



assalaamualeikum!
("peace be unto you")

Birth of the Prophet Muhammad

Islam

[\(muh-haa-muhd\)](#)



In the Islamic tradition, Prophet Muhammad [peace be upon him] is the final prophet of the Abrahamic faith traditions (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam), confirming the monotheistic teachings of the prophets preceding him, including Adam, Noah, Moses, and Jesus [peace be upon them].

Born in 570 CE, Prophet Muhammad's [peace be upon him] birthday is commemorated by Muslims around the world during the month of Rabi' Al-Awal. Mawlid an-Nabi – literally, The Birth of the Prophet – is often referred to as the Mawlid.

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

While the exact date is unknown, many commemorate Prophet Muhammad's [peace be upon him] birth on the 12th day of the third month of the Islamic (lunar) calendar.

Greetings

- There is no traditional greeting used on this day, as it is a day of commemoration, rather than celebration. Therefore, Muslims greet each other as they normally would: "assalaamualeikum" ("peace be unto you"). This is pronounced "as-saa-laam-muu-ah-lay-kum."
- Notably, it is etiquette in the Islamic tradition to distinguish prophets by referring to them with an immediate notation of respect following their names, as seen above with the bracketed phrase [peace be upon them].

Common Practices and Celebrations

- The day is commonly marked by religious lectures, readings, and poetry of Prophet Muhammad's [peace be upon him] life, legacy, and character, and the example he set as a role model for humanity.
- Many cultures celebrate the Mawlid by visiting each other at home or attending gatherings at mosques and sharing a variety of sweets.

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](#), U-M

Information Sources

- [Muhammad Biography](#), updated April 6, 2020
- [Public Holidays Global](#)

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