



MULTI CULTURAL AND DIVERSITY NEWSLETTER

February 2024

1. KITCHEN GOD CELEBRATION (CHINA)



Feb 3- This custom is based on the traditional farewell ceremony for T'sao Wang, Prince of the Oven, before he leaves for his annual trip to heaven to report on families' good behavior during the year.

LOSAR (NEW YEAR TIBET)

Feb10- The tibetan New Year is called Losar and is celebrated for three days by visiting, feasting and the relaxation the monastic discipline.



3. SEOLLAL (KOREA)



Feb10- The Korean New Year lasts three days. During this time, many Koreans visit family, perform ancestral rites, eat traditional food, and play folk games. Additionally, children often receive money from their elders.



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4.

BASANT PANCHAMI (HINDU)

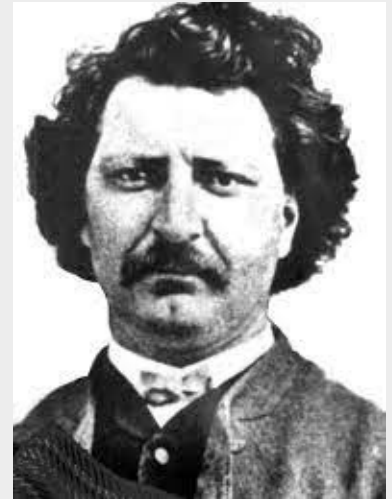


Feb 14- Basant Panchami in Northern India heralds the approach of spring and yellow colored clothes are symbolically worn. Even the food is colored yellow by using saffron. This festival honors Saraswati, the goddess of Learning, Wisdom and the Creative Arts.

LOUIS RIEL DAY (ABORIGINAL, CANADA)

5.

Feb 19- He was the famous Métis leader who in 1885 led a rebellion and lost against the Canadian authorities because he feared more Métis land would be taken away by the settlers. Today his name is a symbol for Native independence.



6.

ABU SIMBEL FESTIVAL (EGYPT)



Feb 22- Built by Ramses II, his temple is angled so that the inner sanctum lights up twice a year- once on the anniversary of his rise to the throne and on Oct 22, celebrating his birthday. Crowds pack in the temple before sunrise to watch the shafts of light illuminate the statues of Ramses, Ra and Amon.



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BLACK HISTORY MONTH (CANADA)



In December of 1995, the Parliament of Canada recognized February as Black History Month following a motion introduced by the first African Canadian woman elected to Parliament, Jean Augustine. The presence of peoples of African descent in Canada dates back farther than Samuel de Champlain's (a French explorer and navigator in early 1600's) first voyage down the St. Lawrence River.

Reference

Khanna, A., Mody, P., Powers, S., Raza, R. (2023).
Multicultural Calendar 2022. Toronto: O