### Diversity Holidays | July 2021

1. **Canada Day**, or Fête du Canada, is a Canadian federal holiday that celebrates the 1867 enactment of the Constitution Act, which established the three former British colonies of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick as a united nation called Canada.

2. **Independence Day** (also known as the Fourth of July), a United States federal holiday that celebrates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. The original 13 American colonies declared independence from Britain and established themselves as a new nation known as the United States of America.

3. **The Martyrdom of the Bab**, a day when Bahá’ís observe the anniversary of the Báb’s execution in Tabríz, Iran, in 1850.

4. **St. Benedict Day**, the feast day of St. Benedict celebrated by some Christian denominations.


6. The annual event is designed to raise awareness of global population issues.

7. **International Non-Binary People’s Day**, aimed at raising awareness and organizing around the issues faced by non-binary people around the world while celebrating their contributions.

8. **Bastille Day**, a French federal holiday that commemorates the Storming of the Bastille, a fortress-prison in Paris that held political prisoners who had displeased the French nobility. The Storming of the Bastille, which took place on July 14, 1789, was regarded as a turning point of the French Revolution. Celebrations are held throughout France.

9. **St. Vladimir of the Great Day**, feast day for St. Vladimir celebrated by the Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic churches.

10. **Tisha B’Av**, a fast in commemoration of the destruction of two holy and sacred temples of Judaism destroyed by the Babylonians (in 586 B.C.E) and Romans (in 70 C.E.). At the Tisha B’Av, after select passages from the Torah are read and understood, netilat yadayim, or the washing of the hands, is performed.

11. **Nelson Mandela International Day**, launched on July 18, 2009, in recognition of Nelson Mandela’s birthday via unanimous decision of the U.N. General Assembly. It was inspired by a call Nelson Mandela made a year earlier for the next generation to take on the burden of leadership in addressing the world’s social injustices: “It is in your hands now”. It is more than a celebration of Mandela's life and legacy; it is a global movement to honor his life's work and to change the world for the better.


13. **St. James the Greater Day**, feast day for St. James the Greater celebrated by some Christian denominations.

14. **Waqf al Arafa**, the second day of pilgrimage within the Islamic faith.

15. **Asalha Puja**, or Dharma Day, is a celebration of Buddha's first teachings.

16. **Pioneer Day**, observed by the Mormons to commemorate the arrival in 1847 of the first Latter Day Saints pioneer in Salt Lake Valley.

17. **Eid al-Adha**, an Islamic festival to commemorate the willingness of Ibrahim (also known as Abraham) to follow Allah’s (God's) command to sacrifice his son, Ishmael. Muslims around the world observe this event.

18. **The birthday of Haile Selassie I**, the former Emperor of Ethiopia whom the Rastafarians consider to be their savior.

19. **International Day of Friendship**, proclaimed in 2011 by the U.N. General Assembly with the idea that friendship between peoples, countries, cultures and individuals can inspire peace efforts and build bridges between communities.