Arba'ein

Arba'ein

Islam

Arba-een

Arba'ein is a Shiite observance marking the martyrdom of Muhammed's [peace be upon him] grandson, Al-Husayn ibn Ali. Arba'ein means "forty" in Arabic and the observance is held forty days after the Day of Ashura, on which Husayn is said to have been martyred in battle.

Arba'ein is traditionally observed as a pilgrimage to the Iraqi city of Karbala. This is one of the largest annual public gatherings in the world.

Date

- Arba'ein is observed forty days after the Day of Ashura, which is the 10th Day of Muharram on the Islamic Calendar and can vary from year to year on the Gregorian (Western) calendar.
- Check the Calendar Index for Religious Holidays during the current academic year for the exact date.

Greetings

No common greeting.

Common Practices and Celebrations

- Shiite followers take a pilgrimage to the city of Karbala in Iraq to recite the Ziyarat of Arba'ein, a prayer affirming devotion to Al-Husayn ibn Ali's ideals.

Common Dietary Restrictions

- Vegetarian meals prepared without alcohol meet halal standards.

Impact to U-M Community

- Shiite colleagues and students may request to take time off for the pilgrimage.
- Link to U-M Guidance Regarding Conflicts.

U-M Campus Resources

- Maize Pages - Muslim, U-M
- Association of Religious Counselors, U-M

Information Sources

- Wikipedia

SCHOOL OF INFORMATION

This collection of information sheets on major holidays and cultural events is a joint partnership of the School of Information staff, the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and the Office of the Provost. Facts have been vetted by U-M's Association of Religious Counselors (ARC), and other campus groups. Public feedback is welcome; please email DEIHolidayFacts@umich.edu.

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