

**The End Times:**  
**Based on numerical analysis of**  
**the Quran, Hadith, Arabic Words, and Historical Events**

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This book consists of **6 Parts** (Volumes)

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**Significant Days in History**

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## Important Hijri years

In this book, we mention specific Hijri years, without necessarily mentioning how they correspond to Gregorian years. Hijri years are lunar years. Hijri years consist of **354 days** and the leap Hijri years consist of **355 days**. So, Hijri years are shorter than Gregorian years by **11 days**. There are 12 months in a Hijri year. Hijri months are either 29 or 30 days. The following shows the beginning and end of each of the following important Hijri years:

**1439 Hijri** (starts on September 21 (or 22), **2017** – ends on September 10, **2018**)

**1444 Hijri** (starts on July 30, 2022 - ends on July 18, 2023)

## List of Hijri Months (From the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> month)

1. محرم Muharam: **288**
2. صفر Safar: **370**
3. ربيع الأول Rabi Al-Awwal (the First):  $282 + 68 = \mathbf{350}$
4. ربيع الثاني Rabi Al-Thani (the Second):  $282 + 592 = \mathbf{874}$  [Also known as Rabi Al-Akhir (the Last) ]
5. جمادى الأولى Jumada Al-Ula (the First):  $58 + 78 = \mathbf{136}$
6. جمادى الثانية Jumada Al-Thania (the Second):  $58 + 597 = \mathbf{655}$  [Also known as Jumada Al-Akhira (the Last) ]
7. رجب Rajab: **205**
8. شعبان Shaban : **423**
9. رمضان Ramadan: **1091**
10. شوال Shawwal: **337**
11. ذو القعدة Zu Al-Qada:  $706 \text{ (or } 707) + 210 = \mathbf{916 \text{ (or } 917)}$
12. ذو الحجه Zu Al-Hijja:  $706 + 47 = \mathbf{753}$

## **If Allah is willing**

Nothing will happen in the Future, including the End Times, unless Allah (s.w.t.) is willing and permits it to happen. We hereby say: **إن شاء الله** (In-Sha-Allah, meaning “If Allah is willing”) for each and every statement we make in this book about the future because it is difficult to keep repeating it after each statement.

Furthermore, we have to remind people that when Allah (s.w.t.) permits something to happen, that does not necessarily mean Allah (s.w.t.) is pleased with it.

## **Chapter 1**

### **Significant Days of the Islamic Hijri Calendar in History**

Significant days of the **Islamic Hijri Calendar** in History include:

#### **1. Muharram 15 – 17**

**Muharram 17** is the **17<sup>th</sup> day** of the Hijri Calendar.

The following events happened during this period:

- In the 1870s, while **Sudan** was part of **Egypt** which was ruled by the Albanian dynasty of **Muhammad Ali Pasha** as an autonomous province of the Ottoman Empire, a Muslim scholar in **Sudan** named **Muhammad Ahmad bin AbdAllah** preached renewal of the faith and liberation of the land, and began attracting followers. On **June 29, 1881** (Shaban 1, 1298 Hijri) (Tammuz 2, 5641 Jewish), he proclaimed himself **the Mahdi**, the promised redeemer of the Islamic world. He changed the Shahada, or profession of faith, to include the phrase, "Muhammad Al-Mahdi is the Khalifa of the Prophet of God," and revised the five pillars of Islam by replacing the Hajj or pilgrimage to Mecca with the obligation to undertake jihad, and adding a sixth pillar, which was belief in the Mahdiyya. An Egyptian expedition, dispatched to attack the Mahdi, was ambushed and slaughtered by the Mahdi's men on the night of **December 9, 1881 (Muharram 17, 1299 Hijri)** (Kislev 17, 5642 Jewish). Egypt sent a larger expedition to attack Mahdi's men who were poorly clothed, half starving, and armed only with sticks and stones, so the Mahdi led a successful assault against the Egyptian forces, defeating them decisively **at dawn, on June 7, 1882** (Rajab 20, 1299 Hijri) (Sivan 20, 5642 Jewish). By the end of 1882, the Mahdi controlled most of Sudan. In 1882, Egypt (including Sudan), while remaining as an autonomous province of the Ottoman Empire, became an official protectorate of Britain. On **January 26, 1885** (Rabi Thani 9, 1302 Hijri) (Shevat 10, 5645 Jewish), after a ten-month siege that started on **March 13, 1884**, the Mahdi's fighters captured **Khartoum** (the capital of Sudan) and killed Charles Gordon, the British Governor. The British public reacted to

his death by acclaiming 'Gordon of Khartoum', who had had a strong Christian faith, a martyred warrior-saint. **Muhammad Ahmad bin AbdAllah** was born on **August 12, 1844** (Rajab 27, 1260 Hijri) and died due to typhus on **June 22, 1885** (Ramadan 9, 1302 Hijri). His great-grandson, **Al-Sadiq Al-Mahdi** became Prime Minister of Sudan starting from 1966.

- On Saturday, **Muharram 17**, 1304 Hijri (October 16, 1886) (Tishri 17, 5647 Jewish), **David Ben-Gurion**, first Prime Minister of Israel, was born.

- **Sykes-Picot Agreement** is a secret agreement, between Britain and France, with the assent of Tsarist Russia, to divide the Middle East, among themselves. The first round of discussions took place in London on **November 23, 1915 (Muharram 16, 1334 Hijri)** with the French government represented by **François-Georges Picot**, a diplomat with extensive experience in the Middle East, and the British government represented by **Arthur Nicolson**. The second round of discussions took place on **December 21, 1915 (Safar 13 (or 14), 1334 Hijri)** with the British now represented by **Mark Sykes** (British Conservative MP, and assistant to the secretary of state for war, Lord Kitchener), a leading expert on the Middle East. **Sykes-Picot Agreement** is named after its final negotiators, **Mark Sykes** and **François-Georges Picot**. The terms of the agreement were specified in a letter, dated **May 9, 1916 (Rajab 6, 1334 Hijri)** (Iyar 6, 5676 Jewish), from **Paul Cambon**, ambassador of France in London, addressed to **Edward Grey**, Foreign Secretary of Britain. These terms of the agreement were ratified in a return letter from Edward Grey to Paul Cambon on **May 16, 1916 (Rajab 13, 1334 Hijri)** (Iyar 13, 5676 Jewish) (242,0999.5 or 242,1000<sup>th</sup> Julian day). **Sykes-Picot Agreement** was revealed to the public for the first time in Izvestia and Pravda newspapers in Russia on **November 23, 1917 (Safar 8, 1336 Hijri)**, after the Communists came to power in Russia. On **November 26, 1917 (Safar 11, 1336 Hijri)**, in Britain, the *Manchester Guardian* newspaper (which in 1959, became known as "The Guardian") printed the text of the **Sykes-Picot Agreement**.

- On Friday, **Muharram 17**, 1336 Hijri (November 2, 1917) (Heshvan 17, 5678 Jewish), **Balfour Declaration/Promise** was offered in a letter.

- On **Muharram 16**, 1341 Hijri (September 9, 1922) (Elul 16, 5682 Jewish), Kemal Ataturk's army entered **Izmir (Smyrna)** (the wealthiest of Ottoman cities) and liberated it from the **Greek occupation** which started on **May 15, 1919**.

- The draft of the British Mandate for Palestine was confirmed by the League of Nations on July 24, 1922 (Zu Al-Qa'da 29, 1340 Hijri) (Tammuz 28, 5682 Jewish) (2423,259.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). On **September 11, 1922 (Muharram 18, 1341 Hijri)** (Elul 18, 5682 Jewish), the oaths of office for the **British High Commissioner** and Commander in Chief for Palestine **were administered in Jerusalem**. On **September 16, 1922 (Muharram 23, 1341 Hijri)** (Elul 23, 5682 Jewish) (2423,313.5<sup>th</sup> or 2423,314<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), Lord Balfour, representing the United Kingdom, reminded the Council of the League of Nations of Article 25 of the Mandate for Palestine. Article 25 allowed for the exclusion of Transjordan from unspecified provisions of the Mandate. He then presented the TransJordan Memorandum for approval detailing how Britain intended to implement Article 25. The League of Nations approved the TransJordan Memorandum on the same day, **September 16, 1922**. On **September 23, 1922 (Safar 1, 1341 Hijri)** (Tishri 1, 5683 Jewish) (242,3320.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), the U.N. Secretary-General sent a

written confirmation note to Members of the League regarding the memorandum of Britain relating to Article 25. Based on this memorandum, the Mandate territory was formalized by the U.K. with the creation of two administrative areas, Palestine, under direct British rule, and autonomous Transjordan, under the rule of the Hashemite family from the Kingdom of Hijaz in present-day Saudi Arabia, in accordance with the McMahon Correspondence of 1915. Thus, Transjordan, meaning the area east of the Jordan river, became exempt from the Mandate provisions concerning the Jewish National Home. The British Mandate for Palestine came into effect on **September 29, 1923** (Safar 7, 1342 Hijri) (Tishri 7, 5683 Jewish).

- On Thursday, June 4, 1931 (**Muharram 19 (or 18)**, 1350 Hijri), Sharif of Mecca, **Hussein bin Ali** (who led the Arab Revolution against the Ottoman Sultanate) died in Amman and was buried in the Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem.

- On Saturday, November 29, 1947 (**Muharram 16**, 1367 Hijri) (Kislev 16, 5708 Jewish), the **U.N.'s voted in favor of partitioning Palestine** and giving the Jews a significant portion of Palestine.

- The first **Palestine National Congress** of 422 delegates was held at the then-brand new Intercontinental Hotel in **the Old City of Jerusalem** on **May 28, 1964** Gregorian (May 15, 1964 Julian) (**Muharram 16, 1384** Hijri) (Sivan 16, 5724 Jewish) and proclaimed the establishment of the **Palestine Liberation Organization (P.L.O.)** for the liberation of the occupied Palestine and to protect the rights and aspirations of the Palestinian people. The Palestinian National Charter was announced and the Palestine Liberation Army was formed. **P.L.O.** earliest leader was **Ahmed Shukairy**, a lawyer from Haifa. His leadership was quickly eclipsed by that of Yasser Arafat. The blueprint for the PLO had been drawn earlier by Arab states at an **Arab League** meeting held in Cairo from **January 13 to 17, 1964**.

- On **May 18, 1965** (**Muharram 17 (or 16)**, 1385 Hijri) (Iyar 16, 5725 Jewish), **Eli Cohen** (اليهاو بن شاول كوهين) was hanged in Marga Square in Damascus, **Syria**. He was a Jewish spy who worked for Mossad (Israel's intelligence service) in Syria. He was born on **December 26, 1924** (**Jumada Akhirah 1**, 1343 Hijri) (Kislev 29, 5685 Jewish).

- On **March 12, 1971** (**Muharram 15**, 1391 Hijri), **Hafiz Al-Asad** was elected **President of Syria** in a referendum. He was born in Kurdaha near Latakia, Syria, on **October 6, 1930** (Jumada Ula 13, 1349 Hijri). On **November 13, 1970** (Ramadan 14, **1390 Hijri**), a coup known as the Corrective Movement, brought Lieutenant General **Hafiz Al-Asad** to power in Syria. On **November 19, 1970** (Ramadan 20, 1390 Hijri) (Heshvan 20, 5731 Jewish), the Regional Command announced the appointment of **Hafiz Al-Asad** as Prime Minister and Minister of Defense of Syria. He died in Damascus at the age of **69** on **June 10, 2000** (Rabi Awwal 7, 1421 Hijri).

- A man claiming to be the **Mahdi** in Mecca and his **group of 269 militant supporters** took over the Haram Mosque in Mecca on **November 20, 1979** (**Muharram 1, 1400 Hijri**). The group entered the Grand Mosque under the pretext of attending the Fajr (Dawn) prayer. They were carrying several caskets with them and mosque guards were told they contained bodies. In reality, the caskets contained dozens of weapons. During the Fajr prayer, the group chained all of

the mosque's doors and placed two guards at each door. Several other militants stormed the microphone room and took control of the mosque's loudspeakers. Immediately after the prayer, the group announced the appearance of the Mahdi. They said he had escaped from his enemies and was taking refuge inside the Grand Mosque. The group then started to pledge allegiance to the Mahdi. **Year 1400 Hijri** (the beginning of the current Hijri century) is equivalent to **400**, the numerical value of **the Satan**. By **November 27, 1979** (Muharram 8, 1400 Hijri), most of the mosque had been retaken by the Saudi National Guard and the Army, though they suffered heavy casualties in the assault. King Khaled of Saudi Arabia turned to France and its famous GIGN (National Gendarmerie Intervention Group). So, the French led the Saudi troops and managed to capture the remaining militants on **December 5, 1979** (**Muharram 15**, 1400 Hijri). On **January 10, 1980** (Safar 21, 1400 Hijri), 63 rebels were publicly beheaded in the squares of eight Saudi cities.

- On **October 23, 1983** (**Muharram 16**, 1404 Hijri), an attack happened on the barracks of U.S. and French forces, part of Multinational peacekeepers in Beirut, Lebanon, during the Lebanese Civil War, killed 241 U.S. and 58 French troops and six civilians. This caused the U.S. to withdraw its forces from Lebanon.

- **Iraq** started its invasion of **Kuwait** on **August 2, 1990** (Muharram 10, 1411 Hijri) (**Av 11**, 5750 Jewish). On **August 8, 1990** (Muharram 16 (or 17), 1411 Hijri) (**Av 17**, 5750 Jewish), Iraq declared that **Kuwait is the 19<sup>th</sup> province of Iraq**. On **August 9, 1990**, Iraq formally closed the borders of Iraq and Kuwait. U.N. Security Council unanimously declared Iraqi annexation of Kuwait "null and void." On **August 10, 1990** (Muharram 18 (or 19), 1411 Hijri) (**Av 19**, 5750 Jewish), Arab leaders met in Cairo, where 12 of 20 Arab League states voted to send all-Arab military force to join Americans in defense of Saudi Arabia. Saddam Hussein made an emotional television appeal to Arab masses to "revolt against oppression" in a jihad against foreigners who desecrate Islam's holy shrines. The intervention of the Coalition led by the U.S. started on **January 17, 1991** (Rajab 1, 1411 Hijri).

- At night, on **May 14, 1998** (**Muharram 18**, 1419 Hijri) (**Iyar 18**, 5758 Jewish) (2450,947.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), meaning on the eve of **May 15** (**Muharram 19**, 1419 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5758 Jewish), **Frank Sinatra** died in Los Angeles. On **May 18, 1998**, about 800 - 1000 people, from all over the East Coast, overflowed from **St. Francis Church** (the same church in which he was baptized when he was a baby) onto the street, in Sinatra's hometown of Hoboken, New Jersey, for a public religious memorial service, at the end of which those in attendance sang his most famous song "My Way. A private service for the reading of the Rosary took place on **Tuesday night May 19, 1998** (**Iyar 23**, 5758 Jewish) in Beverly Hills. Sinatra's funeral was held at **noon on Wednesday, May 20, 1998** (**Iyar 24**, 5758 Jewish) at the **Beverly Hills Roman Catholic church** and Cardinal Roger Mahony, archbishop of Los Angeles, led the services. Attendance of the funeral services was by **invitation only**. Sinatra's friends from the music and film industry attended the funeral. His most famous song "**My Way**" written by Lebanese Canadian singer and song-writer Paul Anka, tells the World that the End Times is near. The song starts with "**And now the End is near**". People on Twitter asked Sinatra's daughter, Nancy, how she felt about "My Way" being sung at the inauguration of Donald Trump as President of the U.S., she prophetically replied by tweeting: "Just remember the first line of the song," He was born on **December 12, 1915** (Safar 4, 1334 Hijri) (2420,843.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).

- On **March 29, 2002 (Muharram 15, 1423 Hijri)** (Nisan 16, 5762 Jewish), **Israel** began what it called "Operation Defensive Shield", an invasion of Palestinian towns in the West Bank. During the Operation, Israeli tanks and troops besieged **Arafat's Palestinian Authority Headquarters** in **Ramallah**, prohibiting him from leaving till **May 2, 2002 (Safar 19 (or 20), 1423 Hijri)** (**Iyar 20, 5762 Jewish**). At approximately 2:00 a.m. on **April 2, 2002 (Muharram 19, 1423 Hijri is 19<sup>th</sup> day of 1423 Hijri)** (Nisan 20, 5762 Jewish), the Israeli forces invaded **Bethlehem** (the birth town of Jesus, which is about 20 miles south of **Ramallah**) using about 250 tanks and armored carriers of troops, fighter jets, and combat helicopters. By 4:30 a.m., Israeli forces seized full control over Bethlehem, except the Old Town of Bethlehem. Around 11:30 a.m., Israeli occupation forces shelled **Santa Maria Church**, and as a result, several priests and nuns were wounded. About 200 Palestinian civilians (including Muhammad Al-Madani, the governor of Bethlehem) and militants fled to the **Church of the Nativity**, seeking refuge. In addition, there were some 200 Christian monks who resided in the church. Israeli forces **besieged** the **Church of the Nativity** (located over the birthplace cave of Jesus) in Bethlehem, for **39 days**, from **April 2, 2002 (Muharram 19, 1423 Hijri)** (Nisan 20, 5762 Jewish) till **May 10, 2002 (Safar 27 (or 28), 1423 Hijri)** (**Iyar 28, 5762 Jewish**). During the siege, Israeli army snipers, from their rooftop positions surrounding the Church, killed seven Palestinians who were in the Church. After **39 days of siege**, an agreement was reached, according to which the Palestinian militants surrendered and were exiled to Europe and the Gaza Strip. Palestinians had last sought refuge in the **Church of the Nativity** during Israel's capture of the West Bank in **June 1967**. During the same Israeli military operation, Israeli Forces attacked **Jenin refugee camp**, inhabited by 16,000 Palestinians in Jenin, in the West Bank and a major battle broke out starting from **April 3, 2002 (Muharram 20, 1423 Hijri)**. On **April 11, 2002**, Palestinian militants began to surrender. Israeli troops began withdrawing from the camp on **April 18, 2002 (Safar 5, 1423 Hijri)** (**Iyar 6, 5762 Jewish**). British forensic expert, Professor Derrick Pounder, part of Amnesty International team, who gained access to Jenin said that evidence pointed to a massacre committed by Israeli forces. United Nations special envoy, Terje Roed-Larsen, who visited Jenin refugee camp, described the devastation as "horrific beyond belief". The camp was heavily damaged by Israeli bombardment and airplane missiles. Then, Israeli forces levelled with bulldozers hundreds of Palestinian homes in the camp completely after the end of the battle.

- The U.S. - led **invasion of Iraq** started with airstrikes around 5:30 a.m. local time in Iraq (2:30 a.m. U.T.C.) on Wednesday, **March 20, 2003 (Muharram 16, 1424 Hijri)** (Adar II 16, 5763 Jewish) (2452,718.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). **March 20** is **March Equinox day**, beginning of the Spring in the Northern Hemisphere and beginning of the Autumn in the Southern Hemisphere. The attack on Baghdad started on **April 5, 2003 (Safar 2, 1424 Hijri)** (2452,734.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day) and **Baghdad** was conquered by U.S. forces on **April 9, 2003 (Safar 6, 1424 Hijri)** (Nisan 7, 5763 Jewish) (2452,738.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).

- On January 4, 2010 (**Muharram 18 (or 19), 1431 Hijri**) (Teveth 18, 5770 Jewish) (2455,200.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), the opening ceremony of **Burj (Tower) of Khalifa (Caliph) in Dubai** was held. This date was chosen because **January 4** is the anniversary of the accession to the throne of Sheikh Mohammad, the Ruler of Dubai, after his brother's death on January 4, 2006. Since the completion of its construction till the present time, it remains not only the World's tallest building, but also the tallest man-made structure ever built at **829.8 meters (2,722 ft)** high

and **163 floors**.

