RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS AND EVENTS
CALENDAR 2021

EQUALITY POLICY UNIT

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS
The University is made up of a wide range of people with diverse backgrounds and circumstances, which we regard as a great asset. We strive to create an environment where everyone can reach their full potential and have a real opportunity to participate in and contribute to our activities.

This Religious Festivals & Events Calendar 2021 is produced as a guide to support timetabling, work scheduling and event planning to help ensure that we provide an inclusive environment which enables participation from all our students, staff and visitors.

The calendar can also be used for guidance when responding to requests for flexibility on the grounds of religion or belief.

The calendar focuses on seven key faiths:
- Bahai
- Buddhism
- Christianity
- Hinduism
- Islam
- Judaism
- Sikhism

The calendar highlights key diversity days, the main faith days observed or celebrated, awareness raising dates, public holidays and academic dates. This does not mean other religions, beliefs or non-belief are not equally valued.

Sources of information used to produce the calendar include external faith bodies, diversity organisations and national faith calendars. It was produced accurately at the time of publication, but some dates may vary regionally as they are determined by the lunar calendar. Many holy days begin at sunset the day before the date shown.

For more information, or to provide feedback, please contact equality@leeds.ac.uk
JANUARY 2021

**Religious**
- 5 Birthday of Guru Gobindh Singh
- 6 Epiphany
- 28 Mahayana New Year

**Awareness**
- 27 Holocaust Memorial Day

**University**
- 1 University closed
- 11 Term 2 starts
- 11–22 Exams
- 25 Semester 2 teaching starts
- 25 Semester 2 teaching starts

- University closed
- Term 2 starts
- Exams
- Exams end
- Exams end
Religious
15 Nirvana Day
16 Basant Panchami-Saraswati Puja
16 Shrove Tuesday
16 Ash Wednesday
25–26 Purim
25–28 Intercalary Days
27 Magha Puja Day

Awareness
1–28 LGBT+ History Month
12 Chinese New Year
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**Religious**

1–19 Nineteen Day Fast

14 Mothers’ Day

20 Naw Rúz, (New Year)

27 Mar – 4 April Pesach (Passover)

28 Palm Sunday

29 Hola Mohalla

**Awareness**

8 International Women’s Day

**University**

26 Term 2 ends
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**Religious**

- **2** Good Friday
- **4** Easter Sunday
- **8** Yom HaShoah
- **13** Baisakhi
- **13** Ramadan begins
- **14** Vaisakhi
- **20** First Day of Ridván
- **21** Rama Navami
- **27** Theravada New Year

**University**

- **1–6** University closed
- **26** Term 3 starts

**Term 3 starts**

**APRIL 2021**
MAY 2021

Religious
- 1 Last Day of Ridván
- 11 Ramadan ends
- 12–13 Eid al-Fitr
- 13 Ascension Day
- 16–18 Shavuot
- 23 Pentecost
- 23 Declaration of the Báb
- 26 Vesak (Buddah Day)
- 28 Ascension of Bahá’u’lláh

Awareness
- 17 International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biophobia
- 10–16 Black Inclusion Week
- 12 National Day for Staff Networks Day

University
- 3 University Closed
- 7 Semester 2 ends
- 17 Exams start
- 31 University closed
Religious
16 Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev

University
1 University Closed
4 Exams end
18 Term 3 / Session ends

1 University Closed
4 Exams end
18 Term 3 / Session ends
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**Religious**
- **9** Martyrdom of the Bab
- **12** Puri Ratha Yatra
- **20** Eid al-Adha
- **24** Dharma Day (Asalha Puja)

**University**
- **12–23** Degree ceremonies

*Degree ceremonies start*

*Degree ceremonies end*
# August 2021 Calendar

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**Religious**
- **22** Raksha Bandhan  🙏
- **30** Krishna Janmashtami  🙏

**Awareness**
- **1** Pride (Leeds)  🌟

**University**
- **17–27** Exams
- **30–31** University closed

*Exams start*
*Exams end*
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**Religious**
- 6–8 Rosh Hashannah
- 15–16 Yom Kippur
- 20–27 Sep Sukkot
- 27–29 Simchat Torah

**Awareness**
- 27 Sept – 3 Oct National Inclusion Week

**University**
- 22 2021-22 Session starts
- 27 Semester 1 / Term 1 / Teaching starts

**SEPTMBER 2021**
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Religious Events</th>
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<tr>
<td>28 Nov – 6 Dec</td>
<td>Hanukkah/Chanukah</td>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>18 Nov – 18 Dec</td>
<td>UK Disability History Month</td>
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<td>International Men’s Day</td>
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<td>White Ribbon Day</td>
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