

Major Religious Observances 2019-2020

(Last updated September 2019)

This list, although not exhaustive, represents some of the major religious observances with brief descriptions to foster an understanding of the significance each symbolizes for members of our College community. As our community grows and evolves, what constitutes a “major” religious observance may change. Referring to this list when scheduling events is encouraged so any potential conflicts may be avoided.

*All Jewish and Islamic holidays and specific Hindu holidays listed below begin at sundown on the previous day. Some dates may vary based on interpretations of the lunar calendar.

July 2019

Name of Holiday	Religion	Dates	Description
Martyrdom of the Báb	Bahá'í		The Báb was executed by firing squad on this date in 1850.

August 2019

Name of Holiday	Religion	Dates	
	Islamic	8/10/19	Eid al-Adha is a major festival that celebrates the willingness to make sacrifices in the name of one's faith. This holiday celebrates Ibrahim's total faith in God, and Muslims view this holiday as an important annual reminder.
Janmashtami	Hindu	8/23/19	This two-day festival celebrates the birth of Krishna, a widely-worshiped Hindu god.
Muharram (Al Hijrah – New Year)*	Islamic	8/31/19	Many Muslims in countries such as the United States observe the start of the Islamic New Year on the first day of Muharram, which is the first month in the Islamic calendar.

September 2019

Name of Holiday	Religion	Dates	
			is the day when all Hindus celebrate the birthday of Lord Ganesh.
Navaratri/Dassehra	Hindu	9/29/19 – 10/8/19	During Navaratri, Goddess Durga (the mother goddess, who is an aspect of Goddess Parvati), is worshiped in each of her nine forms. Each day has a different ritual associated with it. The dates of the festival are determined according to the lunar

			calendar, the festival may be held for a day more or a day less.
--	--	--	--

October 2019

Name of Holiday

Religion

Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh	Bahá'í	5/27/20	Bahá'u'lláh passed from this life on this date in 1892.
-----------------------------	--------	---------	--