## 2. **Safar 22 - 24**

**Safar 22** is the **51<sup>st</sup> (or 52<sup>nd</sup>) day** of the Hijri Calendar.

**Safar 23** is the **52<sup>nd</sup> (or 52<sup>rd</sup>) day** of the Hijri Calendar.

The following events happened during this period:

- In the evening of **December 8, 1917 (Safar 23, 1336 Hijri)**, the Ottoman Governor of **Jerusalem**, Izzat Bey, gave a "Surrender Letter" to former mayor of Jerusalem, **Dr. Hussein Al-Husseini** [descendant of Al-Hussein, grandson of Prophet Mohammad (p)], so that he delivers it to the invading **British forces**. During this meeting, he re-instated Dr. Hussein Al-Husseini to the position of **Mayor of Jerusalem**, the office he had been removed from by **Jamal Pasha** in 1915. The Ottoman forces started retreating from Jerusalem during that night. The next morning shortly before 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, **December 9, 1917 (Safar 24, 1336 Hijri)** (Kislev 24, 5678 Jewish) (2421,571.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Hussein Al-Husseini** attempted to deliver the letter of surrender and the keys of the city to British Officers, Sergeants James Sedgwick and Frederick Hurcombe, just outside Jerusalem's western limits. They refused to take the letter, but it was eventually accepted by Brigadier-General C. F. Watson, Commander of the 180<sup>th</sup> British Infantry Brigade. At **10:30 a.m.**, the **British army** entered **Jerusalem**. On that day, all Christian denominations rang their church bells in celebration of this happy occasion and held prayers. The head of the British forces, **General Allenby**, entered **Jerusalem** on foot through Jaffa Gate on **December 11, 1917 (Safar 26, 1336 Hijri)** (Kislev 26, 5678 Jewish) (473,135<sup>th</sup> Hijri Day). General Allenby said: "The wars of the Crusaders are now complete." This event represented the return of the rule of Children of Israel & Crusaders over Jerusalem after being ruled by Muslims since **year 1244**.
- General **Edmund Allenby**, who led the British forces in the conquest of Jerusalem in December 1917, died on **May 14, 1936 (Safar 22, 1355 Hijri)** (Iyar 22, 5696 Jewish). He was born on **April 23, 1861 (Shawwal 13, 1277 Hijri)** (**Iyar 13**, 5621 Jewish).
- **Barack Obama** was born on **Friday, August 4, 1961** Gregorian (July 22, 1961 Julian) (**Safar 22**, 1381 Hijri) (Av 22, 5721 Jewish) (2437,515.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day) in Honolulu, Hawaii at 7:24 p.m. local time. Based on Jerusalem Time, it was 8:24 a.m. on **Saturday, August 5, 1961** Gregorian (July 23, 1961 Julian) (**Safar 23**, 1381 Hijri) (Av 23, 5721 Jewish) (2437,516.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).
- On **June 1, 1967 (Safar 22, 1387 Hijri)** (Iyar 22, 5727 Jewish), when war with Israel's Arab neighbors was imminent, **Moshe Dayan** was appointed **Minister of Defense of Israel**. He personally oversaw Israel's **capture of East Jerusalem** on **June 7, 1967**.



- A man claimed to be the Mahdi in Mecca and his **group of 269 militant supporters** took over the Haram Mosque in Mecca on **November, 20, 1979 (Muharram 1, 1400 Hijri)**. The group entered the Grand Mosque under the pretext of attending the Fajr (Dawn) prayer. They were carrying several caskets with them and mosque guards were told they contained bodies. In reality, the caskets contained dozens of weapons. During the Fajr prayer, the group chained all of the mosque's doors and placed two guards at each door. Several other militants stormed the microphone room and took control of the mosque's loudspeakers. Immediately after the prayer, the group announced the appearance of the Mahdi. They said he had escaped from his enemies and was taking refuge inside the Grand Mosque. The group then started to pledge allegiance to the Mahdi. **Year 1400 Hijri** (the beginning of the current Hijri century) is equivalent to **400**, the numerical value of **the Satan**. King Khaled of Saudi Arabia turned to France and its famous GIGN (National Gendarmerie Intervention Group). So, the French led the Saudi troops and managed to capture the remaining militants on **December 5, 1979 (Muharram 15, 1400 Hijri)**. On **January 10, 1980 (Safar 21, 1400 Hijri)**, 63 rebels were publicly beheaded in the squares of eight Saudi cities.

- U.S. President **George H. Bush Sr.** delivered a speech at a joint session of the U.S. Congress on **September 11, 1990 (Safar 21, 1411 Hijri) (Elul 21, 5750 Jewish)**, titled: "**Towards a New World Order.**"

- The U.S., Britain, France, and the U.S.S.R. renounced all rights they formerly held in Germany (as a result of World War II) in the **Treaty on the Final Settlement with Respect to Germany** was signed in Moscow, USSR, on **September 12, 1990 (Safar 22, 1411 Hijri) (Elul 22, 5750 Jewish)**.

- **Pope John Paul II** died on Saturday at 9:37 p.m. Rome Time, on **April 2, 2005 (Safar 21 (or 22), 1426 Hijri) (Adar II 22, 5765 Jewish) (2453,462.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**, meaning eve of April 3, 2005 (**Safar 22 (or 23), 1426 Hijri**). **Pope John Paul II** was buried in the grotto beneath Saint Peter's Basilica on **April 8, 2005 (Safar 27 (or 28), 1426 Hijri) (Adar II 28, 5765 Jewish)**.

### 3. **Safar 25 - 28**

**Safar 26** is the **55<sup>th</sup> (or 56<sup>th</sup>) day** of the Hijri Calendar.

**Safar 27** is the **56<sup>th</sup> (or 57<sup>th</sup>) day** of the Hijri Calendar.

The following events happened during this period:

- The **Hijra (Migration) of Prophet Mohammad (p) from Mecca to Medina** started after he learned from the Angel Gabriel, on Thursday, **Safar 26, 1 Hijri (September 9, 622 Julian) (September 12, 622 Gregorian) (Elul 28, 4382 Jewish)**, about a plot to kill him at **Dawn on Friday, Safar 27, 1 Hijri**. Angel Gabriel told Prophet Mohammad (p) not to sleep in his bed

that night and that he should migrate to Medina. The decision to kill him was made in a meeting of his enemies on **Safar 26, 1 Hijri**. Prophet Mohammad (p) went to Abu Bakr and told him that a permission was given to him (meaning from God) for the **Khuruj** (Coming out, Exodus, or Departure). Then, he went back to his house and asked his cousin **Ali bin Abi Talib** to sleep in Prophet Mohammad (p)'s bed that night, after Prophet Mohammad (p) leaves to Medina, so that Prophet Mohammad's enemies would think that the Prophet was sleeping in his house and asked him to start delivering items that were entrusted to Prophet Mohammad (p) to the individuals entitled to them in the next morning. **At night on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> of Safar, 1 Hijri**, the enemies of Prophet Mohammad (p) were surrounding his house, but **Angel Gabriel** came and told Prophet Mohammad (p) to leave his house and pass by the enemies waiting outside his house and God will ensure that they will not be able to see him. Prophet Mohammad (p) left his house as was told by Angel Gabriel while reciting **the first verses of Sura 36** till he reached **verse 9** of this Sura which can be translated as: *"And We have put, in front of them, a barrier and, behind them, a barrier, so We have blocked their vision such that they do not see."* Then, he went to Abu Bakr's house and stayed there till midnight and left with Abu Bakr from a back exit and started their migration journey. On that night, his cousin **Ali bin Abi Talib** risked his life and was willing to sacrifice himself by sleeping in Prophet Muhammad's bed, instead of Prophet Muhammad (p) to thwart the assassination plot against Prophet Muhammad (p). That is why it is called *Laylat (Night) of Al-Mabeet (the Staying)*. Prophet Mohammad (p) and Abu Bakr reached a cave in Mount of Thawr where they stayed till Monday, **1<sup>st</sup> of Rabi' Al-Awwal, 1 Hijri, (September 13, 622 AD Julian)**. They arrived to Quba, near Medina, on Monday, **8<sup>th</sup> of Rabi Al-Awwal, 1 Hijri (September 20, 622 AD Julian)** where Prophet Mohammad (p) established of Mosque of Quba, the first mosque in Islam. On Friday, **12<sup>th</sup> of Rabi Al-Awwal, 1 Hijri (September 24, 622 AD Julian)**, they left Quba, heading to Medina. Around noon time, they passed by the locality of Banu Salim bin Auf in a valley about **one kilometer away from Quba**. The people of Banu Salim implored: *"O Prophet of Allah, you stayed at the homes of our cousins for a number of days, reward us too with something, for they will pride themselves over us till the Day of Judgement that you stayed with them"*. So, in that locality, the Prophet (p) led the first Friday Prayer in the history of Islam and delivered the first Friday sermon, in a spot where a mosque was later built. Because of this event, the Mosque is referred to as the Friday Mosque, but it is also known as Mosque of Bani Salim, Mosque of Al-Wadi, Mosque of Ghubaib or Mosque of Aatikah. Approximately 100 Muslims participated in this first Friday Prayer. After the prayer, Prophet Mohammad (p) continued his journey to Medina. When he reached Medina, his camel stopped at a specific location and Prophet Mohammad (p) declared that it is the location where he will establish a mosque, which is known today as the **Nabawi Mosque (Mosque of the Prophet)** which is about **2.5 km** away from the **Friday Mosque**.

- Few days before his death, **Prophet Mohammad (p)** ordered **Osama bin Zaid**, around **Safar 26 – 27, 11 Hijri** to lead an army to invade lands ruled by the Byzantine Empire.
- Most of Shia scholars believe **Prophet Mohammad (p)** died in Medina on **Safar 28, 11 Hijri**. However, most of Sunni scholars believe that he died on **Rabi Awwal 12, 11 Hijri**.
- **Al-Hasan**, grandson of Prophet Mohammad (p), died on March 27 (or 6), 670 AD (**Safar 28** (or 7), 50 Hijri), due to poisoning.

- Sunni scholar, **Imam Al-Awzai** died at the age of 69 in the city of Beirut, Lebanon on **Safar 27**, 157 Hijri.
  
- **Saif Al-Dawla Al-Hamadani**, founder of the Hamadani State that ruled Aleppo, Syria for 60 years, died on **Safar 25**, 356 Hijri.
  
- On **March 4, 1193** (**Safar 27**, 589 Hijri), **Salah Eddine Al-Ayubi**, (who liberated **Jerusalem** from the Crusaders on October 2, 1187) **died** in Damascus, due to fever.
  
- In 1238, **King of Aragon**, Jaume (James) the Conqueror, laid siege for five months on **Valencia (Balancia)** which was ruled by Muslims. On September 28, 1238, the Muslim forces finally surrendered. On **October 9, 1238** (**Safar 27, 636 Hijri**), he entered Valencia, capturing the city from Muslims. Fifty thousand Muslims were forced to leave. This event was the final end of the rule of the city by Muslims which started around 718 AD, but was interrupted by brief periods of Christian rule. This is considered the beginning of Kingdom of Valencia which lasted till 1707. Today, October 9 is a public holiday called Valencia Community Day, celebrated annually in the Valenciana region of Spain to commemorate the capture of the city of Valencia from Muslims. Valencia is the principal city in the region.
  
- Construction of the present **St. Peter's Basilica** on the **Vatican Hill in Rome**, replacing the Old St. Peter's Basilica of the 4th century AD, began on **April 18, 1506** Julian (Zu Al-Qada 23 (or 24), 911 Hijri) (Nisan 24, 5266 Jewish). After the construction was completed, the Basilica consecrated by **Pope Urban VIII** on **November 18, 1626** Julian (**November 28, 1626** Gregorian) (**Safar 28**, 1036 Hijri) (Heshvan 29, 5387 Jewish).
  
- On **October 13, 1792** (**Safar 26 (or 27)**, 1207 Hijri) (Tishri 27, 5553 Jewish), the Masonic ceremony of laying of the cornerstone of the **White House** took place, with President George Washington presiding the ceremony.
  
- On **May 18, 1804** Gregorian (**May 6, 1804** Julian) (Safar 8, 1219 Hijri), Napoleon proclaimed himself emperor of France, and made Josephine Empress. His coronation ceremony took place on December 2, 1804, in which he crowned himself, but in the presence of the Pope, in the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris. On **May 26, 1805** (**Safar 26**, 1220 Hijri), **Napoleon Bonaparte** crowned himself as a **King of Italy** in Milan, Italy, but the Pope refused to attend the ceremony.
  
- The **Great Comet of 1811**, formally designated C/1811 F1, is a comet that was visible to the naked eye for around 260 days, a record it held until the appearance of **Comet Hale-Bopp** in 1997. The comet was discovered **March 25, 1811** (**Safar 29**, 1226 Hijri) by Honoré Flaugergues.
  
- On Tuesday, **May 31, 1859** (Shawwal 27, 1275 Hijri) (**Iyar 27**, 5619 Jewish) (240,0195.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Big Ben Clock**, in London, England, started operating and keeping time. The clock is perched on a 96-meter (315-foot) elegant tower called the **Clock Tower**, overlooking **River Thames**, adjacent to **Westminster Bridge**, at the northern end of the **Palace of Westminster** (the meeting place of the House of Commons and the House of Lords, the two houses of the

Parliament of the U. K.) in **Westminster**, in central **London**. The **Clock Tower** also houses **Big Ben Bell** (also called the Great Bell) that rings every hour on the hour (that is why it is called “**The Hour Bell**”), and **4 smaller Quarter bells** which chime every quarter of an hour (meaning 15 minutes). **Big Ben Bell** was initially hung in New Palace Yard for testing. It was tested each day until **October 17, 1857 (Safar 27 (or 28), 1274 Hijri)** when a **1.2m crack** appeared. A new replacement bell was cast on **April 10, 1858 (Shaban 25, 1274 Hijri)**. The **Big Ben Bell** rang for the first time on **July 11, 1859 (Zu Al-Hijja 9 (or 10), 1275 Hijri)** (Tammuz 9, 5619 Jewish), but its success was short-lived. In **September 1859**, the new bell cracked again and Big Ben remained silent for four years. During this 4-year period, the hour was struck on the fourth Quarter bell. In 1863, a solution for Big Ben's was found: **(a)** Big Ben was turned by a quarter turn so the hammer struck a different spot, **(b)** the hammer was replaced by a lighter version, **(c)** a small square was cut into the bell to prevent the crack from spreading. The Quarter bells first chimed on **September 7, 1859 (Safar 8 (or 9), 1276 Hijri) (Elul 8, 5619 Jewish)**. The **Clock Tower** is one of the most distinctive architectural symbols of London.

- **Jamal Pasha**, the Ottoman governor of Greater Syria, hanged prominent activists and intellectuals, opposed to his oppressive rule, in both Damascus and Beirut, on **May 6, 1916 Rumi Calendar (May 19, 1916 Gregorian)** (Rajab 16, 1334 Hijri) (Iyar 16, 5676 Jewish) (242,1002.5 Julian Day). In commemoration of this event, **May 6** is celebrated annually as the **Martyrs' Day** in Syria and Lebanon. He is referred to as the **Jazzar** (Butcher or Slaughterer). He was **born on May 6, 1872 Rumi Calendar (May 18, 1872 Gregorian) (Rabi Awwal 10, 1289 Hijri) (Iyar 10, 5632 Jewish)**. He was killed on **July 21, 1922 (Zu Al-Qada 25, 1340 Hijri)** (Tammuz 25, 5682 Jewish) (2423,256.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).

- **Gibran Khalil Gibran** is a Lebanese author, philosopher, and painter, born in Bsharri, Lebanon on **January 6, 1883 Gregorian** (December 25, 1882 Julian) (**Safar 26, 1300 Hijri**), but lived most of his life in the U.S., where he was known as Kahlil Gibran. **Gibran Khalil Gibran** is considered the third best selling poet in history, after Shakespeare and Lao Tse. His most famous book is titled “**The Prophet**”. This book has been translated to almost all main languages of the World and is considered one of the best selling books of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. In this book, written in poetic prose, the **Prophet**, called **Al-Mustafa (the Chosen)** lived in a city called **Orphalese**, away from his Island homeland, for 12 years. On **7<sup>th</sup> day of September**, before he was about to sail back to his homeland, people of Orphalese asked him questions about various topics and he replied with memorable, philosophical words of wisdom that are still frequently quoted today. **The Prophet** was first published on **September 12, 1923**, even though he started writing it in **1912**. He died in New York, at the age of 48, on **April 10, 1931 (Zu Al-Qada 23, 1349 Hijri)**.

- **Jacinta** (one of the 3 children who experienced apparitions in Fatima, Portugal) was born on **March 11, 1910 (Safar 28, 1328 Hijri)** (Adar I 30, 5670 Jewish) and died on **February 20, 1920** (Jumada Thania 1, 1338 Hijri) (Adar 1, 5680 Jewish).

- In the evening of **December 8, 1917 (Safar 23, 1336 Hijri)**, the Ottoman Governor of **Jerusalem**, Izzat Bey, gave a “Surrender Letter” to former mayor of Jerusalem, **Dr. Hussein Al-Husseini** [descendant of Al-Husseini, grandson of Prophet Mohammad (p)], so that he delivers it to the invading **British forces**. During this meeting, he re-instated Dr. Hussein

Al-Husseini to the position of **Mayor of Jerusalem**, the office he had been removed from by **Jamal Pasha** in 1915. The Ottoman forces started retreating from Jerusalem during that night. The next morning shortly before 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, **December 9, 1917** (Safar 24, 1336 Hijri) (Kislev 24, 5678 Jewish) (2421,571.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Hussein Al-Husseini** attempted to deliver the letter of surrender and the keys of the city to British Officers, Sergeants James Sedgwick and Frederick Hurcombe, just outside Jerusalem's western limits. They refused to accept the letter, but it was eventually accepted by Brigadier-General C. F. Watson, Commander of the 180<sup>th</sup> British Infantry Brigade. At **10:30 a.m.**, the **British army** entered **Jerusalem**. On that day, all Christian denominations rang their church bells in celebration of this happy occasion and held prayers. The head of the British forces, **General Allenby**, entered **Jerusalem** on foot through Jaffa Gate on **December 11, 1917** (**Safar 26**, 1336 Hijri) (Kislev 26, 5678 Jewish) (473,135<sup>th</sup> Hijri Day). General Allenby said: "The wars of the Crusaders are now complete." This event represented the return of the rule of Children of Israel & Crusaders over Jerusalem after being ruled by Muslims since **year 1244**.

- **World War I** ended on **November 11, 1918** (Safar 6, 1337 Hijri). Based on Armistice of Moudros, **French troops** started the Allies' occupation of **Istanbul (Constantinople)** on **November 12, 1918** (Safar 7, 1337 Hijri), followed by **British troops** on **November 13, 1918**. The last **Allied forces** left the city by **October 6, 1923** (**Safar 26**, 1342 Hijri) (Tishri 26, 5684 Jewish) and the first **Turkish troops** entered the city on the same day.

- General **Edmund Allenby**, who led the British forces in the conquest of Jerusalem in December 1917, ending the rule of Jerusalem by the Ottomans which had lasted since December 1516, and the rule of Jerusalem by Muslims which had lasted since July 1244, was born on **April 23, 1861** (Shawwal 13, 1277 Hijri) (Iyar 13, 5621 Jewish) and died on **May 14, 1936** (**Safar 22**, 1355 Hijri) (**Iyar 22**, 5696 Jewish). After he died, he was cremated and his ashes were buried in the Warriors Chapel (now St George's chapel) in Westminster Abbey on **May 19, 1936** Gregorian (**May 6, 1936** Julian) (**Safar 27**, 1355 Hijri) (**Iyar 27**, 5696 Jewish). Westminster Abbey (formally titled "the Collegiate Church of St Peter") is located in London, just to the west of the Palace of Westminster. It is one of Britain's most notable religious buildings and the traditional place of coronation and burial site for English and, later, British monarchs.

- Starting from the middle of the night of **February 22 -23, 1944** (**Safar 27 (or 28), 1363 Hijri**) and the next few days, about **387,000 Chechens** and **91,000 Ingush**, mostly **Muslims**, were packed in trains (12,525 railway carriages were used) and **deported** by the Soviet Union, whose ruler was Joseph Stalin, **from their homeland to cold regions in Central Asia and Siberia**. Chechen and Ingush survivors were not allowed to return home until 1957.

- The **Yalta Conference**, sometimes called the **Crimea Conference**, held from **February 4, 1945** till **February 11, 1945** (**Safar 27, 1364 Hijri**), was the World War II meeting of U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, U.K. Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet Union's Premier Joseph Stalin, for the purpose of discussing Europe's post-war re-organization. The conference convened in the Livadia Palace near Yalta in Crimea.

