



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:

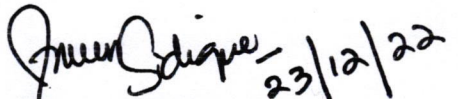
* In case of Muslim Festivals, the dates of Holidays are based on anticipated dates and are subject to appearance of moon for which a separate notification will be issued by Cabinet Division.

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).