

Day of 10 Muharram Ashura

10th day of Muharram

10th day of Muharram (Ashura)

Islam

[muh-heh-ruhm](#) 

The 10th day of the first month (Muharram) of the Islamic calendar marks a holy day (known as [Ashura](#)) whose significance varies among Islamic sects. Sunnis consider it the day that God parted the Red Sea to allow Moses and the Israelites to escape Egypt. For Shias, Ashura is an important and solemn occasion marking the Remembrance or Mourning of Muharram when Al-Husayn ibn Ali [may God be pleased with him], a grandson of the Prophet Muhammad [peace be upon him], was martyred, a day to contemplate worldly corruption against piety, sacrifice, and perseverance.

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.



Date

- Muharram begins at the first sighting of the lunar crescent after the new moon. The crescent moon may be visible a day or so after the new moon, but weather and other factors may delay the sighting.
- Check the [Calendar Index](#) for Religious Holidays during the current academic year for the exact date.

Greetings

No common greeting.

Common Practices and Celebrations

- Sunnis may fast during this holiday, although it's not obligatory.
- For Shias the occasion is one of sadness and grief: Mourners attend mosques for poetic readings that commemorate the martyrdom of Husayn.

Common Dietary Restrictions

- Many Muslims follow halal food guidelines, meaning food that is permissible by Islamic standards.
- Vegetarian and pescatarian meals prepared without alcohol meet halal standards.
- When planning an event, check with event attendees for their dietary preferences.

Impact to U-M Community

- Muslim colleagues and students may request to take the first day of the celebration off. Colleagues and remote students in Muslim countries will likely have a national holiday.
- Link to [U-M Guidance Regarding Conflicts](#).

U-M Campus Resources

- [Maize Pages - Muslim](#), U-M
- [Association of Religious Counselors](#), U-M
- [Reflection Rooms](#)

Information Sources

- [The Culture Trip](#)
- [Islamic Finder](#)

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