- A **conference** sponsored by King AbdAllah was held in **Nablus, Palestine** on **December 28, 1948 (Safar 26, 1368 Hijri)** (Kislev 26, 5709 Jewish) which called for unification of all Palestine with Jordan into one state headed by King AbdAllah.
- On **December 19, 1949 (Safar 27 (or 28), 1369 Hijri)**, the third military coup in Syria's modern history happened. It was led by Adib Shaishakly who was a member of the Syrian Nationalist Party.
- On Monday, **June 5, 1967 (Safar 26, 1387 Hijri)** (Iyar 26, 5727 Jewish) (2439,646.5<sup>th</sup> or 2439,647<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), Israel launched its **6-day war** against the Arabs. Israel captured **Gaza** on **June 6, 1967 (Safar 27, 1387 Hijri)**. Israel captured East Jerusalem including the **Old City of Jerusalem and the Aqsa Mosque** and therefore, all of Jerusalem became under its control on Wednesday, **June 7, 1967 (Safar 28, 1387 Hijri)** (Iyar 28, 5727 Jewish) (2439,648.5<sup>th</sup> or 2439,649<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). Today, **Iyar 28** is celebrated annually in Israel as **Jerusalem Day**. The leader of the brigade, **Lt. General Mordechai (Motta) Gur** [who was born on **May 6, 1930** (Zu Hijja 7, 1348 Hijri) (Iyar 8, 5690 Jewish) and died by committing suicide on **July 16, 1995** (Safar 18, 1416 Hijri) (Tammuz 18, 5755 Jewish)] communicated the unfolding events to his company commanders by radio: *"Shortly we're going to go in to the Old City of Jerusalem, that all generations have dreamed about. We will be the first to enter the Old City."* Then, after an intense battle, he uttered his now-famous words: *"The Temple Mount is in our hands!"* Then, the Chief Rabbi of Israel's army, **Shlomo Goren** (who was born on February 3, **1917** and died on October 29, 1994), while dressed in military uniform and carrying a Torah scroll, **blew a Trumpet** (ram's horn) at the Western Wall to announce the re-unification of East Jerusalem (which was ruled by Jordan) with West Jerusalem (which was ruled by Israel), and held the first Jewish prayer session at the Western Wall since 1948. Until then, during the Ottoman and the British occupation of Jerusalem, Jews were not allowed to sound the Trumpet at the Western Wall. Israeli soldiers were singing a popular Israeli song titled "Jerusalem of Gold" written by Israeli poetess and song-writer, Naomi Shemer. This event was broadcast live on Voice of Israel radio station. This war resulted in Israel capturing East Jerusalem, Gaza, and Golan Heights from the Arabs. Hundreds of Palestinians sought refuge in **Church of Nativity** in Bethlehem.
- On **December 10 - 11, 1978** (Muharram 9 – 10, 1399 Hijri), around 6 to 9 million anti-Shah Iranian demonstrators marched throughout Iran, about **10%** of Iran's population. It is rare for a revolution to involve as much as **1%** of a country's population. According to one historian, "these figures may represent the largest protest event in history." On **December 11, 1978**, a dozen military officers were shot dead by their own troops at Tehran's Lavizan barracks. The last **Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi**, left Iran for exile on **January 16, 1979** (Safar 16, 1399 Hijri), as the last Persian monarch, leaving his duties to a regency council and an opposition-based prime minister, Bakhtiar. Bakhtiar took several measures designed to appeal to moderate elements in the opposition movement. He lifted restrictions on the press, set free remaining political prisoners. He promised the dissolution of SAVAK, the lifting of martial law, and free elections. Bakhtiar sought unsuccessfully to persuade Ayatollah Khomeini to postpone his return to Iran until conditions in the country were normalized. Khomeini refused to meet in Paris a member of the regency council Bakhtiar sent as an emissary. After some hesitation, Khomeini rejected Bakhtiar's offer to come to Paris personally for consultations. Bakhtiar's attempt to prevent Khomeini's imminent return by closing the Mehrabad Airport in Tehran on **January 26,**

**1979 (Safar 26, 1399 Hijri)** proved to be only a stopgap measure. **Ayatollah Khomeini** returned to Iran and was greeted by millions of supporting Iranians on **February 1, 1979**. Khomeini established *komiteh-ye Imam* ( the Imam's committee) to oversee the revolution. On **February 5, 1979**, Khomeini named Mehdi Bazargan as prime minister of a provisional government. On **February 10, 1979 (Rabi Awwal 12, 1399 Hijri)**, fighting erupted at Tehran's Doshan Tappeh air force base. The armed rebels attacked a weapons factory, capturing nearly 50,000 machine guns and distributing them to civilians who joined in the fighting. The rebels began storming police stations, military bases, and government buildings throughout Tehran. The final collapse of the government came at 2 p.m. on **February 11, 1979 (Rabi Awwal 13, 1399 Hijri)** (Shevat 14, 5739 Jewish) (2443,915.5 or 2443,916<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)., when the Supreme Military Council announced that the armed forces would observe neutrality in the confrontation between the government and the people and ordered the troops back to their base. Revolutionaries took over government buildings, T.V. and radio stations, and palaces of the Pahlavi Dynasty, marking the end of the monarchy in Iran, and bringing **AyatAllah Khomeini** to official power. Today, the period, from **February 1 to 11**, is celebrated annually in Iran as the "Decade of Fajr (Dawn)". **February 11** is celebrated as "Islamic Revolution's Victory Day". On **March 30 - 31, 1979**, a national referendum was held in Iran over whether to replace the monarchy with an "Islamic Republic". The result which was in favor of becoming an **Islamic Republic** was announced on **April 1, 1979 (Jumada Ula 4, 1399 Hijri)**. The last **Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi**, died of cancer in his exile in Egypt on **July 27, 1980**.

- After the beginning of Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan on **December 25, 1979**, the U.N. General Assembly, held an Emergency Special Session on Afghanistan over five days, January 10 – 14, 1980. On **January 14, 1980 (Safar 25, 1400 Hijri)**, the Assembly adopted the first of a series of 'Situation in Afghanistan' resolutions (resolution ES-6/2), in which it deplored the armed intervention in Afghanistan, called for the withdrawal of all foreign forces.

- On **January 16, 1980 (Safar 27, 1400 Hijri)**, the Israeli delegation to a conference in Egypt presented a **detailed plan for limited-degree of self-autonomy for Palestinians** to manage their daily affairs in West Bank and Gaza, but Israel retains control over security matters. On the same day, January 16, 1980, Prime Minister of Israel, Begin made a statement in the Knesset regarding the talks between Israel and Egypt.

- Beginning on **November 21, 1984 (Safar 26, 1405 Hijri)** and ending on **January 5, 1985 (Rabi Thani 12, 1405 Hijri)**, **Operation Moses** involved the air transport by Trans European Airways of about **8,000 Ethiopian Jews** from Sudan via Brussels to Israel.

- **Comet Hale – Bopp** was discovered after midnight, in the early hours of **July 23, 1995 (Safar 25, 1416 Hijri)** (Tammuz 25, 5755 Jewish) (2449,922<sup>nd</sup> Julian Day) independently by two observers in the U.S., Alan Hale in New Mexico and Thomas Bopp in Arizona. **Comet Hale – Bopp** was perhaps the most widely observed comet of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and one of the brightest seen for many decades.

- On **March 29, 2002 (Muharram 16, 1423 Hijri)** (Nisan 16, 5762 Jewish), Israel began what it called "Operation Defensive Shield", an invasion of Palestinian towns in the West Bank. During the Operation, Israeli tanks and troops besieged **Arafat's Palestinian Authority Headquarters**,

prohibiting him from leaving, from **March 29, 2002** till **May 2, 2002** (Safar 19, 1423 Hijri) (Iyar 20, 5762 Jewish). At approximately 2:00 a.m. on **April 2, 2002**, the Israeli forces invaded Bethlehem using about 250 tanks and armored personnel carriers, F-16 fighter jets, and Apache gunships. By 4:30 a.m., Israeli forces seized full control over Bethlehem, except the Old Town of Bethlehem. Around 11:30 a.m., Israeli occupation forces shelled **Santa Maria Church**, and as a result, several priests and nuns were wounded. About 200 Palestinian civilians and militants fled to the **Church of the Nativity**, seeking refuge, including Muhammad Al-Madani, the governor of Bethlehem. In addition, there were some 200 monks resident in the church. The Israeli security forces **besieged** the **Church of the Nativity** (known in Arabic “**Church of the Mahd (Cradle)**”, located over the birthplace cave of Jesus, in Bethlehem, for 39 days, from **April 2, 2002** (Muharram 20, 1423 Hijri) (Nisan 20, 5762 Jewish) till **May 10, 2002** (**Safar 27, 1423 Hijri**) (**Iyar 28, 5762 Jewish**). During the siege, Israeli army snipers, from their rooftop positions surrounding the Church, killed seven Palestinians who were in the Church. After 39 days of siege, an agreement was reached, according to which the Palestinian militants turned themselves in to Israel and were exiled to Europe and the Gaza Strip. Palestinians had **last sought refuge** in the **Church of the Nativity** during Israel’s capture of the West Bank on **June 5 - 7, 1967** (**Safar 26 – 28**, 1387 Hijri).

- On **April 17, 2004** (**Safar 26, 1425 Hijri**), Dr. Abd Al-Aziz Al-Rantisi, one of the top political leader of Hamas was killed in Gaza by Israel.

- **Pope John Paul II** died on Saturday at 9:37 p.m. Rome Time, on **April 2, 2005** (**Safar 21 (or 22)**, 1426 Hijri) (Adar II 22, 5765 Jewish) (2453, **462.5<sup>th</sup>** Julian Day), meaning eve of April 3, 2005 (**Safar 22 (or 23)**, 1426 Hijri). **Pope John Paul II** was buried in the grotto beneath Saint Peter’s Basilica on **April 8, 2005** (**Safar 27 (or 28)**, 1426 Hijri) (Adar II 28, 5765 Jewish).

- On Friday, **March 13, 2015** (Jumada Ula 22, 1436 Hijri), the second anniversary of his pontificate, in a surprise move, while celebrating a penitential service in St. Peter’s Basilica, **Pope Francis** announced an **Extraordinary Holy Year (Jubilee Year)**, and called it **Holy Year of Mercy**. He entrusted this Holy Year to **Mary, Mother of Mercy**. This Holy Year will start on **December 8, 2015** (**Safar 26**, 1437 Hijri) (Kislev 26, 5776 Jewish), to commemorate: (a) the Feast of the **Immaculate Conception**, (b) the **50<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the closing of the **Second Vatican Council** (21<sup>st</sup> Ecumenical Council) on **December 8, 1965** (Shaban 14, 1385 Hijri) (Kislev 14, 5726 Jewish), and (c) the **146<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the opening of the **First Vatican Council** (21<sup>st</sup> Ecumenical Council) on **December 8, 1869**. This Holy Year of Mercy will end on **November 20, 2016**, on the Feast of Christ the King. In Christianity, the tradition dates to **year 1300 AD**, when Pope Boniface VIII convoked a holy year, following which ordinary jubilee holy years have generally been celebrated every 25 years, in addition to extraordinary jubilee holy years on as needed basis. The last ordinary Holy Year was in year 2000 (from Christmas Eve, **December 24, 1999** till Epiphany, **January 6, 2001**) and it drew some 25 million Catholic pilgrims to the Vatican and Rome. The last two Extraordinary Holy Years started on January 6, 1933 and on March 25, 1983 to mark the passing of 1900 years and 1,950 years from the death of Jesus. A Catholic Holy Year involves special celebrations and pilgrimages (usually to the Vatican), strong calls for conversion and repentance, and the offer of special opportunities to experience God’s grace through the sacraments, especially confession. On **December 8, 2015**, Pope Francis will open the **Holy Door** of St. Peter’s Basilica, **which is**



**normally bricked up**, after a 9:30 a.m. Mass. The ceremony shall serve as the beginning of a worldwide celebration, “24 Hours for the Lord.” The last time the Holy Door was opened was by Pope John Paul II on **December 24, 1999**, the beginning of the Holy Year. At the request of Pope Francis, Catholic churches will remain open Friday and Saturday to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation (also known as confession) to the faithful.

#### 4. **Rabi Awwal 10 – 13**

**Rabi Awwal 10** is the **69<sup>th</sup> day** of the Hijri Calendar.

**Rabi Awwal 12** is the **71<sup>st</sup> day** of the Hijri Calendar.

The following events happened during this period:

- **Prophet Mohammad (p)** was possibly born on **Monday, May 5, 570 AD Julian** (May 7, 570 AD Gregorian) (**Rabi Awwal 12**).
- **Prophet Mohammad (p)** died on **June 6 (or 7), 632 AD (Rabi Awwal 12, 11 Hijri)** (Sivan 12 (or 13), 4392 Jewish).
- During Prophet Mohammad (p) and Abu Bakr’s migration journey from Mecca to Medina, on Friday, **12<sup>th</sup> of Rabi Awwal, 1 Hijri (September 24, 622 AD Julian)**, they left Quba, heading to Medina. Around noon time, they passed by the locality of Banu Salim bin Auf in a valley about **one kilometer away from Quba**. The people of Banu Salim implored: *“O Prophet of Allah, you stayed at the homes of our cousins for a number of days, reward us too with something, for they will pride themselves over us till the Day of Judgement that you stayed with them”*. So, in that locality, the Prophet (p) led the first Friday Prayer in the history of Islam and delivered the first Friday sermon, in a spot where a mosque was later built. Because of this event, the Mosque is referred to as the **Friday Mosque**, but it is also known as **Mosque of Bani Salim, Mosque of Al-Wadi, Mosque of Ghubaib and Mosque of Aatikah**. Approximately 100 Muslims participated in this first Friday Prayer. After the prayer, Prophet Mohammad (p) continued his journey to Medina. When he reached Medina, his camel stopped at a specific location and Prophet Mohammad (p) declared that it is the location where he will establish a mosque, which is known today as the **Nabawi Mosque (Mosque of the Prophet)** which is about **2.5 km** away from the **Friday Mosque**.
- On **July 23, 1148 AD (Rabi Awwal 5, 543 Hijri)** (Av 5, 4908 Jewish), the **Second Crusade**, aiming to conquer **Damascus**, reached Damascus outskirts and laid a siege on Damascus. The city was ruled by a Muslim named **Mu'in Ad-Din Unur**. Fortunately, **Nur Ad-Din Zangi**, Muslim ruler of Aleppo, arrived with his forces and cut off the Crusaders. The entire Crusader army was forced to retreat back to Jerusalem by **July 28, 1148 AD (Rabi Awwal 10, 543 Hijri)** (**Av 10, 4908 Jewish**), **ending the siege of Damascus**. Mu'in Ad-Din was forced to acknowledge Nur Ad-Din as his overlord.

- On **September 2, 1666 Julian** (September 12, 1666 Gregorian) (**Rabi Awwal 12**, 1077 Hijri), the **Great Fire of London**, England, broke out and burned for three days, destroying **80% of London** (more than 10,000 buildings), including **St. Paul's Cathedral**.

- On **October 19, 1922 (Safar 27, 1341 Hijri)**, **Refet Bele Pasha**, an army commander and representative of the Ankara Turkish Government loyal to Kemal Ataturk, arrived to Istanbul with a small armed force to gradually take over the administration of the city. They were greeted with a welcoming reception by the people of Istanbul. He met **Ottoman Sultan Mohammad VI** (also known as **Waheed Eddeen**), who had nothing left to do but abide by the decisions of the government in Ankara. Soon after this meeting, on **November 1, 1922 (Rabi Awwal 11, 1341 Hijri)** (Heshvan 10, 5683 Jewish) (2423,359.5<sup>th</sup> or 2423,360<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), the Ottoman Sultanate was separated from the Caliphate and **the Sultanate was abolished**. The abolition of the Ottoman Sultanate effectively ended the Ottoman Empire, which had lasted since **1299**. On **November 11, 1922**, at the **Conference of Lausanne**, the Government in Ankara was recognized. On the morning of **November 17, 1922 (Rabi Awwal 27, 1341 Hijri)** (**Heshvan 26**, 5683 Jewish), the **36<sup>th</sup> and last Ottoman Sultan Mohammad VI**, after having obtained asylum from Britain, left the Dolmabahçe Palace in Istanbul on board the British ship *Malaya* and went for his exile initially to Malta which was ruled by Britain, and later moved to San Remo on the Italian Riviera where he lived till he died on **May 16, 1926 (May 3, 1926 Julian)** (Zu Al-Qada 3, 1344 Hijri). According to his will, he was buried in the cemetery of the Takiyya Suleimaniya Mosque originally built by Sultan Suleiman I in Damascus, Syria. **Mohammad VI** was born on **January 14, 1861 (Rajab 3, 1277 Hijri)**. He was a descendant of **Mohammad II** who conquered Constantinople on **May 29, 1453**.

- **Neil Armstrong**, the astronaut who the first human to step on the Moon, was born on **August 5, 1930 (Rabi Awwal 11, 1349)** (Av 11, 5690 Jewish).

- President of Russia **Vladimir Putin** was born on **October 7, 1952 (Rabi Awwal 12, 1377 Hijri)** (Tishri 12, 5718 Jewish).

- On **September 12, 1959 (Rabi Awwal 9, 1379 Hijri)** (**Elul 9**, 5719 Jewish), at 06:39:42 UTC, **Luna 2**, the second spacecraft of the Soviet Union's Luna program, was launched to the Moon from Baikonur Cosmodrome (World's oldest and largest spaceport) in Kazakhstan. The launch was initially scheduled for **September 9, 1959**, but the core stage was shut down after it failed to reach full thrust at ignition. The booster was removed from the pad and replaced by a different vehicle, delaying the flight by three days. **Luna 2** became the first spacecraft, without a human crew, to reach the surface of the Moon, and the first man-made object, without a human crew, to land on a celestial body, other than the Earth. On **September 13, 1959 (Rabi Awwal 10, 1379 Hijri)**, at 21:02:24 UTC [**September 14, 1959 (Rabi Awwal 11, 1379)** Hijri Moscow Time], radio signals from **Luna 2** abruptly ceased, indicating it had impacted on the Moon.

- Top Arab singer, Um Kulthoom sang a poem about the **Dunya (World before the End Times)**, for the first time in a concert **at night** on **May 6, 1971 (Rabi Awwal 11, 1391 Hijri, eve of Rabi Awwal 12)**. The poem was written by **Al-Hadi Adam**. His first name **Al-Hadi (the Guider)** is derived from the same root as the word **Al-Mahdi (the Guided)**.

- **King Faisal** of Saudi Arabia was born on **April 14, 1906** (Safar 19, 1324 Hijri). He reigned from **November 2, 1964** (Jumada Thania 26, 1384 Hijri) till his assassination on **March 25, 1975** (Rabi Awwal 12, 1395 Hijri).

- On **December 10 - 11, 1978** (Muharram 9 – 10, 1399 Hijri), around 6 to 9 million anti-Shah Iranian demonstrators marched throughout Iran, about **10%** of Iran's population. It is rare for a revolution to involve as much as **1%** of a country's population. According to one historian, "these figures may represent the largest protest event in history." On December 11, a dozen military officers were shot dead by their own troops at Tehran's Lavizan barracks. The last **Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi**, left Iran for exile on **January 16, 1979** (Safar 16, 1399 Hijri), as the last Persian monarch, leaving his duties to a regency council and an opposition-based prime minister, Bakhtiar. Bakhtiar took several measures designed to appeal to moderate elements in the opposition movement. He lifted restrictions on the press, set free remaining political prisoners. He promised the dissolution of SAVAK, the lifting of martial law, and free elections. Bakhtiar sought unsuccessfully to persuade Ayatollah Khomeini to postpone his return to Iran until conditions in the country were normalized. Khomeini refused to meet in Paris a member of the regency council Bakhtiar sent as an emissary. After some hesitation, Khomeini rejected Bakhtiar's offer to come to Paris personally for consultations. Bakhtiar's attempt to prevent Khomeini's imminent return by closing the Mehrabad Airport in Tehran on **January 26, 1979** (Safar 26, 1399 Hijri) proved to be only a stopgap measure. **Ayatollah Khomeini** returned to Iran and was greeted by millions of supporting Iranians on **February 1, 1979**. Khomeini established *komiteh-ye Imam* ( the Imam's committee) to oversee the revolution. On **February 5, 1979**, Khomeini named Mehdi Bazargan as prime minister of a provisional government. On **February 10, 1979** (Rabi Awwal 12, 1399 Hijri), fighting erupted at Tehran's Doshan Tappeh air force base. The armed rebels loyal to Khomeini attacked a weapons factory, capturing nearly 50,000 machine guns and distributing them to civilians who joined in the fighting. The rebels began storming police stations, military bases, and government buildings throughout Tehran. The final collapse of the government came at 2 p.m. on **February 11, 1979** (Rabi Awwal 13, 1399 Hijri) (Shevat 14, 5739 Jewish) (2443,915.5 or 2443,916<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), when the Supreme Military Council announced that the armed forces would observe neutrality in the confrontation between the government and the people and ordered the troops back to their base. Revolutionaries took over government buildings, T.V. and radio stations, and palaces of the Pahlavi Dynasty, marking the end of the monarchy in Iran, and bringing **AyatAllah Khomeini** to official power. Today, the period, from **February 1 to 11**, is celebrated annually in Iran as the "Decade of Fajr (Dawn)". **February 11** is celebrated as "Islamic Revolution's Victory Day". On **March 30 - 31, 1979**, a national referendum was held in Iran over whether to replace the monarchy with an "Islamic Republic". The result which was in favor of becoming an **Islamic Republic** was announced on **April 1, 1979** (Jumada Ula 4, 1399 Hijri). The last **Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi**, died of cancer in his exile in Egypt on **July 27, 1980**.

- On **May 13, 1981** (Rajab 9, 1401 Hijri) (**Iyar 9**, 5741 Jewish), a Turkish man called **Mehmet Ali Agca** shot at Pope John Paul II. The Pope was hit by three bullets, one of which entered his stomach. He accused the Bulgarian secret service and the Soviet KGB for plotting the assassination attempt. Two years later the Pope publicly forgave Agca and even visited him for 20 minutes in his prison in Rome. At the plea of Pope John Paul II, he was **pardoned** by Italian President Carolo Ciampi on **June 13, 2000** (Rabi Awwal 10 (or 11), 1421 Hijri) (Sivan 10, 5760

Jewish). However, he was extradited to Turkey to complete his prison sentence for the murder of Abdi Ipekci, a prominent newspaper editor in Turkey, whom he killed in 1979. He was released from prison in Turkey on **January 18, 2010** (Safar 4, 1431 Hijri) (Shevat 4, 5770 Jewish). He was declared mentally disturbed by doctors. Following his release, he declared himself the "Christ eternal" and prophesied that humanity would be wiped out this century.

- On **February 27, 2010** (**Rabi Awwal 12 (or 13)**, 1431 Hijri) (**Adar 13**, 5770 Jewish), an earthquake hit **Chile**.

- All U.S. presidents inaugurated since October 1933 begin their new term on January 20 at noon. Because **January 20, 2013** (**Rabi Awwal 9**, 1434 Hijri) (2456,312.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), fell on a Sunday, **two ceremonies** were scheduled. The inauguration of **Barack Obama** for his second Presidential term took place in a **private swearing-in ceremony** on Sunday, **January 20, 2013** in the Blue Room of the White House. In addition, a **public ceremony** marking the occasion took place on Monday, **January 21, 2013** (**Rabi Awwal 10**, 1434 Hijri) (Shevat 10, 5773 Jewish) at the United States Capitol building. Both ceremonies were administered by Chief Justice of the United States.

- After staying in a coma since **January 4, 2006** (**Zu Al-Hijja 4**, 1426 Hijri) (Tevet 4, 5766 Hijri) (2453,739.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Ariel Sharon**, Israeli army general and politician finally died on **January 11, 2014** (**Rabi Awwal 10**, 1435 Hijri) (Shevat 10, 5774 Jewish) (2456,668.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). Sharon's state funeral was held on **January 13, 2014** (**Rabi Awwal 12**, 1435 Hijri) (Shevat 12, 5774 Jewish).

## 5. **Jumada Thania 23**

**Jumada Thania 23** is the 171<sup>st</sup> day of the Hijri Calendar.

The following events happened on this day:

- On **February 11, 1531** (**Jumada Thania 23**, 937 Hijri), the Catholic Church in England recognized **King of England, Henry VIII** as its supreme head. This day marked an important step in the formation of the Church of England as a separate entity independent of papal authority. On **July 11, 1533** (Zu Hijja 18, 939 Hijri), **Henry VIII** was excommunicated from the Catholic Church by **Pope Clement VII**. In 1534, the **Act of Submission of the Clergy** removed the right of any appeal to Rome, which ended the Vatican's influence with regard to the Church of England. Thus, **Henry VIII** ceased to be **Defender of the Faith**, a title that was bestowed upon him by Pope Leo X after **Henry VIII** published a small book criticizing Martin Luther (founder of Protestantism) in **1521**.

- During the **Second Italian War of Independence**, much of the **Papal States** had been conquered by the Piedmontese Army. The **Kingdom of Italy** was created on **February 18, 1861** (Shaban 7, 1277 Hijri), and officially on **March 17, 1861** (Ramadan 5 (or 6), 1277 Hijri). On

**March 27, 1861** (Ramadan 15, 1277 Hijri), the Parliament declared **Rome** the Capital of the **Kingdom of Italy**. However, the Italian government could not take its seat in Rome because it did not control the territory. In addition, a French garrison was maintained in the city by **Napoleon III of France in support of Pope Pius IX**. The Franco-Prussian War started on **July 19, 1870**. After the Battle of Sedan fought between France and Prussia on **September 1, 1870**, the situation changed radically. It resulted in the surrender and capture of **Emperor Napoleon III** and large numbers of his troops on **September 2, 1870**. The French lost over 17,000 men killed and wounded with 21,000 captured. On **September 4, 1870**, with disgraced emperor in captivity, the French Emperor was deposed. The French proclaimed the end of Monarchy and establishment of a Republic. The new French government was clearly in no position to retaliate against Italy, nor did it possess the political will to protect the Pope's position. **King of Italy, Victor Emmanuel II** sent **Conte Gustavo Ponza di San Martino** as a delegate to **Pope Pius IX** with a personal letter, offering a face-saving proposal that would have allowed the peaceful entry of the Italian Army into Rome. The Pope would retain the inviolability and prerogatives attaching to him as a sovereign. The **Leonine city** would remain under the full jurisdiction and sovereignty of the Pope. The envoy of King Victor Emmanuel II headed to Rome on **September 9, 1870** and met with Cardinal Antonelli (Secretary of State) that same evening. The negotiations lasted till **September 10, 1870**. The Pope's reception of the envoy sent King Victor Emmanuel II on **September 10, 1870** was unfriendly. The Pope said: "You will never enter Rome". On **September 11, 1870**, the Italian army of 60,000 soldiers, commanded by General Raffaele Cadorna, **crossed the papal frontier** and advanced toward Rome. By **September 19, 1870**, Italian army was just outside Rome ready for entry. On **September 20, 1870** (**Jumada Thania 23**, 1287 Hijri) (**Elul 24**, 5630 Jewish), after a limited battle, the Italian army of the **Kingdom of Italy** entered Rome. The next day, on **September 21, 1870**, the Italian army entered **Leonine City**, including the **Vatican**, seat of the Pope. **Leonine City** is the part of the city of Rome surrounded by the Leonine Wall from 3 sides and by the Tiber River on the 4<sup>th</sup> side. The Vatican is within the enclosed area. This is the end of the **Papal State** which was later revived through **Lateran Treaty**.

- On **July 23, 1908** (**Jumada Thania 23**, 1326 Hijri) (**Tammuz 24**, 5668 Jewish), upon learning that the troops of **Young Turk movement** in Salonica were marching towards Istanbul, **Ottoman Caliph & Sultan Abdul Hamid II** announced the restoration of the suspended constitution of 1876.

- After **Ottoman Caliphate** was abolished on March 3, 1924, **Al-Hussein son of Ali**, claimed the title of the **Caliph** on **March 7, 1924**. Six months later, **Al-Hussein son of Ali** was forced to abdicate all of his secular titles in favour of his eldest son Ali on **Friday, October 3, 1924** (at night, the eve of October 4) (**Rabi Awwal 5**, 1343 Hijri) (**Tishri 5**, 5685 Jewish) (2424,061.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day) due to his defeat against the advancing forces of Abdul Aziz Al-Saud, the Sultan of Najd at that time (who later on established the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia). This effectively turned out to be the end of the Islamic Caliphate because neither Al-Hussein's son, Ali nor Abdul Aziz Al-Saud proclaimed to be Caliph of Muslims. **Al-Hussein son of Ali** was the last credible person to have claimed to be Caliph of all Muslims. **Abdul Aziz Al-Saud** captured **Mecca** on **October 13, 1924** (**Rabi Awwal 14**, 1343 Hijri) (**Tishri 15**, 5685 Jewish Calendar) (2424,071.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Calendar). **Medina** surrendered to **Abdul Aziz's** forces on **December 12 (or 5), 1925**. **King Ali son Al-Hussein** abdicated on **December 19, 1925** (**Jumada Thania 2**, 1344 Hijri) and

fled to Iraq on December 22, 1925. **Jeddah** fell on **December 23, 1925**, but Abdul Aziz's forces entered it on Friday, **January 8, 1926 (Jumada Thania 22 (or 23), 1344 Hijri)**. On **January 10, 1926 (Jumada Thania 24 (or 25), 1344 Hijri)**, **Abdul Aziz** declared himself **King of the Hijaz**. On **January 27, 1927 (Rajab 24, 1345 Hijri)**, he added the title of **King of Najd** (his previous title was **Sultan of Najd**), and elevated the status of Najd from Sultanate to Kingdom. For the next five years, he administered the two parts of his dual kingdom as separate units. By the Treaty of Jeddah, signed on **May 20, 1927**, Britain recognized the independence of Abdul-Aziz's realm (then known as the Kingdom of Hijaz and Kingdom of Najd). On **September 23, 1932 (Jumada Ula 22, 1351 Hijri) (Elul 22, 5692 Jewish)**, the **Kingdom of Najd** and the **Kingdom of Hijaz** were united to form the **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia** and **Abdul Aziz** became the **King of Saudi Arabia**. That is why today, the **Saudi National Day** is celebrated annually on **September 23**. **Al-Hussein son of Ali** was forced to live in exile in Cyprus where he suffered a stroke. Only then, he was allowed to move to Amman, Jordan, where he died on **June 4, 1931 (Muharram 17, 1350 Hijri)** and was buried in the Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem.

- On **November 20, 1920**, **Abdullah son of Al-Hussein** marched into Ma'an, a district in Hijaz, at the head of an army of 300 men and announced his intention of attacking the French in Syria and restoring his brother Faisal to power there. Without facing opposition, Abdullah and his army had effectively occupied most of TransJordan by March 1921. In the **Cairo Conference (March 12 - 30, 1921)**, Britain decided to create Kingdom of Iraq under British Administration, headed by Faisal son of Al-Hussein and Emirate of Transjordan under British Administration, headed by Abdullah son of Al-Hussein. Abdullah became Emir of TansJordan on **April 1, 1921 (Rajab 22, 1339 Hijri)**, while Jordan was under the British mandate. In **May 1925**, the Aqaba and Ma'an districts of the Hijaz became part of Transjordan. The **Treaty of London** was signed between the United Kingdom and Transjordan on **March 22, 1946 (Rabi Thani 18, 1365 Hijri)** and came into force on **June 17, 1946 (Rajab 17, 1365 Hijri) (Sivan 18, 5706 Jewish)**. In the Treaty of London, Britain agreed to recognize the independence of Transjordan, which would become known as the **Hashemite Kingdom of Transjordan**, with Abdullah I as its king. However, Britain would still maintain military bases within **TansJordan** and continue to subsidize and support the TransJordan's army. On **May 25, 1946 (Jumada Thania 23, 1365 Hijri)**, the parliament of Transjordan ratified the Treaty of London. In Jordan, **May 25** is still celebrated annually as **Independence Day**, although the British mandate for Transjordan ended officially on **June 17, 1946**. **Hashemite Kingdom of Transjordan** changed its name into the **Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan** on **April 26, 1949 (Jumada Thania 27, 1368 Hijri)**.

- On **June 5, 1945 (Jumada Thania 23 (or 24), 1364 Hijri) (Sivan 24, 5705 Jewish)**, the Soviet Union, the U.S., the U.K., and France acting on behalf of the Allies of World War II, signed **Berlin Declaration**, in which they jointly assumed "supreme authority" over German territory. The preamble of the declaration confirmed the complete legal extinction of the German State of the Third Reich, but the continued subsequent existence of a German national territory which for the purpose of the Declaration was taken to be as defined on December 31, 1937, subject to the four signatory powers also asserting their authority to determine the future boundaries of Germany. These four Allies would exercise supreme civil and military authority within German territory and over former German forces. **The Treaty on the Final Settlement with respect to Germany** was signed in Moscow on **September 12, 1990 (Safar 22, 1411 Hijri) (Elul 22, 5750 Hijri)** between on one side, the West Germany and East Germany, and on the

other side, the Four Powers which occupied Germany at the end of World War II in Europe: the Soviet Union, the U.S., the U.K., and France. This Treaty paved the way for **unification** of East and West Germany on **October 3, 1990** (Rabi Awwal 14, 1411 Hijri) (Tishri 14, 5751 Jewish). In this Treaty, the Four Powers renounced all rights they held in Germany, allowing a united Germany to become fully sovereign when this Treaty became effective on **March 15, 1991** (**Shaban 29**, 1411 Hijri) (Adar 29, 5751 Jewish).

- On Tuesday, **September 11, 2001** Gregorian (August 29, 2001 Julian) (**Jumada Thania 23** (or 22), **1422 Hijri**) (**Elul 23**, 5761 Jewish Calendar) (2452,163.5<sup>th</sup> Julian day), the Zionists implemented their terrorist attack on **New York City** and **Washington DC**.

## 6. **Rajab 26 - 28**

**Rajab 26** is the **203<sup>rd</sup>** day of the Hijri calendar.

The following events happened during this period:

- **Rajab 26, eve of Rajab 27**, is celebrated today as **eve** of the **Israa & Miraj** (Miraculous heavenly journey of Prophet Mohammad (p) from Haram Mosque in Mecca to the location of Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem). However, the **real eve** of the **Israa & Miraj** is not certain.

- After a siege that lasted from **September 20, 1187**, Salah Eddeen Al-Ayubi liberated Jerusalem from the Crusaders on **Friday, October 2, 1187 AD** Julian (October 9, 1187 Gregorian) (**Rajab 27**, 583 Hijri) (Tishri 28, 4948 Jewish) (2154,883.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).

- The **Umawi Mosque was burned down** several times, including: (a) in 1069 AD (461 Hijri) as a result of an uprising by the city's residents against the Fatimiyeen's barbar army who were garrisoned there, (b) in 1339 AD, (c) by Timur Lank who burned the whole city of Damascus on March 17, 1401 AD, (d) on **October 13, 1479** (**Rajab 26 - 27**, 884 Hijri), (e) in 1893 AD (1311 Hijri).

- The **Ottoman Caliphate** was abolished on **March 3, 1924** (**Rajab 27** (or 26), 1342 Hijri) (Adar I 27, 5684 Jewish) (2423,847.5 or 2423,848<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). On the next day, March 4, 1924, the last Ottoman Caliph was **Abdul Majid II** had to leave Turkey.

- **Kemal Ataturk** ordered recitation of the Quran in Turkey to become in Turkish, instead of Arabic on **February 21, 1925** (**Rajab 27**, 1343 Hijri).

- The **Battle of Nitzanim** was fought in the **kibbutz of Nitzanim**, in Southern Palestine, between the Israeli army and the Egyptian Army in the 1948 Arab-Israeli War, on **June 7 - 10, 1948**. The kibbutz of Nitzanim is located on the coast between Gaza and Yafa and it was surrounded by the Arab towns: Isdud to the North, Majdal to the South, and Julis and Beit Daras to the East. The battle started around midnight of **June 6 - 7, 1948** (**Rajab 28 - 29**, 1367 Hijri)

(**Iyar 28 - 29**, 5708 Jewish), with an Egyptian artillery bombardment of Nitzanim, followed by an Egyptian aerial bombardment and armored and infantry attacks. The main Egyptian attack broke through the Israeli defenses at around 11:00 a.m. on **June 7, 1948**. The Israelis started retreating. At 4:00 p.m. on **June 7, 1948**, 105 Israeli fighters, 26 of them injured, surrendered to the Egyptian Army. The Israeli survivors were later displayed in a victory parade in the nearby Arab town, Majdal, after which they were transferred to Cairo. **Battle of Nitzanim** was the first major Egyptian victory of the war, and one of the few cases of Israeli surrender. On the night of **June 7 - 8, 1948**, the Israeli forces captured the strategic **Hill 69** (located between **Nitzanim** and **Isdud**) and carried out an unsuccessful attack against the Arab town of **Isdud**. On the night of **June 9 - 10, 1948**, the Israeli forces attempted to re-capture **Nitzanim**. At dawn, an Israeli platoon managed to break into **Nitzanim** from the South and capture the "Palace" (an abandoned Arab Palace/ Mansion, located at a hill overlooking **Nitzanim**), but withdrew from **Nitzanim** after being hit by heavy Egyptian fire. The Egyptian artillery pursued the withdrawing Israelis until the Israelis reached **Hill 69**. The **Egyptians** attacked **Hill 69**. The Israelis suffered heavy casualties, so they withdrew from the Hill, but their withdrawal was disorganized and cost more casualties. The total **Israeli death toll** in the **Battle of Hill 69** was 20 soldiers. So, the Egyptians managed to capture **Hill 69** on **June 10, 1948**. The Egyptians attempted to continue towards **Beit Daras** and **Be'er Tuvia**, but met with strong Israel defense, so at nightfall, the Egyptians withdrew.

- In **Turkey**, the **Democratic Party** won 52% of the votes in the first free elections in Turkish history on **May 14, 1950 (Rajab 26, 1369 Hijri)**. This led one of its founders, **Adnan Menderes**, to serve as Prime Minister from **May 22, 1950 (Shaban 4, 1369 Hijri)**. He introduced pro-Islam policies. A military coup took over on May 27, 1960 Gregorian (**May 14, 1960 Julian**) (Zu Hijja 1, 1379 Hijri). While Turkey was ruled by the military coup leaders, **Adnan Menderes** was hanged on **September 17, 1961 (Rabi Thani 6, 1381 Hijri)**.

- An emergency **Arab League Summit** was held and attended by both King Hussein and Yasir Arafat, on **September 27, 1970 (Rajab 26, 1390 Hijri) (Elul 26, 5730 Jewish)**. In this summit, **King Hussein** was forced to sign an agreement which **preserved** the right of the Palestinian organizations to operate in Jordan, but required them to leave Jordanian cities and stay near the borders with Israel. On **September 28, 1970 (Rajab 27, 1390 Hijri)**, President of Egypt, **Gamal Abd-Nasir** died of a sudden heart attack.

- At **4:30 am** local time, on **September 5, 1972 (Rajab 26, 1392 Hijri) (Elul 26, 5732 Jewish) (2441,565.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**, during the Olympic Games in Munich, Germany, as the athletes slept, eight members of the Black September faction of the Palestine Liberation Organization, entered **Olympic Village**. Once inside, they used stolen keys to enter two apartments being used by the Israeli team and took **11 Israeli Olympic team members as hostages**. They demanded that Israel release convicted Palestinians from jail. After hours of tense negotiations with German authorities, the Palestinians and hostages were taken to an airport, but German police attempted to bluff and kill the kidnappers. A bloody firefight ensued. By around 1:30 am, on **September 6, 1972 (Rajab 27, 1392 Hijri)**, the battle between Palestinian kidnappers and German police was over. This incident resulted in the death of the 11 Israeli hostages.

- **Pope Francis** arrived to **Jordan** on **May 24, 2014**. He arrived by helicopter to **Bethlehem** on



**May 25, 2014** and in the late afternoon, he arrived by helicopter to **Tel Aviv** airport and then to **Jerusalem** in the evening. In the morning of **May 26, 2014 (Rajab 26, 1435 Hijri) (Iyar 26, 5774 Jewish)**, he visited the Aqsa Mosque and then visited the Western Wall. He left Israel flying back to Rome around 11:30 pm on **May 26, 2014**.

## 7. Shaban 14 - 15

**Shaban 14** is the **221<sup>st</sup>** day of the Hijri calendar.

**Shaban 15** is the **222<sup>th</sup>** day of the Hijri calendar.

Middle (or Half) of Shaban, is a traditionally an important day for Muslims.

The following events happened during this period:

- Some Christian researchers suggest that one of the possible dates of the Crucifixion of what looked like Jesus is at the 9<sup>th</sup> hour of the daytime, meaning **at 3:00 pm** because Jews consider 6:00 am as beginning of the daytime), on Friday, **April 3, 33 AD Julian** (April 1, 33 AD Gregorian) (**Shaban 14**, 607 years before Hijri) (Nisan 14, 3793, the **eve of Nisan 15**, the beginning of **Jewish Passover** that commemorates God's liberation of the Jews from slavery in Egypt by facilitating their exodus under the leadership of Moses.) (1733,203.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)
- The Twelver Shia believe that their Imam Mahdi is Mohammad son of Al-Hasan Al-Askari, the 12<sup>th</sup> Imam. According to them, he was born on **July 29, 869 AD (Shaban 15, 255 Hijri)**. His father died on **January 1, 874 AD (Rabi Awwal 8, 260 Hijri)** and since that day, his son Mohammad, who was only 5 years old, became their 12<sup>th</sup> Imam. After the funeral of his father, he went into the **Ghayba Sughra (Minor Occultation)**, in which he used to communicate with his followers through deputies. The 4<sup>th</sup> deputy announced that he received a communication from the Mahdi that he (the 4<sup>th</sup> deputy) would soon die and the deputyship would end and that starting from the day of the 4<sup>th</sup> deputy's death, the period of the Mahdi's **Ghayba Kubra (Major Occultation)** will begin. This last deputy died six days later, on **July 8, 941 AD (Shawwal 10, 329 Hijri)**. This means, according to the Shia, the Mahdi's **Ghayba Kubra (Major Occultation)** started on **July 8, 941 AD**.
- The **Battle of Tours** (also called the **Battle of Poitiers** and, by Arab sources, **Battle of Palace/ Court of the Martyrs** (Arabic: معركة بلاط الشهداء) in which Muslim Ummayyad army was defeated by Christian Frankish army, was fought in an area **between the cities of Poitiers and Tours**, in north-central France, on **October 10, 732 AD (Shaban 15, 114 Hijri)** (Tishri 16, 4493 Jewish).
- On **July 22, 1706**, the details of the **Treaty of Union** were agreed upon, and separate **Acts of Union** were later passed by the parliaments of England and Scotland to ratify the Treaty. This treaty was for the union of **Kingdom of England** and **Kingdom of Scotland** and it led to the creation of the **Kingdom of Great Britain**, which took effect on **May 1, 1707**. They had been in

informal union under the House of Stuart since the death of **Queen Elizabeth I** on **March 14, 1603** when James of Scotland became **King of England and Scotland**. He also held the title of **King of France**, as had all his predecessors in the English throne since October 21, **1422**. James became King of Scotland on **July 24, 1567**, at the age of 13 months, and was formally crowned on **July 29, 1567**. On **January 1, 1801** (**Shaban 15, 1215 Hijri**), Great Britain merged with the Kingdom of Ireland to form the **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland**. After most of Ireland left the union on **December 6, 1922** (**Rabi Thani 16, 1341 Hijri**), its name was amended on **April 12, 1927** (**Shawwal 10, 1345 Hijri**) to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

- On **July 16, 1945** (**Shaban 6, 1364 Hijri**) (**Av 6, 5705 Jewish**), at **05:29 AM local time**, the U.S. conducted the first nuclear detonation test in the World, called Trinity Test, at what is referred to as the Trinity Site, in New Mexico. This test and the atomic bombs that were dropped on Japan were part of the **Manhattan Project**, a research and development program sponsored by the United States, Canada, and the U.K. The date of this test is usually considered to be the **beginning of the Atomic Age**. Most of the components of the bomb, that was later dropped on Hiroshima, left San Francisco on an American ship called USS Indianapolis on **July 16, 1945**, reached Pearl Harbor on **July 19, 1945** and arrived to its final destination, **Tinian** (an island in the Pacific ocean captured from Japan by U.S. forces in July 1944) on **July 26, 1945** (**Shaban 16, 1364 Hijri**). On the same day, **July 26, 1945**, the allies made **Potsdam Declaration**, threatening Japan with "prompt and utter destruction". On **July 29, 1945**, the Japanese government rejected the ultimatum. Halfway between the Philippines and Guam, shortly after midnight, at **12:14 AM** local time, on **July 30, 1945** (**July 29, 1945 GMT**), USS Indianapolis was struck, by two torpedoes from a Japanese submarine, and sank. Of the 1197 crew members, only 317 survived and were rescued on **August 2, 1945** (**Shaban 23** (or 22), **1364 Hijri**) (**Av 23, 5705 Jewish**). On **August 2, 1945**, **assembly of Nagasaki's atomic bomb began**. American war planes dropped Little Boy atomic bomb over Hiroshima, Japan on **August 6, 1945** (**Shaban 27** (or 26), **1364 Hijri**) (**Av 27, 5705 Jewish**), followed by Fat Man atomic bomb over Nagasaki, Japan at 11:01 a.m. Japan Time on **August 9, 1945** (**Ramadan 1, 1364 Hijri**) (**Av 30, 5705 Jewish**). On **August 15, 1945** (**Ramadan 7** (or 6), **1364 Hijri**) (**Elul 6, 5705 Jewish**), 6 days after the bombing of Nagasaki, Japan announced its surrender to the Allies. On Sunday, **September 2, 1945** around **9:00 a.m.** (Tokyo Time) (**Ramadan 25** (or 24), **1364 Hijri**) (**Elul 24, 5705 Jewish Calendar**) (2431,700.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), Japan signed a surrender agreement on board of a U.S. ship in Tokyo Bay. Signatures of representatives of both Japan and the Allied countries were in place by **9:22 a.m.** Following a few brief remarks by U.S. President, MacArthur, the surrender ceremony ended at 9:25 a.m. This means the surrender took place on Saturday, **September 1, 1945** around **8:00 p.m.** (U.S. Eastern Standard Time) (**Ramadan 24** (or 23), **1364 Hijri**) (**Elul 23, 5705 Jewish Calendar**). On **September 22, 1945**, the U.S. issued a statement of general initial U.S. policy regarding Japan after its surrender. Japan's signing of the surrender agreement is considered the **official end of World War II**.

