



MULTI-CULTURAL AND DIVERSITY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2024



FARVARDIN (IRAN)

April 1- It is the 13th day after Nowruz or New Year. The number 13 is considered as unlucky number for the Persians, and therefore everyone leaves home for the day to go on picnics or trips.

LAYLAT AL- QADR (ISLAM)

April 5- It is also known as Night of Power, which commemorates the revelation of the Qur'an to Prophet Muhammad in 610 CE. It begins the previous beginning.



EID-UL-FITR (ISLAM)

April 10- This marks the end of the Ramadan fast and is celebrated for three days. date of observance may vary according to the sighting of the new moon. Dates vary by a day depending on whether the Saudi Arabia or the North American Calendar is being observed.



BAISAKHI (BANGLADESH, SIKH, AND HINDU)

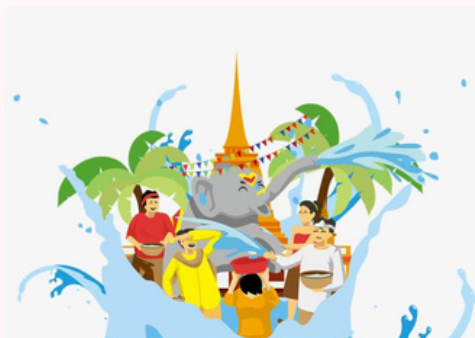
April 13- The first day of the solar year, this is an agricultural festival celebrating the harvest, especially in North India. Tamils and Sri Lankans celebrate their New Year on this day. In Kerala, South India this day is called Vishu. Especially important to the Sikhs, it marks this day in 1699, when the tenth Guru, Guru Gobind Singh established the order of 'Khalsa'. The festival is a mixture of feasting, dancing and worshipping.





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SONGKRAN/NEW YEAR (CAMBODIA, INDIA, MYANMAR, SRI LANKA, THAILAND)

April 13- In southeast Asia, Songkran is recognized as the New Year for Buddhists. For Thais, it is a three-day religious festival in which homes are routinely cleaned, and water is sprinkled on monks paying visits and on statues of Buddha.

RAM NAVAMI (HINDU)

April 17- Ram Navami celebrates the birthday of Rama, the seventh incarnation of God Vishnu. Hindus read the Ramayan, a Hindu epic, which tells the story of Rama, during the previous eight days.



PESACH/PASSOVER (JEWISH)

April 23-30- Pesach lasts for eight days. It begins previous sundown at 6 pm. This time commemorates the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt. It begins with a ritual meal 'Seder' when no leavened bread is consumed with special prayers and symbolic foods.

Reference

Khanna, A., Mody, P., Powers, S., Raza. R. (2024). Multicultural Calendar 2024. Toronto: