

F.No. 10-1/2025-Min-II
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
CABINET SECRETARIAT
CABINET DIVISION

Islamabad, the 19th January, 2026

CIRCULAR

Subject: **PUBLIC AND OPTIONAL HOLIDAYS FOR THE YEAR 2026**

The public and optional holidays on days of national significance and festivals of Muslims and minorities in Pakistan for the calendar year 2026 shall be as under:-

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Sr.#	Name of Occasion	Days	Dates during year 2026
1	Kashmir Day	Thursday	5 th February, 2026
2	Pakistan Day	Monday	23 rd March, 2026
3*	Eid-ul-Fitr (1 st Shawal 1447 A.H)	Saturday, Sunday & Monday	21 st , 22 nd & 23 rd March 2026
4	Labour Day	Friday	1 st May, 2026
5	Youm-e-Takbeer	Thursday	28 th May, 2026
6*	Eid-ul-Azha (10 th Zil Haj 1447 A.H)	Wednesday, Thursday & Friday	27 th , 28 th & 29 th May, 2026
7*	Ashura (9 th & 10 th Moharram 1448 A.H)	Wednesday & Thursday	24 th & 25 th June, 2026
8	Independence Day	Friday	14 th August, 2026
9*	Eid Milad-un-Nabi (12 th Rabi-ul- Awwal 1448 A.H)	Tuesday	25 th August, 2026
10	Allama Iqbal Day	Monday	9 th November, 2026
11	Quaid-e-Azam Day/ Christmas	Friday	25 th December, 2026
12	Day after Christmas	Saturday	26 th December, 2026 (For Christians only)

2. The following will be bank holidays. However, on these days Banks/DFIs/MFBs will remain closed for public but **NOT** for their employees:

Sr.#	Day/ Date
1	1 st January, 2026 (Thursday)
2*	18 th February 2026 (Wednesday) corresponding to 1 st Ramazan 1447 A.H for deduction of Zakat (subject to appearance of moon)
3	1 st July, 2026 (Wednesday)

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OPTIONAL HOLIDAYS

Sr.#	Name of Occasion	Days	Dates during year 2026
1	New Year's Day	Thursday	1 st January, 2026
2*	Shab-e-Meraj (27 th Rajab 1447 A.H)	Saturday	17 th January, 2026
3	Basant Purnami	Friday	23 rd January, 2026
4*	Shab-e-Barat (15 th Shaban 1447 A.H)	Wednesday	4 th February, 2026
5	Shiv Ratri	Monday	16 th February, 2026
6	Dulhandi	Tuesday	3 rd March, 2026
7	Holi	Wednesday	4 th March, 2026
8	Good Friday	Friday	3 rd April, 2026
9	Easter/ Day After Easter Sunday	Sunday & Monday	5 th & 6 th April, 2026
10	Baisakhi	Tuesday	14 th April, 2026
11	Eid-e-Rizwan (Bahai's Community only)	Tuesday	21 st April, 2026
12	Buddha Purnima	Sunday	24 th May, 2026
13*	Chehlum (20 th Safar 1448 A.H)	Tuesday	4 th August, 2026
14	Nauroze (Parsi New Year's Day)	Saturday	15 th August, 2026
15	Birthday of Lord Zoroaster (Khordad Sal)	Thursday	20 th August, 2026
16	Krishna Janam Ashtami	Friday	4 th September, 2026
17*	Giyarvee Shareef (11 th Rabi-us-Sani 1448 A.H)	Wednesday	23 rd September, 2026
18	Durga Puja	Monday	19 th October, 2026
19	Dussehra	Tuesday	20 th October, 2026
20	Birthday of Guru Valmik Sawami Ji	Monday	26 th October, 2026
21	Diwali	Monday	9 th November, 2026
22	Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Ji	Tuesday	24 th November, 2026

* In the case of Muslim festivals, the dates of holidays are anticipated and are subject to the appearance of the moon, for which separate notifications will be issued by the Cabinet Division.

3. Optional holidays are denominational and may be allowed at the discretion of the Head of Organization, provided that work does not suffer. No optional holiday shall be granted to any government servant without prior permission of the Head of Organization and no government servant shall be granted more than one optional holiday in the case of Muslims or three optional holidays in the case of non-Muslims in a calendar year. Furthermore, the grant of this concession should not result in any dislocation of work.

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4. In the case of Muslim optional holidays, the number of persons permitted to avail optional holidays should be regulated in a manner that adequate staff is available for proper continuance of work.
5. In the case of minorities, government servants should not ordinarily be refused an optional holiday of religious significance.
6. Exporters, including manufacturers of exports, shall be exempt from these holidays on the condition that they pay their workers overtime for these days in addition to their existing salary/wage structures.



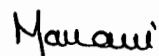
(Kamran Ali Afzal)
Cabinet Secretary

The Principal Information Officer,
Press Information Department,
Islamabad.



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7. Chief Election Commissioner of Pakistan, Islamabad
8. Chairman, National Accountability Bureau, Islamabad
9. Secretary to President, President's Secretariat (Public), Islamabad
10. Secretaries/ Additional Secretaries (In-charge) of Ministries/Divisions, Islamabad / Rawalpindi
11. The Director General, Inter-Services Intelligence, Islamabad
12. The Director General, Intelligence Bureau, Islamabad
13. The Director General (Staff Duty), General Headquarters, Rawalpindi
14. The Director General (Ops), Joint Staff Headquarters, Rawalpindi
15. Secretary, Wafaqi Mohtasib's Secretariat, Islamabad
16. Secretaries Senate and National Assemblies Secretariats, Islamabad
17. Chief Secretaries of Provincial, Azad Jammu & Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan Governments
18. Inspectors General of Police of Provincial, Azad Jammu & Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan Governments
19. Chairman, Capital Development Authority, Islamabad
20. Chief Commissioner, Islamabad
21. Inspector General of Police, Islamabad
22. Secretary, Wafaqi Tax Ombudsman Secretariat, Islamabad
23. Accountant General Pakistan Revenues, Islamabad
24. The Registrar, Federal Constitutional Court of Pakistan, Islamabad
25. The Registrar, Supreme Court of Pakistan, Islamabad
26. The Registrar, Federal Shariat Court, Islamabad
27. The Registrar, Islamabad High Court, Islamabad
28. The Manager, State Bank of Pakistan, Islamabad
29. All Departments of Cabinet Division including Director IT
30. PS to Cabinet Secretary / PSs to Special Secretary/All Additional Secretaries, Cabinet Division


(Mariam Mumtaz) 19/1/26.
Deputy Secretary (Ministerial)