- **Israel** started its invasion of **Lebanon** on Sunday, **June 6, 1982** (**Shaban 14** (or 15), **1402 Hijri**) (**Sivan 15, 5742 Jewish**), using 30,000 Israeli soldiers.

- U.S. President **Ronald Reagan** met with **Pope John Paul II** in the Vatican on **June 7, 1982** (**Shaban 15** (or 16), **1402 Hijri**) (**Sivan 16, 5742 Jewish**). Five years later, **June 6, 1987**

(Shawwal 8 (or 9), 1407 Hijri) (Sivan 9, 5747 Jewish), U.S. President **Ronald Reagan** met again with **Pope John Paul II** in the Vatican.

- Sunni Sheikh Ahmad Al-Aseer, Imam of Masjid (Mosque) of Bilal son Rabah in **Abra**, a district of city of **Saida**, Lebanon, was defeated by Shia's Hizb Allah and the Lebanese Army in a battle that started on **Sunday June 23, 2013 (Shaban 14, 1434 Hijri) (Tammuz 15, 5773 Jewish) (2456, 466.5<sup>th</sup> Julian)**. It lasted for about 24 hours till **June 24, 2013**.

## 8. **Shaban 18 - 20**

The following historical events happened during **Shaban 18 - 20**:

- **Godfrey de Bouillon** was the first elected ruler of Crusaders' Kingdom in Jerusalem that was established after the Crusaders' conquest of Jerusalem for the first time on **July 15, 1099**. He was born on **September 18, 1060 (Shaban 19 (or 20), 452 Hijri) (Tishri 21, 4821 Jewish)**. He died on **July 18, 1100 (Ramadan 9, 493 Hijri) (Av 10, 4860 Jewish)**.

غدفرى Godfrey : **1294 (or 1300) (Godfrey de Bouillon** was one of the leaders of the Crusaders in the siege of Jerusalem. After they conquered Jerusalem on **July 15, 1099**, he became ruler of Kingdom of Jerusalem on **July 22, 1099)**

الإسراء The Israa (miraculous heavenly journey): **294 (or 293) (294 is the 231<sup>st</sup> Composite Number) (368 is the 294<sup>th</sup> Composite Number) (1931 is the 294<sup>th</sup> Prime Number)**

- As the **first Crusade** was approaching Jerusalem, an eclipse of the moon on **June 5, 1099** was regarded by the Crusaders as a favorable sign from God. The Crusade reached Jerusalem, the main destination of their **pilgrimage journey**, in the morning, on **Tuesday, June 7, 1099 Julian (Rajab 15, 492 Hijri) (Sivan 15, 4859 Jewish)**. Faced with a seemingly impossible task, the low morale of the Crusaders was raised when a priest, by the name of **Peter Desiderius**, claimed to have had a divine vision instructing them to fast and then march in a barefoot procession around the city walls, after which the city would fall in nine days, following the Biblical example of Joshua at the siege of Jericho. After fasting for 3 days, on Friday, **July 8, 1099**, the Crusaders performed the procession, sounding trumpets and chanting as instructed by Desiderius, ending on the Mount of Olives where Peter the Hermit preached to them, while the city's Muslim defenders mocked them. More practical help for the Crusaders had already arrived in the form of six ships that anchored at Jaffa, which had been abandoned by the Muslims. The ships were carrying food, armaments, and supplies needed to build siege engines. Using their newly acquired supplies, the Crusaders, with the aid of Genoese engineers, began building **two huge siege towers**, catapults and a battering ram. On **July 10, 1099 (Shaban 18, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 18, 4859 Jewish)**, the two siege towers built by the Crusaders were completed and wheeled into position. For the first time, the Muslim ruler of Jerusalem became concerned, issuing strict orders that he be notified if either tower moved closer to the city. The Crusaders started their assault on Jerusalem on the night of **July 13, 1099 Julian (July 19, 1099 Gregorian)** at night. The Crusaders fought all day on **July 14, 1099 Julian (July 20, 1099 Gregorian) (Shaban 22, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 22, 4859**

Jewish) (2122,661.5<sup>th</sup> or 2122,662<sup>nd</sup> Julian Day) without establishing a foothold. The Crusaders (about 1300 knights and 12,000 soldiers) breached the walls of Jerusalem and conquered Jerusalem on **Friday, July 15, 1099 AD** Julian (July 21, 1099 Gregorian) (**Shaban 23**, 492 Hijri) (**Tammuz 23**, 4859 Jewish) (2122,662.5<sup>th</sup> or 2122,663<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). The next day, on **July 16, 1099** Julian (**July 22**, 1099 Gregorian), the Crusaders forced Jews of Jerusalem to gather in the main synagogue and then, the Crusaders set this synagogue on fire. Most of the **inhabitants of Jerusalem (mostly Muslims) were slaughtered** by the Crusaders within **July 15 - 16**. On **July 22, 1099 (Ramadan 1**, 492 Hijri) (Av 1, 4859 Jewish), a council was held in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and **Godfrey de Bouillon** (descendant of Charlemagne) was chosen as ruler of Kingdom of Jerusalem, but he refused the title of “King”, instead he adopted the title “Advocate of the Holy Sepulchre”. **Pope Urban II** died on **July 29, 1099**, without knowing that Jerusalem was conquered.

- On **February 19, 1405 (Shaban 18 (or 19)**, 807 Hijri), one of the most famous Mongol kings, **Timur Lank** (Lank means Limper/ Lame) died.

- On **October 20, 1448 (Shaban 20**, 852 Hijri), Ottoman Sultan Murad II's forces defeated the Hungarian-led Crusader army in the **Battle of Kosovo** (lasted from **October 17 - 20**) which resulted in the death of 17,000 Crusader troops. After this battle, the Hungarian kingdom no longer had the military and financial resources to mount an offensive against the Ottomans. With the end of the half-century-long Crusader threat to their European frontier, Ottoman Sultan Mehmed II, son of Murad, was undisturbed when he conquered Constantinople on **May 29, 1453**.

- On Wednesday **April 3, 1630** Gregorian (**March 24, 1630** Julian) (**Shaban 19**, 1039 Hijri), **rain** started to fall on **Mecca**. In the afternoon, the rain intensified that caused **flooding**. This condition remained till the next day. Some sections of the **Kaba** in the Haram Mosque **collapsed**. Ottoman Sultan ordered re-building of the Kaba.

- After a **siege of Baghdad** that lasted for 40 days, **Ottoman Sultan Murat** urged his Grand Vizier to launch a major attack on the city. The attack was successful and **Baghdad** was captured by the Ottomans and liberated from the rule of the **Persian Safavid Empire** on **December 25, 1638 (Shaban 18**, 1048 Hijri), meaning on the 116th anniversary of the **capture of Rhodes** by Suleyman I). But during the final clashes, the Grand Vizier was shot down. This is the second conquest of Baghdad by the Ottomans.

- Ottoman Sultan **Abdul Hameed II** was the last Sultan to have absolute power and exert autocratic control over the Ottoman State. He refused to allow the establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine. He was born on **September 22, 1842 (Shaban 18**, 1258 Hijri) (Tishri 18, 5603 Jewish) and died on **February 10, 1918** (Rabi Thani 28, 1336 Hijri). Ottoman **Abdul Hamid II** ascended to the throne following the deposition of his brother Murad on **August 31, 1876**. The girding of the sword of Osman was a vital ceremony which took place after a sultan's ascension to the throne. Abdul Hamid was girt with the sword of Osman on **September 7, 1876 (Shaban 18**, 1293 Hijri).

- The **Hurva Synagogue**, (in Hebrew, it is called Beit ha-Knesset ha-Hurva, literally means "The Ruin Synagogue") (In Arabic, it is called the "Khirba", meaning the "Ruin"), also known as Hurvat Rabbi Yehudah he-Hasid ("Ruin of Rabbi Judah, the Pious"), is a historic synagogue located in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem. In the **winter of 1700**, a group of around 500 Ashkenazi Jews led by **Yehudah (Judah) heHasid** arrived to Jerusalem from Europe. They were mystics who were intent on **advancing the arrival of the Messianic Era** by settling in Jerusalem and leading ascetic lives. **A few days after their arrival, he-Hasid died.** They became without a leader. So, their **messianic hopes** dissipated and the community began to disintegrate. Those who remained managed to build 40 dwellings and a **small synagogue** in the Ashkenazic Compound. Soon after, they endeavored to construct a **larger synagogue**, but the task proved expensive. So, they borrowed money, as loans, from local Arabs, eventually falling into severe debt. In **late 1720**, with the debts still outstanding, the Arab lenders lost patience and **set the synagogue and its contents on fire.** The leaders of the community were imprisoned and shortly after, **all the Ashkenazim were banished** from the city. The **synagogue was left desolate**, in a pile of rubble, so it thus became known as the "Hurva (Ruin) of Rabbi Judah heHasid". Between 1808 and 1812, another group of Jews, known as Perushim, immigrated to Palestine from Lithuania. They were disciples of the **Vilna Gaon** and had settled in the city of Safed. In late 1815, leader of the Perushim, Rabbi Menachem Mendel of Shklov, arrived to Jerusalem with a group of followers. They directed their main efforts to rebuilding the Hurva Synagogue, which had symbolized the expulsion of the Ashkenazi Jews from Jerusalem. The **rebuilding of Hurva Synagogue** would represent the first step of **rebuilding Jerusalem** that the Bible mentions as a pre-requisite for the **arrival of the Messiah**. After a very lengthy series of diplomatic efforts by the Jews and Europeans, the Ottoman Sultan, Abdul-Majid I, granted a permit for the rebuilding of the Hurva. The groundbreaking of the **synagogue** ceremony took place on **December 11, 1855** (Rabi Thani 2, 1272 Hijri) (last day of Hanukkah, **Teveth 2, 5616 Jewish**). On **April 22, 1856** (**Shaban 17, 1272 Hijri**) (Nisan 17, 5616 Jewish), the cornerstone was laid in the presence of Chief Rabbi of Jerusalem, Shmuel Salant. In **1864**, the new **synagogue was dedicated**. Among the prominent figures who attended the dedication ceremony was Baron Alphonse James de **Rothschild**, who 8 years earlier had been given the honor of laying the first stone. The building was officially named Beit Yaakov – "House of Jacob". **The new Hurva Synagogue** was designed by the Ottoman Sultan's official architect who had come to Jerusalem to restore the Islamic shrines in the Aqsa Mosque compound. **Hurva Synagogue** had a neo-Byzantine design, similar to Constantinople's Hagia (Aya) Sophia cathedral/mosque, featuring 14-meter-high window arches and a huge dome which spanned the entire prayer space. The height of Hurva Synagogue, to the top of the dome, was 24 meters, making it one of the tallest structures in the walled Old City of Jerusalem. A balcony around the dome gave visitors an outstanding view over the city. From 1864 onwards till 1948, the Hurva Synagogue was considered the most beautiful and most important synagogue in Palestine. It was a focal point of Jewish spiritual life in the city. It became Jerusalem's main Ashkenazic synagogue and the site of the installation ceremonies of the Ashkenazic chief rabbis in Palestine. In 1948, about 100,000 Jews lived in Jerusalem: 2,000 in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem and 98,000 in the western neighborhoods of Jerusalem. The Jewish presence in the Old City declined from a peak of 19,000 in the 1880, as people moved to the newer Western neighborhoods outside the walls of the Old City. Eight hours before the **end of the British Mandate of Palestine**, which was due to finish at **midnight of May 14 -15, 1948**, **David Ben-Gurion**, Executive Head of the World Zionist Organization who later became the first Prime Minister of Israel, announced

unilateral establishment of the **State of Israel** on the land of Palestine at **4:00 p.m.** (Time in Palestine) just before the start of the Jewish Sabbath, on **Friday, May 14, 1948** Gregorian (May 1, 1948 Julian) (Rajab 5, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 5**, 5708 on Jewish Calendar) (2432,685.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). The attack by Palestinian irregular fighters on the **Jewish Quarter** of Jerusalem began on **May 16, 1948**. By the following day, **May 17**, the Palestinian fighters had captured a third of the Jewish Quarter. On **May 19, 1948** (Rajab 10, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 10**, 5708 Jewish), Jordanian army forces led by Major AbdAllah Al-Tal started entering the Old City of Jerusalem and took up positions around Zion Gate, closing access to Jewish Quarter. The Jordanian forces captured the Police Station in Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood, as Jewish gang fighters fled without a fight. As days went by, the area under Jewish control was constantly shrinking. On **May 25, 1948**, during the battle for the Old City, Major AbdAllah Al-Tal, wrote to Otto Lehner of the International Red Cross to warn that unless the Jewish terrorist group, Haganah, abandoned its positions in Hurva Synagogue and its adjoining courtyard, he would be forced to attack it. Commander of the Haganah in the Old City ignored the warning, knowing that if the Hurva fell, the battle for the Jewish Quarter would soon be lost. On **May 26, 1948**, the Jordanian forces delivered an ultimatum to the Jews to surrender within 12 hours, otherwise Hurva Synagogue would be blown up. On **May 27, 1948**, Al-Tal, after receiving no answer to his proposal, told his men to "Get the Hurva Synagogue by Noon." The Jordanian army placed a 200-litre barrel filled with explosives against Hurva synagogue's wall. The explosion resulted in a gaping hole. Jewish Haganah fighters spent 45 minutes fighting in vain to prevent the Jordanian troops from entering. When the Jordanian troops finally burst through, they tried to reach the top of its dome to plant an Arab flag. Three of the Jordanian troops were shot by snipers, but the fourth succeeded. The Arab flag flying over Hurva Synagogue signaled the triumph of the Jordanian army. In the evening on **May 27, 1948**, **Hurva Synagogue**, including the Etz Chaim Yeshiva (largest Jewish religious school or college in Jerusalem) attached to it, was blown up and completely rendered into rubble. The demolition of Hurva Synagogue was timed to coincide with Jordan's **King Abdullah's visit to the Old City of Jerusalem** on **May 27** during which he visited Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, where he prayed for the welfare of his army. He also visited the Tomb of Christ in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher (Tomb), which is also called Church of the Qiyama (Resurrection). On **Friday, May 28, 1948** (Rajab 19, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5708 Jewish), after the rabbis of the Jewish Quarter negotiated a surrender agreement with King Abdullah of Jordan, the Jewish fighters finally surrendered **in the afternoon** and the Jordanian army liberated the Old City of Jerusalem. After the surrender agreement had been signed, the **evacuation and departure (exodus) of the Jews**, combatants and civilians, from the Old City of Jerusalem began and lasted till 2 a.m. on **Sunday, May 30, 1948**. One by one Jews came out of their cellars to be rushed off quickly. The wounded people were sent to hospitals. The women, children and old men were handed over to the Red Cross, and the fighters were taken as Prisoners-of-War (P.O.W). Jewish POW were assembled before being led away to captivity, marching through the narrow alleys of the Old City. In his memoirs, Jordanian Major AbdAllah Al-Tal reported that he took measures to prevent Arab civilians seeking revenge from attacking the Jewish Quarter. He expressed pride in how his troops followed his orders and acted "according to the legacy of Arab tolerance". He proudly reported that the Jews were astonished by the conduct of the Jordanian troops who handed over water and cigarettes to the women, children, and elderly. The photos taken by journalists clearly show the success of Al-Tal's effort to secure an undisturbed and peaceful evacuation of all Jews from the Old City. The photos of Jewish refugees document old Jewish men, women, and many children, ultra-orthodox Ashkenazim and Sephardim walking to

the assembly place and then to Zion Gate, the exit point from the Old City. A day after the surrender, a Jewish Agency spokesman commended the Jordanian troops who “conducted themselves admirably”. However, in defiance of the curfew imposed by the Jordanian Army, some Arab civilians raided the abandoned buildings in the Jewish Quarter, looting and setting fire to them on their way. A Jewish source claims that soon after the Jordanian army captured the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem, 57 synagogues, libraries and centers of religious study were ransacked and 12 were totally and deliberately destroyed. Those that remained standing were **defaced**, used for housing of people or animals. **Jordan’s victory by gaining control of Old City of Jerusalem** is arguably **Israel's worst and most humiliating defeat** during the War of Independence. In his memoirs, Major AbdAllah Al-Tal explained the ramifications of the victory: **“Al-Quds (Jerusalem) was purged of Jews and for the first time in 1000 years, no Jew remained there.”** After Israel captured the Old City of Jerusalem from Jordan during the Six-Day War on June 7, 1967 (Safar 28, 1387 Hijri) (**Iyar 28, 5727 Jewish**), a number of plans were submitted for re-building Hurva Synagogue. After years of deliberation and indecision, a **commemorative Arch** (reaching to the height of the last destroyed Hurva Synagogue) was erected instead in 1977 at the location of the ruined Hurva Synagogue. The Ark itself became a prominent landmark in the Jewish Quarter. The plan to rebuild Hurva Synagogue, as an exact replica of the last destroyed one, received approval by the Israeli Government in year 2000. After the construction of the new Hurva synagogue finished, it was dedicated on **March 15** and **March 16, 2010. March 16, 2010** (Rabi Thani 1, 1431 Hijri) (**Nisan 1, 5770 Jewish**). **Nisan 1** is the first day of the **Jewish religious year**. **Nisan 1** is historically significant because it is the **day on which the construction of the Biblical Wilderness Tabernacle** was completed. For the Jews, construction of Hurva Synagogue symbolized end of exile and return of the Jews to the historical Land of Israel in preparation for the **coming of the Messiah** of the End Times. On **March 20, 2010**, Sabbath services were held in Hurva Synagogue for the first time since 1948.

- **Adolf Hitler** was born on **April 20, 1889 (Shaban 19, 1306 Hijri)** (**Nisan 19, 5649 Jewish**) and he died on **April 30, 1945 (Jumada Ula 17, 1364 Hijri)** (**Iyar 17, 5705 Jewish**).

- On **January 13 1898 (Shaban 19, 1315 Hijri)**, French newspaper L'Aurore published, on its front page, an open letter titled J'accuse (I accuse...!) written by the influential French writer **Émile Zola**. In the letter, Zola addressed President of France Félix Faure and accused the government of anti-Semitism and the unlawful jailing of Alfred Dreyfus, a Jewish French Army General Staff officer who was sentenced to lifelong penal servitude for espionage. Zola pointed out judicial errors and lack of serious evidence. In 1894, the French Army's counter-intelligence section, led by Lt. Colonel Jean Sandherr, became aware that information regarding new artillery parts was being passed to the Germans by a highly placed spy, most likely to be on the General Staff. Suspicion quickly fell upon Alfred Dreyfus, who was arrested for treason on **October 15, 1894** (Rabi Thani 19, 1312 Hijri). On **January 5, 1895 (Rajab 9, 1312 Hijri)**, Dreyfus was summarily convicted in a secret court martial, publicly stripped of his army rank, and sentenced to life imprisonment on Devil's Island in French Guiana. The **case of Dreyfus** was a major contributor to feeling of **Jews that they need to establish Jewish state**.

