonwealth of Puerto Rico official holiday. Christopher Columbus landed on the northwest coast of Puerto Rico near Aguada on his second voyage to the New World in 1493. Puerto Rico is the only territory associated with the United States that Columbus saw with his own eyes.

November 20:

Black Consciousness Day: (Brazil)- a festival commemorating Zumbi dos Palmares, leader of the revolt against slavery in the late 17th century in Brazil.

November 21:

November 22:

Independence Day: (Lebanon)- commemorates Lebanon’s beloved martyrs. This day is celebrated by posing with medals of honor, wearing best uniforms, celebrating traditions, carrying clean and shining weapons, and/or participating in military parades.

Albanian Alphabet Day: (Macedonia)- an ethnic community holiday for Albanians.

National Day: (Myanmar)- a national holiday in Myanmar. It is celebrated with festivals and parades. Also, In 1997, Myanmar was admitted as a member to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

November 23:

St. George’s Day: (Georgia)- celebrated by several nations, kingdoms, countries, and cities, of which Saint George is the patron saint, including England, the old kingdoms and counties of the Crown of Aragon in Spain.

Labor Thanksgiving Day: (Japan)- a national holiday in Japan. The law establishing the holiday cites it as an occasion for commemorating labor and production and giving one another thanks. Events are held throughout Japan, such as the Nagano Labor Festival. This event encourages thinking about the environment, peace, and human rights.

November 24:
November 25:

Statehood Day: (Bosnia)- a national holiday to commemorate the day in 1943 that the statehood of Bosnia and Herzegovina were re-established at the Anti-Fascist Council of National Liberation of Yugoslavia.

Independence Day: (Suriname)- an annual celebration commemorating the anniversary of a nation’s assumption of independent statehood independence from the Netherlands in 1975.

November 26:

Independence Day: (Mongolia)- an annual celebration commemorating the anniversary of a nation’s assumption of independent statehood.

Thanksgiving Day: (Norfolk Island)- a statutory holiday in Norfolk; all public offices are closed for this self governing Australian Territory.

Day of Covenant: (Baha’i)- the Day of the Covenant is regarded as a day to celebrate the life of ‘Abdu’l-Baha, but it is also a day of celebration in the Covenant of Baha’u’llah. It was Baha’u’llah that chose ‘Abdu’l Baha to be his successor and the Center of the Covenant after his death.

November 27:

Thanksgiving Day: a traditional North American holiday, which is a form of harvest festival, occurs on the fourth Thursday of November. Thanksgiving dinner is done in the evening, usually as a gathering of friends and/or family. At this time you say all your thanks and wishes.

November 28:

Independence Day: (Panama)- in 1821, Panama gained its independence from Spain.

Republic Day: (Chad)- anniversary of the proclamation of the republic in 1958.

Ascension of Abdu’l-Baha: (Baha’i)- commemorates ‘ABDU’L-BAHA’s death. From 1892, when He was appointed by Baha’u’llah as the Center of His Covenant, the sole Interpreter of His Writings, and the Perfect Exemplar of His Cause, ‘Abdu'l-Baha had guided the growing Bahá’í community with his loving counsels and letters and examples.

November 29:

Liberation Day: (Albania)- a public holiday that commemorates the liberation of Albania.
Tubman's Birthday: (Liberia)- celebrates the birthday of William Tubman (b.1895), president of Liberia for twenty-seven years; also known as Goodwill Day.

Umuganda Day: (Rwanda)- the last Saturday in every month when everyone is supposed to do community service for a morning.

Unity Day: (Vanuatu)- cultivated national culture to foster a national identity, including political slogans such as "Unity in Diversity."

**November 30:**

Bonifacio Day: (Philippines)- the birthday of Andres Bonifacio and a public holiday in the Philippines. He is regarded as the "Father of the Philippine Revolution" and one of the most influential national heroes of his country.