



F.No. 10-2/2022-Min-II
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
CABINET SECRETARIAT
CABINET DIVISION

Islamabad, the 23rd December, 2022

CIRCULAR

Subject: **PUBLIC AND OPTIONAL HOLIDAYS FOR THE YEAR 2023**

The Public and Optional Holidays regarding festivals of Muslims and Minorities in Pakistan for the Calendar Year 2023 would be as under:-

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Sr.#	Name of Occasion	Days	Dates during year 2023
1	Kashmir Day	Sunday	5 th February, 2023
2	Pakistan Day	Thursday	23 rd March, 2023
3*	Eid-ui-Fitr, (1 st Shawal 1444 A.H.)	Saturday, Sunday, Monday	22, 23, 24 April 2023
4	Labour Day	Monday	1 st May, 2023
5*	Eid-ul-Azha, (10 th Zil Haj 1444 A.H.)	Thursday, Friday, Saturday	29, 30 June, 2023 and 1 st July, 2023
6*	Ashura (9 th & 10 th Moharram 1445 A.H.)	Thursday & Friday	27 th and 28 th July, 2023
7	Independence Day	Monday	14 th August, 2023
8*	Eid Milad-un-Nabi (12 th Rabi-ul- Awwal 1445 A.H)	Thursday	28 th September, 2023
9	Allama Iqbal Day	Thursday	9 th November, 2023
10	Quaid-e-Azam Day/ Christmas	Monday	25 th December, 2023
11	Day after Christmas	Tuesday	26 th December, 2023 (For Christians only)

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

Sr.#	Day/ Date
1	2 nd January, 2023 (Monday)
2*	22 nd March, 2023 (Wednesday) corresponding to 1 st Ramazan 1444 A.H. for deduction of Zakat (subject to appearance of moon)
3	3 rd July, 2023 (Monday)

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OPTIONAL HOLIDAYS

Sr.#	Name of Occasion	Days	Dates during year 2023
1	New Year Day	Sunday	1 st January, 2023
2	Basant Purnami	Thursday	26 th January, 2023
3	Shivaratri	Saturday	18 th February, 2023
4*	Shab-e-Meraj (27 th Rajab 1444 A.H)	Saturday	18 th February, 2023
5	Holi	Monday	6 th March, 2023
6	Dulhandi	Tuesday	7 th March, 2023
7*	Shab-e-Barat (15 th Shaban 1444 A.H)	Wednesday	8 th March, 2023
8	Good Friday	Friday	7 th April, 2023
9	Day After Easter Sunday	Monday	10 th April, 2023
10	Baisakhi	Friday	14 th April, 2023
11	Eid-e-Rizwan (Bahai's Community only)	Friday	21 st April, 2023
12	Buddha Purnima	Friday	7 th July, 2023
13	Nauroze (Parsi's New Year Day)	Wednesday	16 th August, 2023
14	Birthday of Lord Zoroaster (Khordad Sal)	Monday	21 st August, 2023
15*	Chehlum (20 th Safar 1445 AH)	Wednesday	6 th September, 2023
16	Janam Ashtami	Thursday	7 th September, 2023
17	Durga Puja	Monday	23 rd October, 2023
18	Dussehra	Tuesday	24 th October, 2023
19*	Giyarvee Shareef (11 th Rabi- us-Sani 1445 A.H)	Friday	27 th October, 2023
20	Birthday of Guru Valmik Sawami Ji	Saturday	28 th October, 2023
21	Diwali	Sunday	12 th November, 2023
22	Guru Nanak Dev Jee Birthday	Monday	27 th November, 2023

NOTE:

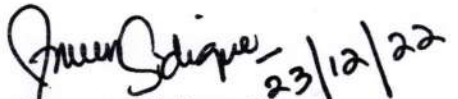
* In case of Muslim Festivals, the dates of Holidays are based on anticipated dates and are subject to appearance of moon for which a separate notification will be issued by Cabinet Division.

3. Government servants desiring to avail themselves of Optional Holidays shall take prior permission of the Head of Office concerned and no Government Servant shall be granted more than **one optional holiday in the case of Muslims** and **three optional holidays for Non-Muslims** in a calendar year.

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4. The grant of this concession should not result in any dislocation of work. In the case of Muslim optional holidays, the number of persons permitted to avail optional holidays should be regulated in a manner so that adequate staff is available for proper continuance of the work. The optional holidays are denominational and may be allowed at the discretion of the Head of Office, provided that work does not suffer.

5. A Government Servant should not ordinarily be refused an Optional Holiday that is of religious significance and the refusal is likely to decrease the number of such holidays to which he/she is entitled.


(Anum Siddique) 23/12/22
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The Principal Information Officer,
Press Information Department,
Islamabad.

Copy to:

1. President's Secretariat (Personal), OSD (Admn). Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.
2. President's Secretariat (Public), DS (Admn), Alwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.
3. Prime Minister's Office (Internal), OSD(Admn), Islamabad.
4. Prime Minister's Office (Public), DS (Admn), Islamabad.
5. The Chief Election Commissioner of Pakistan, Islamabad.
6. The Registrar, Supreme Court of Pakistan, Islamabad.
7. The Registrar, Islamabad High Court, Islamabad
8. The Auditor General of Pakistan, Islamabad,
9. Secretaries/Additional Secretaries Incharge of Ministries / Divisions.
10. Secretary, Senate Secretariat, Islamabad.
11. Secretary, National Assembly Secretariat, Islamabad.
12. Secretariat of Council of Common Interests
13. The AGPR, Islamabad.
14. Chief Secretaries, Government of the Punjab/Lahore, Sindh/ Karachi, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa/ Peshawar, Balochistan/Quetta, Gilgit-Baltistan and AJK/Muzaffarabad.
15. All attached departments of Cabinet Division.
16. The Director General, ISI, Islamabad.
17. The Joint Staff Headquarters, Chaklala, Rawalpindi.
18. GHQ, Rawalpindi
19. The Director General, IB, Islamabad.
20. The Chief Commissioner, ICT, Islamabad.
21. The Manager, State Bank of Pakistan, Islamabad.
22. Secretary, Wafaqi Mohtasib's Secretariat, Islamabad.
23. Secretary, Wafaqi Tax Ombudsman's Secretariat, Islamabad.
24. PS to the Secretary, Cabinet Division, Islamabad.
25. PSs to the Additional Secretary-I, II & III, Cabinet Division, Islamabad.
26. The Deputy Director, IT Section, Cabinet Division, Islamabad (with the request to upload on official website).