- **Um Kulthum**, top Arab singer, was born in Egypt on **December 31, 1898 (Shaban 18, 1316 Hijri)**

- **Sayyid Qutb**, prominent Egyptian Islamic thinker, was born on **October 9, 1906 (Shaban 20 (or 19), 1324 Hijri) (Tishri 20, 5667 Jewish)**. His most famous book is: *In the Shade of the Qur'an*, which is a 30-volume commentary on the Quran. He was hanged in Egypt on **August 29, 1966 (Jumada Ula 12, 1386 Hijri) (Elul 13, 5726 Jewish)**.

- **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** was the first President of Turkey and was behind the end of the Ottoman Sultanate in 1922 and **abolition of the Islamic Caliphate** in **1924**. His father's name is Ali Riza. At birth, he was identified as **Mustafa son of Ali Riza**. He was an army officer. During a battle in Derna, Libya on **January 16–17, 1912 (Muharram 26 - 27, 1330 Hijri) (Teveth 26 - 27, 5672 Jewish)**, while the Ottoman forces were attacking the Italian-controlled fortress of Kasr-i Harun, two Italian planes dropped bombs on the Ottoman forces and a piece of limestone shrapnel from a damaged building's rubble entered Mustafa Kemal's left eye which caused a **permanent damage on his left eye's tissue**, but not total loss of sight. So, **Mustafa Kemal** became an **Awar** (person with a **defective eye**). Prophet Mohammad (p) described the Dajjal as an **Awar**. Some researchers believe that **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's** ancestors were **Crypto Jews**, possibly **Dönme** (descendants of followers of **Sabbatai Zevi** who claimed to be the **awaited Jewish Messiah**, but after being imprisoned by the Ottomans, he was freed after pretending to convert to Islam). **Crypto Jews** pretend in public to be Muslims, but remain Jews in private. **Salonica** (the city where **Mustafa Kemal** was born) served as an important center for such **Crypto Jews** and the base of the **Young Turks movement** which led a rebellion to turn the Ottoman Sultanate into constitutional monarchy, governed according to a constitution, thus limiting the power of the Sultan. Today, **Salonica** is called Thessaloniki and it is the capital Macedonia region of Greece and the second largest city in Greece. **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** made a name for himself as the **Commander of the 19th Division of the Ottoman army**, where his bravery and strategic prowess helped thwart the Allied invasion of the Dardanelles in **1915**. The real date of birth of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk is unconfirmed. In a speech he delivered in 1927, **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** claimed to have been born on the same day as day of **his landing in Samsun**, meaning **May 19. Atatürk landed in Samsun on May 19, 1919 (May 6, 1919 Julian) (Shaban 19, 1337 Hijri) (Iyar 19, 5679 Jewish) (242,2097.5<sup>th</sup> or 242,2098<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**. **Atatürk's landing in Samsun** is considered the **beginning Turkey's War of Independence**, the Turkish uprising against the decision of the Allies after World War I to divide among themselves many territories of the defeated Ottoman Empire. **Turkey** designates **Atatürk's** date of birth as **May 19, 1881 Gregorian (Jumada Thania 19, 1298 Hijri) (Iyar 20, 5641 Jewish) (2408,219.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**. Today, **May 19** is an annual national holiday in Turkey, called "Commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports Day". Greece claims that starting from **May 19, 1919**, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk began a genocide or ethnic cleansing against the Greeks, known as Pontos, who had been living in the region for thousands of years. That is why today, in Greece, **May 19** is an annual holiday to commemorate what Greece claims to be a genocide against of Pontic Greeks in which 353,000 Pontic Greeks died. **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** died in Istanbul (Constantinople) on **November 10, 1938**. At 8:10 a.m. on **November 19, 1938 (Ramadan 26 (or 25), 1357 Hijri) (Heshvan 25, 5699 Jewish) (2429,221.5<sup>th</sup> or 2429,222<sup>nd</sup> Julian Day)**, a religious funeral prayer was conducted by the Director of the Institute for Islamic Studies, in Turkish, not in traditional Arabic, and was attended by people who were close to him. His state funeral was held in Ankara on **November 21, 1938**, and was attended by dignitaries from 17 countries. Atatürk's coffin was placed inside a white marble sarcophagus at the **Ethnography Museum of Ankara** and remained there until **November 10, 1953**.



(Rabi Awwal 3, 1373 Hijri), the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death, when his coffin was buried in his final resting place at **Anıtkabir (Masuleum or Memorial Tomb)** in **Ankara**.

**Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** was closely connected to **Number 19** in several ways:

(a) He was born on **May 19, 1881 Gregorian** (Jumada Thania **19**, 1298 Hijri) (**Iyar 20**, 5641 Jewish).

(b) He landed in Samsun on **May 19, 1919** (May 6, 1919 Julian) (**Shaban 19**, 1337 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5679 Jewish).

(c) His funeral was held on **November 19, 1938**.

(d) **From 1881** (year of his birth) **till 1919** (year of his landing in Samsun), there are **38 years** (= **19** x 2).

(e) **From 1919** (year of his landing in Samsun) **till 1938** (year of his death), there are **19 years**.

(f) **From 1881** (year of his birth) **till 1938** (year of his death), there are **57 years** (= **19** x 3).

(g) He made a name for himself as the **Commander of the 19<sup>th</sup> Division of the Ottoman army**.

- On **May 19, 1919** (**May 6**, 1919 Julian) (**Shaban 19**, 1337 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5679 Jewish) (242,2097.5<sup>th</sup> or 242,2098<sup>th</sup> Julian), a **great fire** broke out in the northern parts of Western **Canada**.

- **Hagia Sophia** (in Greek language, it is called **Aya Sophia**, meaning “Holy Wisdom”) in Constantinople served as the Byzantine Orthodox Patriarchal Cathedral of Constantinople (comparable to St. Peter’s Basilica in the Vatican). Hagia Sophia was inaugurated on **February 15, 360 AD** (Adar 12, 4120 Jewish) during the reign of Emperor Constantius II. A fire, that accompanied riots, burned down Hagia Sophia in **June 404 AD**. A new church was ordered to be rebuilt by Theodosius II, who inaugurated the second Hagia Sophia on **October 10, 415 AD** (Tishri 21, 4176 Jewish). A fire burned the second Hagia Sophia to the ground on **January 13 – 14, 532 AD** (Shevat 20 – 21, 4292 Jewish). On **February 23, 532 AD** (Adar II 1, 4292 Jewish), only a few weeks after the destruction of the second Hagia Sophia, Emperor Justinian I decided to re-build it, larger and more majestic than its predecessors. More than ten thousand workers were employed in the construction. Emperor Justinian I and Patriarch Menas inaugurated the third Hagia Sophia on **December 27, 537** (Teveth 8, 4298 Jewish). Earthquakes in **August 553** and on **December 14, 557 AD** (Teveth 6, 4318 Jewish) caused cracks in the main dome and eastern half-dome. The main dome collapsed completely during a subsequent earthquake on **May 7 (or 5), 558 AD** and was replaced and church was re-dedicated on December 24, 562 AD, shortly before the death of Emperor Justinian. After the great earthquake of **October 25, 989 AD** (Rajab 22, 379 Hijri), which collapsed the Western dome

arch, the extent of the damage required six years of repair and reconstruction until the church was re-opened on **May 13, 994 AD Julian (May 18, 994 Gregorian) (Rabi Thani 1, 384 Hijri) (Sivan 1, 4754 Jewish)**. Upon the capture of Constantinople during the Fourth Crusade, the church was ransacked and desecrated by the Latin Christians. During the Latin occupation of Constantinople (from 1204 till 1261), the church became a Roman Catholic cathedral. **Baldwin I** of Constantinople was crowned as an emperor on **May 16, 1204** (Ramadan 15, 600 Hijri) (Sivan 15, 4964 Jewish) in Hagia Sophia. New cracks developed in the dome of Hagia Sophia after the earthquake of **October 1344**. Later on, due to an earthquake on **May 19, 1346** (Muharram 26, 747 Hijri) (**Iyar 26, 5106 Jewish**), several parts of Hagia Sophia collapsed. Consequently, the church was closed until **1354**, when repairs were undertaken by architects Astras and Peralta. After the Ottomans conquered Constantinople on **May 29, 1453 Julian (June 7, 1453 Gregorian) (Jumada Al-Ula 20, 857 Hijri) (Sivan 21, 5213 Jewish) (2251,914.5th 2251,915th Julian Day)**, Hagia Sophia was converted into a mosque, serving as the Cami-i Kebir “Grand Mosque” of the Ottoman sultans. After the end of the Ottoman Sultanate, at the time of the first President of Turkey, Kemal Ataturk, Hagia Sophia was closed for 4 years from 1931 until it was converted into a museum that opened on **February 1, 1935** (Shawwal 26, 1353 Hijri). Hagia Sophia was converted into a Museum by the decree of the Council of Ministers dated **November 24, 1934 (Shaban 17, 1353 Hijri)**.

- On **June 21, 1934**, the parliament of Turkey adopted the Surname Law (requiring Turkish citizens to adopt surnames and the surnames must be Turkish and do not carry connotations of foreign cultures, nations, or ethnicities. On **November 26, 1934 (Shaban 19, 1353 Hijri)**, the parliament of Turkey adopted a law to abolish nicknames, by-names, pious titles, and titles of nobility and royal titles and the Parliament chose the surname **Atatürk** (“the father of Turks”) for President of Turkey **Mustafa Kemal**.

- Lebanese Shia Scholar, **Mohammad Hussein FadlAllah**, was born on **November 16, 1935 (Shaban 19, 1354 Hijri) (Heshvan 20, 5696 Jewish)**.

- On **July 16, 1945 (Shaban 6, 1364 Hijri) (Av 6, 5705 Jewish)**, at **05:29 AM local time**, the U.S. conducted the first nuclear detonation test in the World, called Trinity Test, at what is referred to as the Trinity Site, in New Mexico. This test and the atomic bombs that were dropped on Japan were part of the **Manhattan Project**, a research and development program sponsored by the United States, Canada, and the U.K. The date of this test is usually considered to be the **beginning of the Atomic Age**. Most of the components of the bomb, that was later dropped on Hiroshima, left San Francisco on an American ship called USS Indianapolis on **July 16, 1945**, reached Pearl Harbor on **July 19, 1945** and arrived to its final destination, **Tinian** (an island in the Pacific ocean captured from Japan by U.S. forces in July 1944) on **July 26, 1945 (Shaban 16, 1364 Hijri)**. On the same day, **July 26, 1945**, the allies made **Potsdam Declaration**, threatening Japan with "prompt and utter destruction". On **July 29, 1945 (Shaban 19, 1364 Hijri)**, the Japanese government rejected the ultimatum. Halfway between the Philippines and Guam, shortly after midnight, at **12:14 a.m. local time**, on **July 30, 1945 (July 29, 1945 GMT)**, USS Indianapolis was struck, by two torpedoes from a Japanese submarine, and sank. Of the 1197 crew members, only 317 survived and were rescued on **August 2, 1945 (Shaban 23, 1364 Hijri) (Av 23, 5705 Jewish)**. On **August 2, 1945, assembly of Nagasaki's atomic bomb began**. American war planes dropped Little Boy atomic bomb over **Hiroshima**, Japan on **August 6,**

**1945** (Shaban 27, 1364 Hijri) (Av 27, 5705 Jewish), followed by Fat Man atomic bomb over Nagasaki, Japan at 11:01 a.m. Japan Time on **August 9, 1945 (Ramadan 1, 1364 Hijri)** (Av 30, 5705 Jewish). On **August 15, 1945** (Ramadan 7 (or 6), 1364 Hijri) (Elul 6, 5705 Jewish), 6 days after the bombing of Nagasaki, Japan announced its surrender to the Allies. On Sunday, **September 2, 1945** around **9:00 a.m.** (Tokyo Time) (**Ramadan 25** (or 24), 1364 Hijri) (Elul 24, 5705 Jewish Calendar) (2431,700.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), Japan signed a surrender agreement on board of a U.S. ship in Tokyo Bay. Signatures of representatives of both Japan and the Allied countries were in place by **9:22 a.m.** Following a few brief remarks by U.S. President, MacArthur, the surrender ceremony ended at 9:25 a.m. This means the surrender took place on Saturday, **September 1, 1945** around **8:00 p.m.** (U.S. Eastern Standard Time) (**Ramadan 24 (or 23)**, 1364 Hijri) (**Elul 23**, 5705 Jewish Calendar). On **September 22, 1945**, the U.S. issued a statement of general initial U.S. policy regarding Japan after its surrender. Japan's signing of the surrender agreement is considered the **official end of World War II**.

- At **9:40 a.m.** local time, on Saturday, **July 28, 1945, (Shaban 18, 1364 Hijri)** (Av 18, 5705 Jewish Calendar) (2431,664.5<sup>th</sup> or 2431,665<sup>th</sup> Julian day), during World War II, a U.S. bomber, piloted in thick fog by Lieutenant Colonel William Franklin Smith, Jr., in a routine mission transporting soldiers from Massachusetts to New York City's LaGuardia Airport, crashed into the north side of the **Empire State Building**, in **New York**, between the **79<sup>th</sup> and 80<sup>th</sup> floors**, where the offices of the National Catholic Welfare Council were located. The building consists of **102 floors** and it is **1,454 ft (443.2 m)** high. The crash resulted in fourteen deaths, three crewmen and eleven people in the building.

- On **July 8, 1947 (Shaban 19, 1366 Hijri) (Tammuz 20, 5707 Jewish)**, Roswell Army Air Field (RAAF) issued a press release stating that its personnel had recovered a "**flying disc**", which had crashed on a ranch near Roswell, New Mexico, in the United States. This incident is the most famous **UFO incident** in the U.S.

- On **June 27, 1948 (Shaban 19, 1367 Hijri)**, the United States, Britain, and France responded to the Soviet blockade of Berlin by effecting an airlift of supplies to the two million people in the western sector of Berlin.

- On **May 20, 1948 (May 7, 1948 Julian) (Rajab 11, 1367 Hijri) (Iyar 11, 5708 Jewish)**, **Count Folke Bernadotte** was appointed by the United Nations as a mediator in Palestine, based on U.N. Resolution 186 issued on May 14, 1948. It was the first official mediation in the U.N. history. On **June 28, 1948 (Shaban 20, 1367 Hijri)**, **Folke Bernadotte's** submitted his first peace plan, for resolving the Israeli - Palestinian conflict, in secret to the various relevant parties. His plan called for Palestine and Transjordan to be structured as "a Union, comprising two Members, one Arab and one Jewish", each member with full control over its own affairs, including its foreign relations. The plan suggested the inclusion of the City of Jerusalem in Arab territory, with municipal autonomy for the Jewish community and special arrangements for the protection of the Holy Places.

- After Jordan's **King Abdullah** son of the Sharif of Mecca, Hussein son of Ali, was assassinated in the Aqsa Mosque on **July 20, 1951**, his son Talal became the king of Jordan. **King Talal** was forced to abdicate by Jordanian Parliament a year after he became the king, due

to his mental illness. **Talal's son Hussein** was proclaimed **King of Jordan** on **August 11, 1952** (Zu Al-Qada 20, 1371 Hijri); however, a Regency Council (to assume the powers of the king because the monarch was still a minor) was appointed till King Hussein reached the age of 18, according to the Islamic lunar calendar when he assumed his full power and responsibilities as king on **May 2, 1953 (Shaban 18, 1372 Hijri)**. King Hussein was born on November 14, 1935 (**Shaban 18, 1354 Hijri**). Prime Minister Abu Huda resigned on **May 5, 1953**, and Fawzi Mulky formed a government as prime minister on **May 6, 1953**.

- On **May 2, 1953 (Shaban 18, 1372 Hijri)**, the last **King of Iraq, Faisal II** assumed his full power and responsibilities as king of Iraq, when he became 18 years old. He was born on **May 2, 1935**. This means each of King **Hussein of Jordan** and King **Faisal II of Iraq**, who are close relatives and descendants of Prophet Mohammad (p), assumed full power and responsibilities as a king on the same day.

- **Pope Paul VI** (real name: Giovanni Battista Montini) was born on **September 26, 1897** (Rabi Thani 28, 1315 Hijri) (Elul 29, 5657 Jewish), was elected Pope on **June 21, 1963** (Muharram 28, 1383 Hijri) (Sivan 29, 5723 Jewish) and served until his death on **August 6, 1978** (Ramadan 2, 1398 Hijri). On **January 4, 1964 (Shaban 18, 1383 Hijri)** (Teveth 19, 5724 Jewish), **Paul VI** started his 3-day historic pilgrimage journey to the Holy Land by visiting **Jordan**. Then, on **January 5 – 6, 1964, Pope Paul VI** visited Jerusalem. His visit to the Holy Land was historic for several reasons. It was the **first time** a Pope has travelled abroad for over a century, the **first time** a Pope has travelled in an airplane, and the **first time** ever since Saint Peter that a Pope has visited the Holy Land. In the evening of **January 5, 1964 (Shaban 19, 1383 Hijri)** (Teveth 20, 5724 Jewish) (2438,399.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day) (498,960<sup>th</sup> Hijri Day), a historic meetings was held on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem between **Pope Paul VI** and Orthodox **Patriarch Athenagoras** (the 268th **Patriarch of Constantinople** from 1948 to 1972). It was the **first time** that the universal leader of the Western Church and the spiritual leader of the Eastern Church met face-to-face since **March 8, 1438** (Ramadan 11, 841 Hijri) at the **Council of Florence** (1438-1439). The venue for the meeting was on the Mount of Olives, where Christians believe Jesus Christ, pleaded with God, on the night of his betrayal, for the unity of his followers. For many centuries, the Eastern and Western Churches were not in formal contact and shared very little official communication since what became known as the Great Schism which started on **July 16, 1054** when the Pope's delegate placed a decree of excommunication against Patriarch of Constantinople on the altar of Church of Hagia Sophia. On **July 20, 1054**, the Patriarch of Constantinople convened a council which excommunicated the Pope's delegate and those who follow them and accused them and the Pope of heresy. On the next day, **January 6, 1964 (Shaban 20, 1383 Hijri)**, Pope Paul VI and Patriarch Athenagoras also met for the second time. Their meetings did not end the schism, but rather showed a desire for greater reconciliation between the two churches. **Pope Paul VI** arrived by an airplane to J. F. Kennedy airport in New York City for a historic 14-hour visit to address the United Nations on **October 4, 1965 (Jumada Thania 8, 1385 Hijri)** (Tishri 8, 5726 Jewish). U.S. President **Lyndon B. Johnson** met **Pope Paul VI** at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York. It was the first visit in history by a Pope not only to the U.S., but also to the Western Hemisphere, Africa, Oceania and Asia. On **May 13, 1967** (50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first apparition) (Safar 3, 1387 Hijri) (Iyar 3, 5727 Jewish) (2439,623.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day) (491,185<sup>th</sup> Hijri Day), **Pope Paul VI** visited Fatima, Portugal, becoming the **first pope to visit Fatima**. In the presence of 1,000,000 pilgrims, after a Mass

celebrated in the open square in front of the basilica in Fatima, Portugal, **Lucia** approached **Pope Paul VI** and said: *"I want to have a private conversation with you."* She repeated this request several times. But Pope Paul VI rejected her requests. His rejection made Lucia start weeping. **Pope Paul VI** visited Istanbul (Constantinople), Turkey on **July 27, 1967** (Rabi Thani 19, 1387 Hijri) (**Tammuz 19**, 5727 Jewish) (2439,698.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day) (491,260<sup>th</sup> Hijri Day) and met with the Orthodox **Patriarch Athenagoras, Patriarch of Constantinople**, as the first pope to visit Constantinople since **Pope Constantine** in **710**. With his visit to Istanbul (Constantinople), **Pope Paul VI** became the first pope to visit six continents, and was the most travelled pope in history up to that time, earning the nickname the "Pilgrim Pope". **Pope Urban II** (whose speech, on **November 27**, 1095 at the Council of Clermont, prompted the launch the First Crusade) was the first pope to travel extensively outside Rome. On **November 27, 1970** (Ramadan 28, 1390 Hijri) (**Heshvan 28**, 5731 Jewish) (2440,917.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day) (492,479<sup>th</sup> Hijri Day), at 9:30 a.m., shortly after **Pope Paul VI** disembarked from his chartered airplane at Manila airport in his visit to the Philippines, **Pope Paul VI** was attacked and stabbed with a dagger by **Benjamin Mendoza y Amor Flores**, a Bolivian painter, disguised as a priest. **Pope Paul VI** was wounded in this incident. This assassination attempt could be connected to the third apparition of the 3 children in Fatima, Portugal.

- In the aftermath of the Six-Day War in **June 1967** in which Israel captured the West Bank, including Old City of Jerusalem, and Gaza, the **United Nations** Security Council **Resolution 242** was adopted unanimously by the U.N. Security Council on **November 22, 1967** (**Shaban 19**, 1387 Hijri) (**Heshvan 19**, 5728 Jewish), The preamble refers to the **"inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war"**. The resolution calls for: (i) Withdrawal of Israel armed forces from territories occupied in the recent conflict; (ii) Termination of all claims or states of belligerency and respect for and acknowledgment of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of every State in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries free from threats or acts of force.

- On **August 27, 1975** (**Shaban 20**, 1975), former Emperor of Ethiopia, **Haile Selassie**, died. He had been overthrown by a coup on September 12, 1974. He is regarded as a **Messiah**, God incarnate by the Rastafari Movement.

- On **July 16, 1979** (**Shaban 20**, 1399 Hijri), Iraq's President **Ahmad Hasan Al-Bakr** resigned, and his son-in-law, **Saddam Hussein**, who was Vice President of Iraq, became the President of Iraq.

صدام حسين Saddam Hussein :  $135 + 128 = 263$

إسراء Israa (miraculous heavenly journey at night): **263 (or 262)** (**263** is the **56<sup>th</sup>** Prime Number) (**330** is the **263<sup>rd</sup>** Composite Number) (**1669** is the **263<sup>rd</sup>** Prime Number) (**1967** is the **1669<sup>th</sup>** Composite Number)

- On **May 14, 1980**, Geula Cohen, a member of the Israeli Knesset (Parliament) introduced a private member bill in the Knesset calling for the adoption of a **basic law: "Jerusalem, capital of Israel."** The Knesset voted to have the law debated in a **committee**. On **June 30, 1980** (**Shaban 17**, 1400 Hijri) (2444,420.5<sup>th</sup> or 2444,421<sup>st</sup> Julian Day), the **Knesset committee** overwhelmingly approved the law and returned it to the plenum for its final readings. A

statement published in **June 30 – July 1, 1980 (Shaban 17 - 18, 1400 Hijri)**, issue of the Vatican's newspaper *Osservatore Romano*, expressed the Pope John Paul II's disapproval of the proposed **Israeli law: "Jerusalem, capital of Israel."** On the same day, **June 30, 1980 (Shaban 17, 1400 Hijri)**, the **United Nations Security Council** voted unanimously in favor of **Resolution 476**, with none voting against it, but with only the U.S. abstaining from voting. **Resolution 476** deplores the legislative steps initiated in the Israeli Knesset with the aim of changing the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem. **Resolution 476** was initiated by 39 Islamic states, and declared that any Israeli action will be deemed as "null and void." It also called for the end of Israeli occupation of all Arab territories "including Jerusalem." Israel rejected U.N. **Resolution 476**. In defiance, the Israeli Knesset passed and ratified the **basic law: "Jerusalem, capital of Israel"** (which is also referred to as **"Jerusalem Law"**) on **July 30, 1980 (Ramadan 17, 1400 Hijri)**, officially annexing the pre-1967 eastern parts of the city of Jerusalem, and illegally declaring Jerusalem the eternal undivided capital of Israel, over which Israel exercised exclusive sovereignty.

- While Israel's Prime Minister was Menachem Begin, and Israel's Minister of Defense was Ariel Sharon, Israel started an invasion of Lebanon on **June 6, 1982 (Shaban 14, 1402 Hijri)** (Sivan 15, 5742 Jewish). On **June 10, 1982 (Shaban 18, 1402 Hijri)**, Israeli forces conquered Sidon, except Palestinian refugee camp of Ain El-Hilweh near Sidon which Israeli forces did not manage to take control of it till **June 15, 1982 ((Shaban 23, 1402 Hijri)**. On **June 11, 1982 (Shaban 19, 1402 Hijri)**, **Israel and Syria** announced that they had agreed to a cease-fire at noon, which would not include the PLO. **Israeli forces entered East Beirut** which was ruled Christian militias, particularly the Lebanese Forces which were allied with Israel and started their **siege of West Beirut** (where Palestinian fighters were located) on **June 14, 1982 (Shaban 22, 1402 Hijri)** (Sivan 23, 5742 Jewish). Israel managed to seal off the air, sea and land routes to West Beirut. The blockade imposed by Israel included constant heavy shelling targeting West Beirut, and cutting off water and food supplies from residents of West Beirut until **August 28, 1982** when the U.S. envoy to Lebanon, Philip Habib, brokered a compromise suggesting the relocation of the Palestinian fighters to Tunisia and other Arab countries under the supervision of a multinational force.

- On **October 26, 2002 (Shaban 19, 1423 Hijri)** (Heshvan 20, 5763 Jewish), the Theatre Hostage Crisis in Moscow ended. Approximately 40 - 50 Chechen rebels and 130 hostages died when Russian police forces stormed a Dubrovka Theater building in Moscow, which had been occupied by the rebels since October 23, 2002. There were 850 – 900 people in the theater when the crisis started. The Chechen hostage-takers demanded the withdrawal of Russian forces from Chechnya.

- On **September 2, 2007 (Shaban 19, 1428 Hijri)**, the Lebanese army finally managed to take full took of Nahr Al-Barid Palestinian camp, near Tripoli, Lebanon, from Fath Al-Islam, extremist Palestinian group, in the war against this group that started on **May 20, 2007**.

- On **July 22, 2011 (Shaban 20, 1432 Hijri)** (Tammuz 20, 5771 Jewish), **Norway** was the victim of **twin terror attacks**, by a **white, Christian, anti-immigrants extremist Norwegian**, the first being a car bomb blast which targeted government buildings in central Oslo, killing about 8 people, the second being a massacre at a youth camp on the island of Utøya, in which **69**

people were killed.

يوم تفجير + مجزره + النروج Day of Tafjeer (Bombing) + Majzara (Masacre) + Norway :  
 $56 + (693 + 255 + 290) = 56 + 1238 = 1294$  (On **July 22, 2011 (Shaban 20, 1432 Hijri)**  
(Tammuz 20, 5771 Jewish), **Norway** was the victim of **twin terror attacks**, by a **white, Christian extremist Norwegian**, the first being a car bomb blast which targeted government buildings in central Oslo, killing about 8 people, the second being a massacre at a youth camp on the island of Utøya, in which **69 people** were killed.)

الإسراء The Israa (miraculous heavenly journey): **294 (or 293)** (294 is the **231<sup>st</sup>** Composite Number) (**368** is the **294<sup>th</sup>** Composite Number) (**1931** is the **294<sup>th</sup>** Prime Number)

- Following mass protests and demonstrations against **President of Egypt, Mohammad Mursi**, that started on **June 28, 2013 (Shaban 19, 1434 Hijri) (Tammuz 20, 5773 Jewish)**, a military coup led by Chief of the Armed Forces of Egypt, **Abd-Al-Fatah Sisi**, happened and deposed **President of Egypt, Mohammad Mursi** on **July 3, 2013 (Shaban 24, 1434 Hijri) (Tammuz 25, 5773 Jewish)**. On **November 19, 1954**, **Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi** was born. He served as chief of the Egyptian Armed Forces before becoming the **President of Egypt**.
- On **June 7, 2015 (Shaban 19, 1436 Hijri)** in the **Parliamentary elections** of Turkey, President **Erdogan's** Islamist party, Justice and Development Party, won more seats in the Parliament than any of the other parties, but not the majority of seats.
- On **May 29, 2016 (Shaban 20, 1437 Hijri) (Iyar 21, 5776 Jewish)**, in the municipal and **mayoral elections** in **Tripoli, Lebanon**, the list of candidates backed by **Ashraf Rifi** won, unexpectedly, the majority of the seats in the municipal council of Tripoli. This list was competing against the list backed most of the other influential politicians in the city.

## 9. Shaban 22 - 24

**Shaban 23** is the **230<sup>th</sup> day** of the Hijri calendar.

The following events happened during this period:

- **Abu Muslim Al-Khurasani** was killed around **February 11 (or 12), 755 AD (Shaban 23 (or 24), 137 Hijri)**. He played a key role in bringing the end of the Umayyad Dynasty and the beginning of the Abbasid Dynasty. He is associated with the Black Banners.
- The first Crusade started their march from Europe on Friday, August 15, 1096 AD (**Shaban 23, 489 Hijri**) (Av 24, 4856 Jewish), as set by **Pope Urban II** because **August 15** is **Feast of the Assumption**.
- As the **first Crusade** was approaching Jerusalem, an eclipse of the moon on **June 5, 1099** was regarded by the Crusaders as a favorable sign from God. The Crusade reached Jerusalem, the

main destination of their **pilgrimage journey**, in the morning, on **Tuesday, June 7, 1099** Julian (Rajab 15, 492 Hijri) (Sivan 15, 4859 Jewish). Faced with a seemingly impossible task, the low morale of the Crusaders was raised when a priest, by the name of **Peter Desiderius**, claimed to have had a divine vision instructing them to fast and then march in a barefoot procession around the city walls, after which the city would fall in nine days, following the Biblical example of Joshua at the siege of Jericho. After fasting for 3 days, on Friday, **July 8, 1099**, the Crusaders performed the procession, sounding trumpets and chanting as instructed by Desiderius, ending on the Mount of Olives where Peter the Hermit preached to them, while the city's Muslim defenders mocked them. More practical help for the Crusaders had already arrived in the form of six ships that anchored at Jaffa, which had been abandoned by the Muslims. The ships were carrying food, armaments, and supplies needed to build siege engines. Using their newly acquired supplies, the Crusaders, with the aid of Genoese engineers, began building **two huge siege towers**, catapults and a battering ram. On **July 10, 1099 (Shaban 18, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 18, 4859 Jewish)**, the two siege towers built by the Crusaders were completed and wheeled into position. For the first time, the Muslim ruler of Jerusalem became concerned, issuing strict orders that he be notified if either tower moved closer to the city. The Crusaders started their assault on Jerusalem on the night of **July 13, 1099** Julian (**July 19, 1099** Gregorian) at night. The Crusaders fought all day on **July 14, 1099** Julian (July 20, 1099 Gregorian) (**Shaban 22, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 22, 4859 Jewish)** (2122,661.5<sup>th</sup> or 2122,662<sup>nd</sup> Julian Day) without establishing a foothold. The Crusaders (about 1300 knights and 12,000 soldiers) breached the walls of Jerusalem and conquered Jerusalem on **Friday, July 15, 1099 AD** Julian (July 21, 1099 Gregorian) (**Shaban 23, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 4859 Jewish)** (2122,662.5<sup>th</sup> or 2122,663<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). The next day, on **July 16, 1099** Julian (**July 22, 1099** Gregorian), the Crusaders forced Jews of Jerusalem to gather in the main synagogue and then, the Crusaders set this synagogue on fire. Most of the **inhabitants of Jerusalem (mostly Muslims) were slaughtered** by the Crusaders within **July 15 - 16**. On **July 22, 1099 (Ramadan 1, 492 Hijri) (Av 1, 4859 Jewish)**, a council was held in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and **Godfrey de Bouillon** (descendant of Charlemagne) was chosen as ruler of Kingdom of Jerusalem, but he refused the title of "King", instead he adopted the title "Advocate of the Holy Sepulchre". **Pope Urban II** died on **July 29, 1099**, without knowing that Jerusalem was conquered.

- On **September 2, 1192** Julian (September 9, 1192 Gregorian) (**Shaban 22 (or 23), 588 Hijri) (Elul 22, 4952 Jewish)**, Sultan Salah Eddeen and King of England Richard the Lion-hearted signed **treaty over Jerusalem**, at end of the Third Crusade, granting Muslim control over Jerusalem, but allowing unarmed Christian pilgrims and merchants to visit the city.

- **Napoleon's** French forces **marched to Rome**, entered it unopposed on **Saturday, February 10, 1798 (Shaban 24 (or 23), 1212 Hijri) (Shevat 24, 5558 Jewish) (2377,806.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**, proclaimed a Roman Republic on **February 15, 1798 (Shaban 29 (or 28), 1212 Hijri) (Shevat 29, 5558 Jewish)**, demanded of **Pope Pius VI** the renunciation of his temporal power, and upon **Pope Pius VI's** refusal, he was taken prisoner. **February 15** was the 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of **Pope Pius VI's** election as Pope on **February 15, 1775**. On **February 20, 1798 (Ramadan 5 (or 4), 1212 Hijri)**, **Pope Pius VI** was sent by Napoleon from the Vatican to Siena, and afterwards to Certosa, near Florence. He died in prison, on **August 29, 1799**, having then reigned longer than any pope.



- On **May 17, 1809** (Rabi Thani 2, 1224 Hijri) (Sivan 2, 5569 Jewish) (2381,919.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Napoleon annexed the Italian Papal States** to the French Empire. On **June 10, 1809**, **Pope Pius VII** made public a bull of excommunication of those involved in the annexation, including Napoleon. Around 3:00 AM on Thursday, **July 6, 1809** (Jumada Ula 22, 1224 Hijri) (**Tammuz 22**, 5569 Jewish) (2381,969.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Pope Pius VII was arrested** and remained imprisoned. After Napoleon's army was defeated in the **Battle of Paris** and Paris was occupied on **March 31, 1814**, Napoleon abdicated on **April 6, 1814**, in favor of his son. However, the Allies, demanded unconditional surrender and Napoleon abdicated again, unconditionally, on **April 11, 1814**. **Pope Pius VII** returned to Rome in **May 24, 1814** (Jumada Thania 5, 1229 Hijri). **Pope Pius VII** left Rome to Genoa during the “**100 Days**” when Napoleon escaped from Elba. **Pope Pius VII** returned finally to Rome on **June 7, 1815** (Jumada Thania 28, 1230 Hijri) (**Iyar 28**, 5575 Jewish). Napoleon was defeated in the **Battle of Waterloo** on **June 18, 1815** (Rajab 10, 1230 Hijri) (Sivan 10, 5575 Jewish). Napoleon abdicated, in favor of his son Napoleon II, 4 days later on **June 22, 1815**. In the meantime, the Provisional Government deposed his son and tried to negotiate a conditional surrender with the Coalition powers. They failed to obtain any significant concessions from the Coalition who insisted on a military surrender. On the **July 7, 1815** (Rajab 29, 1230 Hijri) (Sivan 29, 5575 Jewish), coalition forces entered **Paris**. **Napoleon** was notified of his exile to **St. Helena** on **July 31, 1815** (**Shaban 23**, 1230 Hijri) (**Tammuz 23**, 5575 Jewish). On **August 8, 1815** (**Ramadan 1** (or 2), 1230 Hijri) (Av 2, 5575 Jewish) , early in the morning, a British ship called “*The Northumberland*”, carrying **Napoleon Bonaparte**, set sail to **Island of Saint Helena** for his last exile.

- In 1878, an Egyptian army officer, **Ahmad Urabi Al-Husseini** [a descendant of Al-Hussein, grandson of Prophet Mohammad (p)] started a rebellion against **Tewfik Pasha**, the Khedive of Egypt and Sudan, against the corrupted government of Egypt. On **May 20, 1882**, a combined Anglo-French fleet arrived at Alexandria to support Tewfik Pasha. On **June 13, 1882**, Khedive Tewfik fled from Cairo to Alexandria which was protected by the British fleet. On **July 11, 1882** (**Shaban 24 (or 23)**, 1299 Hijri) (**Tammuz 24**, 5642 Jewish), the British fleet started bombarding Alexandria. Finally, a large British naval force finally managed to land in Alexandria by **July 13, 1882**. On **September 13, 1882** (Shawwal 29, 1299 Hijri) (Elul 29, 5642 Jewish), Britain's decisively defeated the Egyptian forces loyal to Ahmad Urabi in the Battle of Tal El-Kabir, near Cairo. In the evening of **September 14, 1882** (Zu Al-Qada 1, 1299 Hijri) (**Tishri 1**, 5642 Jewish), the British advancing forces reached Cairo and Ahmad Urabi surrendered to the British. On **September 24, 1882**, Khedive Tewfik and his “ministers” returned to Cairo. Ahmad Urabi was sentenced to death in December 1882, but was later exiled to the British colony of Ceylon (Sri Lanka).

- On **October 14, 1906** (**Shaban 24**, 1324 Hijri) (Tishri 25, 5667 Jewish), **Hasan Al-Banna**, founder of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt, was born.

- **Japan formally annexed Korea** based on **Japan–Korea Annexation Treaty** which was made by representatives of the Empire of Japan and the Korean Empire on **August 22, 1910**. The treaty was proclaimed to the public (and became effective) on **August 29, 1910** (**Shaban 23**, 1328 Hijri).

- In 1917, three Catholic children (**Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco**), in a town called **Fatima in Portugal**, experienced 6 apparitions (visions) of the Virgin Mary on: May 13 (Rajab 21 (or 20), 1335 Hijri) (**Iyar 21**, 5677 Jewish) (472,924<sup>th</sup> or 472,923<sup>rd</sup> Hijri day), June 13, July 13, August 19, September 13, and October 13, 1917. The 2<sup>nd</sup> apparition happened on **June 13, 1917 (Shaban 23, 1335 Hijri) (Sivan 23, 5677 Jewish)**. On **July 13, 1917 (Ramadan 23, 1335 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 5677 Jewish) (2421,422.5<sup>th</sup> or 2421,423<sup>rd</sup> Julian Day) (472,985<sup>th</sup> Hijri day)**, the Virgin Mary told them **three secrets** about future events. **Lucia** was the only child to fully experience the apparitions and as prophesied in the apparitions, she outlived the other 2 children, both of whom died a young age. When Lucia grew up, she became a **nun**. At St. Dorothy convent in **Tuy, Spain**, the last apparition experienced by **Lucia** happened, **around midnight**, on Thursday, **June 13, 1929 (Muharram 5, 1348 Hijri) (Sivan 5, 5689 Jewish)**, meaning on the eve of Friday, **June 14, 1929 (Muharram 6, 1348 Hijri) (Sivan 6, 5689 Jewish)**. **Lucia** mentioned the following in her diary: *"I had sought and obtained permission from my superiors and confessor to make a **Holy Hour** from eleven o'clock until midnight, **every Thursday to Friday night**."* The **Virgin Mary's Promise** contained in the secrets revealed in the apparition of **July 13, 1917**: *"I shall come to ask for the consecration of Russia...."* was **fulfilled** on **June 13, 1929**, when Mary appeared to Lucia and told her: *"**The moment has come in which God asks the Holy Father (the Pope) to make, in union with all the bishops of the World, the consecration of Russia to My Immaculate Heart, promising to save it by this means.**"* On **May 13, 1981 (Rajab 9, 1401 Hijri) (Iyar 9, 5741 Jewish)**, a **23-year old** Turkish man called **Mehmet Ali Agca** fired four shots at **Pope John Paul II**, one of them hit the Pope's stomach and another one hit the Pope's left hand. During the trial, **Agca** described himself as **Jesus Christ** and predicted the imminent end of the World. The Pope publicly forgave **Mehmet Ali Agca** and even visited him for 20 minutes in his prison in Rome on **December 27, 1983 (Rabi Awwal 21, 1404 Hijri)**. At the plea of Pope John Paul II, **President of Italy Carlo Ciampi** pardoned **Mehmet Ali Agca** on **June 13, 2000 (Rabi Awwal 10, 1421 Hijri) (Sivan 10, 5760 Jewish)**. However, he was extradited from Italy to Turkey to be imprisoned for the murder of Abdi Ipekci, a prominent newspaper editor in Turkey, whom he had killed in 1979. **Mehmet Ali Agca** was released from prison in Turkey on **January 18, 2010 (Safar 4, 1431 Hijri) (Shevat 4, 5770 Jewish)**.

- On **June 4, 1918 (Shaban 24, 1336 Hijri) (Sivan 24, 5678 Jewish)**, **Faisal son of Hussein** met for the first time **Chaim Weizmann** (President of the Zionist Organization and who later became the first President of Israel) in Aqaba to discuss the issue of establishment of an Arab state and a Jewish State. After few meetings, an agreement between them was reached on **January 3, 1919**. Later, Faisal renounced the agreement after the Arab demand for independence was not accepted and the French and British received mandates over the region.

- A series of Tornados hit the **United States** on Wednesday, **March 18, 1925 (Shaban 22, 1343 Hijri) (Adar 22, 5685 Jewish)**. The most severe was the **Tri-State Tornado** (affecting Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana) which was the deadliest tornado in U.S. history, causing alone the death of 695 people, more than twice as many as the second deadliest. Although not officially rated by NOAA, it is recognized by most experts (such as Tom Grazulis and Ted Fujita) as an F5 Tornado, the maximum damage rating issued on the Fujita scale. Tri-State Tornado alone destroyed several towns and resulted in \$1.4 billion of damage. The **Tri-State Tornado** started around **1:00 pm** in Ellington, Missouri and lasted about **3.5 hours** till **4:30 pm**.

- Dr. **Rashad Khalifa** was born on **November 19, 1935 (Shaban 23, 1354 Hijri)** in Egypt, but obtained his Master's degree and Ph.D. in BioChemistry from the U.S. and lived afterwards in the U.S. He did extensive research on the mathematical structure of the Quran. He advocated a hypothesis that everything in the Quran is structured around the **number 19**. Because the number of verses of the Quran did not fit his hypothesis, he claimed that the last 2 verses of Sura 9 are not authentic verses and should be excluded from the Quran. He later claimed to be a Messenger of Allah. Such controversial findings and claims were rejected by many Muslim scholars. He was stabbed to death in Arizona on **January 31, 1990 (Rajab 5, 1410 Hijri) (Shevat 5, 5750 Jewish) (2447,922.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**. **Nineteen years** after the murder, on **April 28, 2009 (Jumada Ula 4, 1430 Hijri) (Iyar 4, 5769 Jewish)**, the police in Calgary, Canada arrested Glen Francis, a 52-year-old citizen of Trinidad and Tobago, on suspicion of killing Rashad Khalifa. On **December 19, 2012**, the jury of his trial in the U.S., after a three-hour deliberation, found Glen Francis guilty of first-degree murder. Today, there is still a group called **Submitters** (which is an English translation of the word "**Muslims**") who follow his teachings.

- On **November 20, 1935 (Shaban 24, 1354 Hijri)** **Sheikh Izz Al-Deen Al-Qassam** was killed by Police during the British Mandate over Palestine. He was an influential Islamist preacher in the British Mandate of Palestine. He founded and led the Black Hand, a Palestinian resistance group against the Zionists.

- On Saturday, **August 5, 1944 (Shaban 16 (or 15), 1363 Hijri) (Av 16, 5704 Jewish) (2431,307.5<sup>th</sup> or 2431,308<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**, during **World War II**, the **Wola (or Woli) massacre** (or *slaughter*) started. **Wola** is a district within **Warsaw, Poland**. It continued for 7 days till **August 12, 1944 (Shaban 23 (or 22), 1363 Hijri) (Av 23, 5704 Jewish)**. It was the systematic **killing of around 40,000 - 50,000 of Polish people** including women, children and patients in hospitals (without distinction was made between Polish civilians and resistance fighters) in organized mass executions throughout the Wola district of the Polish capital Warsaw by Nazi German troops during the Warsaw Uprising in 1944.

- General Charles De Gaulle's Free France troops and British troops liberated Syria from Vichy France on **June 14, 1941**. De Gaulle appointed Taj Al-Din Al-Hasani as President of Syria on **September 12, 1941**. Georges Catroux, General Delegate of "Free France" in Syria, declared the independence (but not full independence) of the Republic of Syria on **September 27, 1941**. On **May 17, 1945**, French troops landed in Beirut, Lebanon in order to restore French administration over Lebanon and Syria after the surrender of Germany in World War II in early May 1945. On **May 19, 1945**, a group of Syrian army officers who were seeking full independence of Syria from France, including **Afif Al-Bizri** who had joined Rashid Kilani's revolt against the British influence in Iraq in 1941 and who later became Chief of Syrian Armed Forces in 1957, were arrested and imprisoned in Beirut, Lebanon. On **May 29 - 31, 1945**, French troops shelled the Syrian parliament and attempted to arrest Syrian government leaders in Damascus, resulting in the death of about 500 Syrians. Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of Britain, demanded a ceasefire on **May 31, 1945**. **Afif Al-Bizri** managed to escape from prison on **June 3, 1945**. The French government agreed to transfer command of the Syrian army to the **Republic of Syria** on **August 1, 1945 (Shaban 22, 1364 Hijri) (Av 22, 5705 Jewish)**. The

**Republic of Syria** achieved full independence when the last remaining French troops withdrew on **April 17, 1946**.

- On **July 16, 1945** (Shaban 6, 1364 Hijri) (Av 6, 5705 Jewish), at **05:29 AM local time**, the U.S. conducted the first nuclear detonation test in the World, called Trinity Test, at what is referred to as the Trinity Site, in New Mexico. This test and the atomic bombs that were dropped on Japan were part of the **Manhattan Project**, a research and development program sponsored by the United States, Canada, and the U.K. The date of this test is usually considered to be the **beginning of the Atomic Age**. Most of the components of the bomb, that was later dropped on Hiroshima, left San Francisco on an American ship called USS Indianapolis on **July 16, 1945**, reached Pearl Harbor on **July 19, 1945** and arrived to its final destination, **Tinian** (an island in the Pacific ocean captured from Japan by U.S. forces in July 1944) on **July 26, 1945** (Shaban 16, 1364 Hijri). On the same day, **July 26, 1945**, the allies made **Potsdam Declaration**, threatening Japan with "prompt and utter destruction". On **July 29, 1945** (Shaban 19, 1364 Hijri), the Japanese government rejected the ultimatum. Halfway between the Philippines and Guam, shortly after midnight, at **12:14 AM local time**, on **July 30, 1945 (July 29, 1945 GMT)**, USS Indianapolis was struck, by two torpedoes from a Japanese submarine, and sank. Of the 1197 crew members, only 317 survived and were rescued on **August 2, 1945** (Shaban 23, 1364 Hijri) (Av 23, 5705 Jewish). On **August 2, 1945**, **assembly of Nagasaki's atomic bomb began**. American war planes dropped Little Boy atomic bomb over Hiroshima, Japan on **August 6, 1945** (Shaban 27, 1364 Hijri) (Av 27, 5705 Jewish), followed by Fat Man atomic bomb over Nagasaki, Japan at 11:01 a.m. Japan Time on **August 9, 1945 (Ramadan 1, 1364 Hijri)** (Av 30, 5705 Jewish). On **August 15, 1945** (Ramadan 7 (or 6), 1364 Hijri) (Elul 6, 5705 Jewish), 6 days after the bombing of Nagasaki, Japan announced its surrender to the Allies. On Sunday, **September 2, 1945** around **9:00 a.m.** (Tokyo Time) (**Ramadan 25** (or 24), 1364 Hijri) (Elul 24, 5705 Jewish Calendar) (2431,700.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), Japan signed a surrender agreement on board of a U.S. ship in Tokyo Bay. Signatures of representatives of both Japan and the Allied countries were in place by **9:22 a.m.** Following a few brief remarks by U.S. President, MacArthur, the surrender ceremony ended at 9:25 a.m. This means the surrender took place on Saturday, **September 1, 1945** around **8:00 p.m.** (U.S. Eastern Standard Time) (**Ramadan 24 (or 23)**, 1364 Hijri) (Elul 23, 5705 Jewish Calendar). On **September 22, 1945**, the U.S. issued a statement of general initial U.S. policy regarding Japan after its surrender. Japan's signing of the surrender agreement is considered the **official end of World War II**.

- On **July 22, 1946** (Shaban 23, 1365 Hijri) (**Tammuz 23**, 5706 Jewish) (2432,023.5<sup>th</sup> Julian day), the **western part** of the southern wing of **King David Hotel** in Jerusalem, which was serving as headquarters of the British Mandate, collapsed due to explosives set off by **Irgun**, Zionist organization, led by **Menahim Begin**, who later became Prime Minister of Israel.

- On **July 11, 1947** (Shaban 23, 1366 Hijri) (**Tammuz 23**, 1366 Jewish), **Exodus 1947 ship**, carrying illegal Jewish migrants, left the port of Sète near Marseilles, France, heading to Palestine. **Exodus 1947 ship** was the largest **Aliyah Bet** ship. **Aliyah Bet**, meaning "**Migration B**", refers to the Second Wave or Series of Jewish Migration attempts by European Jews to immigrate illegally to Palestine **before and after World War II**. The ship was carrying **4500 Jews**, the largest-ever number of illegal Jewish immigrants to Palestine. The story of this ship received a lot of international attention. On **July 18, 1947**, (**Ramadan 1**, 1366 Hijri) (Av 1, 5707 Jewish), the British navy intercepted, boarded the **Exodus ship**, and refused its entry into

Palestine at the port of Haifa. The Jewish migrants resisted violently, and the interception ended with two Jewish migrants and one crewman dead. British Foreign Secretary, Ernest Bevin, said that the migrants on board the Exodus ship would be returned to the ship's port of origin in France to deter future illegal immigrants. However, the French government announced that it would not permit the disembarkation of passengers unless it was voluntary on their part. The passengers refused to disembark, spending weeks in difficult conditions. The ship was then taken to Germany, where the passengers were forcibly removed in Hamburg and returned to DP camps.

- The **Treaty establishing the European Economic Community (TEEC)**, also called “**Treaty of Rome**”, is an international agreement that was signed by Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and West Germany on **March 25, 1957 (Shaban 23, 1376 Hijri)** (Adar II 22, 5717 Jewish). It led to the founding of the **European Economic Community (EEC)** on **January 1, 1958** (Jumada Thania 9, 1377 Hijri) (Teveth 9, 5718 Jewish).

- **Abdullah II**, the current **King of Jordan**, was **born** on January 30, 1962 (**Shaban 23, 1381 Hijri**).

- On **December 6, 1966 (Shaban 23, 1386 Hijri) (Kislev 23, 5727 Jewish)** (2439,465.5<sup>th</sup> or 2439,466<sup>th</sup> Julian Day) proclaiming that he was "mad at Congress", a 27 year old man from Paterson, New Jersey, used a large pair of shears to vandalize **four paintings in the United States Capitol**, until being stopped by Capitol police. Damaged extensively were “Scene at the Signing of the Constitution of the United States” by Howard Chandler Christy, and the portraits of : (1) Henry Clay by John Neagle, (2) Charles Carroll of Carrollton by Chester Harding, and (3) Gunning Bedford, Jr. by Charles Willson Peale.

- On **November 26, 1967 (Shaban 23, 1387 Hijri)**, a rare phenomenon called **Cloud Burst** caused **sudden heavy rain** [about 115 to 129 millimeters (4.5 to 5.1 inches) rain in 5 hours at up to 30 millimeters (1.2 inches) per hour] **and severe flooding in Lisbon, Portugal**, causing the **death of 450 people**. A Cloud Burst happens when the rain forming in the cloud has been unable to fall down in a steady shower because the ground below is scorching hot which causes a strong rising current of warm air. If this goes on for any length of time, the cloud gets an overload of rain. Finally, something happens to change the situation. Then, all the rain come tumbling down at once. Truly, it seems as if the rain clouds burst.

- **Cairo Agreement** was an agreement between Lebanon and Palestinian Liberation Organization (P.L.O.) reached on Sunday, **November 2, 1969 (Shaban 21, 1389 Hijri)** and became effective the next day, on Monday, **November 3, 1969 (Shaban 22, 1389 Hijri)**. It allowed the Palestinian guerrillas to establish military bases in Lebanon and conduct cross border operations against Israel. The Lebanese Parliament repealed this agreement on **May 21, 1987**.

- On **July 7, 1980 (Shaban 23, 1400 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 5740 Jewish)**, Islamic Sharia Law was imposed in Iran.

- On **July 7, 1980 (Shaban 23, 1400 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 5740 Jewish)**, President of Syria, **Hafiz Assad** imposed Law 49, making membership in Syria’s **Muslim Brotherhood** punishable

by death.

- On **July 7, 1980 (Shaban 23, 1400 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 5740 Jewish)**, 83 militants of the Christian Liberals Party were killed by the Christian Lebanese Forces militia in the coastal town of Safra. This incident came to be known as the Safra Massacre.

- On **June 24, 1981 (Shaban 22, 1401 Hijri)** and on **June 25, 1981 (Shaban 23, 1401 Hijri)**, young Catholic Croatian children reported seeing an apparition of the Virgin Mary in a village called **Medjugorje** (means "Between Mountains") in what is now **Bosnia and Herzegovina**. Today, **Medjugorje's** population is about 2300, primarily Catholic Croatians and Muslim Bosnians. **Medjugorje** is about 25 km from **Mostar**, a Muslim city. The Virgin Mary told them about **10 Secrets**. The Virgin Mary told them that **June 25 apparition** should be commemorated. Some of the **Medjugorje** visionaries, who are now adults, are still reporting receiving messages from Virgin Mary. On **August 25, 1991 (Safar 14, 1412 Hijri)**, the Virgin Mary told them: *"I invite you to self-renunciation for nine days so that, with your help, everything that I desire to realize through the secrets I began in Fatima, may be fulfilled."*

- On Saturday, **June 20, 1981 (Shaban 18, 1401 Hijri)**, the **Pope John Paul II** was admitted to a **hospital unexpectedly** because of a persistent fever and doctors said later he was suffering from an infection of cytomegalovirus, a type of Herpes virus. On **June 26, 1981** Gregorian (**June 13, 1981** Julian) (**Shaban 24 (or 23), 1401 Hijri**) (Sivan 24, 5741 Jewish), the doctors said the pope's temperature **rose** after two days of normal readings, but added such a recurrence of fever was not unusual with cytomegalovirus, the type of virus affecting the Pope that often oscillates between latent and active states. One of the doctors said John Paul might have **caught the virus from the massive blood transfusions** he underwent after the assassination attempt by **Mehmet Ali Agca** who shot and wounded **Pope John Paul II** on **May 13, 1981 (Rajab 9, 1401 Hijri) (Iyar 9, 5741 Jewish)**. The doctors said that the rise in temperature of the Pope might force the Pope to remain hospitalized another two weeks and **delay another planned operation on John Paul's abdomen** for up to a month, The operation was to **remove an intestinal bypass** doctors performed during a surgery **for a stomach gunshot wound** he suffered during the assassination attempt. The Pope's recurrence of fever on June 26, 1981 coincided with an article in Corriere della Sera, an Italian newspaper, which mentioned that Agca was seen, by a witness, training in a Libyan camp at the end April 1981.

- While Israel's Prime Minister was Menachem Begin, and Israel's Minister of Defense was Ariel Sharon, Israel started an invasion of Lebanon on **June 6, 1982 (Shaban 14, 1402 Hijri)** (Sivan 15, 5742 Jewish). On **June 10, 1982 (Shaban 18, 1402 Hijri)**, Israeli forces occupied Sidon, except Palestinian refugee camp of Ain El-Hilweh near Sidon which Israeli forces did not manage to take control of it till **June 15, 1982 (Shaban 23, 1402 Hijri)**. **Israeli forces entered East Beirut** which was ruled Christian militias, particularly the Lebanese Forces which were allied with Israel and started their **siege of West Beirut** (where Palestinian fighters were located) on **June 14, 1982 (Shaban 22, 1402 Hijri)** (Sivan 23, 5742 Jewish). Israel managed to seal off the air, sea and land routes to West Beirut. The blockade imposed by Israel included constant heavy shelling targeting West Beirut, and cutting off water and food supplies from residents of West Beirut until **August 28, 1982** when the US envoy to Lebanon, Philip Habib, brokered a

compromise suggesting the relocation of the Palestinian fighters to Tunisia and other Arab countries under the supervision of a multinational force.

- On **June 14, 1982 (Shaban 23, 1402 Hijri)** (Sivan 23, 5742 Jewish), a ceasefire was declared and the Argentinean forces in Stanley, the capital of the Falklands (*las Malvinas*), surrendered to the commander of the British forces the same day. Thus, the war between Britain and Argentina over the Falklands (*las Malvinas*), which had started on April 2, 1982, ended. Consequently, riots erupted in Argentina after its defeat in the Falklands.

- At its **19<sup>th</sup> session**, which was held in Algeria on **November 15, 1988**, the **Palestinian National Council (PNC)** adopted the declaration of an independent State of Palestine, with its capital being Jerusalem. On **March 30, 1989 (Shaban 22, 1409 Hijri)** (Adar II 23, 5749 Jewish), the executive committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization has nominated its chairman, Yasir Arafat, as president of the proclaimed Palestinian state. On **April 2, 1989 (Shaban 25, 1409 Hijri)** (Adar II 26, 5749 Jewish) a meeting of the fifth congress of the PLO's largest faction, the Fatah in Tunis which was held, attended by 1000 delegates.

- On **February 26, 1992 (Shaban 22, 1412 Hijri)** (Adar I 22, 5752 Jewish), Armenian forces took over the town of Khojaly in Karabakh after battering it with heavy artillery and tanks, assisted by an infantry regiment, killing more than 600 Azeri inhabitants. This incident became known as **Khojaly Massacre**. This massacre is regarded as one of the bloodiest and most controversial incidents of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan for control of the now-occupied Karabakh region. A total of 1,275 Azeri inhabitants were taken hostage and the fate of 150 Azeri people remains unknown till this day.

- On **October 29, 2002 (Shaban 23, 1423 Hijri)** (Heshvan 23, 5763 Jewish), LA Times newspaper reported the following article, written by Barbara Demick. The article was titled: **Fear of Collapse Adds to Disputes Over Jerusalem's Temple Mount:**

*An ominous protrusion in one of the holy site's supporting walls pits Israelis and Palestinians against one another in a 'Battle of the Bulge.'*

“What would happen if the Temple Mount, the holiest site in Judaism, the third-holiest in Islam and perhaps the most contentious plot of real estate in the world, suddenly collapsed? As if there wasn't enough to worry about in the Middle East, a group of Jewish archeologists is warning that a 35-foot-wide bulge in the complex's southeastern supporting wall is in serious danger of rupturing. An accident could prove especially deadly if it happened during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, which begins around Nov. 6 and is expected to draw up to 200,000 worshipers to the site. It is also feared that even a small accident could trigger a new outbreak of Israeli-Palestinian violence. "I'm not a prophet. I can't say exactly when, but there is no question that it will collapse," said Gabriel Barkai, an Israeli archeologist. Israelis say they noticed the bulge about two years ago when it was, in the words of Hebrew University archeologist Eilat Mazar, a few months pregnant. Now, she says, it is at the equivalent of eight months and on the verge of bursting.”

- **Alija Izet-Begović** was born on **August 8, 1925** (Muharram 18, 1344 Hijri) and died on **October 19, 2003 (Shaban 23, 1424 Hijri)**. In 1990, he became the first Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina. He served in this role until 1996, when he became a

member of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, serving until 2000.

- During Friday prayer in **Mosque of Ibn Taymiya** in Rafah, in the southern part of Gaza Strip in Palestine, on **August 14, 2009 (Shaban 23, 1430 Hijri) (Av 24, 5769 Jewish)**, Abd Al-Latif Musa, the leader of **Soldiers of Ansar (Supporters) of Allah**, an extremist Salafi Islamic group (formed in Gaza in 2008), announced the establishment of **الإماره الإسلاميه في أكناف بيت المقدس Islamic Emirate (Princedom) in the surroundings of Bayt Al-Maqdis (Jerusalem)**. Thus, leader of this group, Abd Al-Latif Musa (a medical doctor) became Prince of the Believers. On **August 15, 2009**, Hamas (which had been ruling Gaza since June 2007) attacked this group and put an end to this group and its Emirate. During this attack, the leader of this group was killed and his followers were killed or captured.
- On **August 5, 2010 (July 23, 2010 Julian) (Shaban 23, 1431 Hijri)**, a **Copper and Gold mine**, located in the middle of one of the world's driest deserts, near city of **Copiapó**, in Northern **Chile**, collapsed, trapping inside it **33 mine workers**. On **August 22**, a note from the miners was pulled, stating that they were well. On **October 13, 2010 (Zu Al-Qada 5, 1431 Hijri)**, they were finally rescued, **69 days (9 weeks + 6 days)** after the beginning of the incident.
- Following mass protests and demonstrations against **President of Egypt, Mohammad Mursi**, that started on **June 28, 2013 (Shaban 19, 1434 Hijri) (Tammuz 20, 5773 Jewish)**, a military coup led by Chief of the Armed Forces of Egypt, **Abd-Al-Fatah Sisi**, happened and deposed **President Mursi** on **July 3, 2013 (Shaban 24, 1434 Hijri) (Tammuz 25, 5773 Jewish)**. On **November 19, 1954, Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi** was born. He served as chief of the Egyptian Armed Forces before becoming the **President of Egypt**.
- On Wednesday, **June 10, 2015 (Shaban 23, 1436 Hijri) (Sivan 23, 5775 Jewish)**, **Pope Francis** held a meeting for about one hour in the Vatican with **Valdimir Putin**, President of **Russia**, on the anniversary of the **second apparition in Fatima** which happened on **June 13, 1917 (Shaban 23, 1335 Hijri) (Sivan 23, 5677 Jewish)**. The last apparition happened on **June 13, 1929**, Virgin Mary asked that the Pope should consecrate Russia. **Pope Francis** and **Valdimir Putin** met for the first time, in the Vatican, on **November 25, 2013 (Muharram 22, 1435 Hijri) (Kislev 22, 5774 Jewish)**.

## 10. Shaban 29 – Ramadan 1

**Shaban 29** is the **236<sup>th</sup> (or 237<sup>th</sup>) day** of the Hijri calendar.

**Ramadan 1** is the **237<sup>th</sup> (or 238<sup>th</sup>) day** of the Hijri calendar.

The following events happened during this period:

- According to a Hadith of Prophet Mohammad (p), the **scriptures of Abraham** descended (or were revealed) to him on the first night of Ramadan.



- Prophet Mohammad (p)'s first wife, **Khadija**, died on **Ramadan 1 (or 10)**.
- **Egypt was conquered by Muslims** led by Amr bin Al-As, at the time of Caliph Omar, on **Ramadan 1, 20 Hijri** (August 13, 641 AD) (Elul 1, 4401 Jewish).
- On **July 2, 710 AD (Ramadan 1, 91 Hijri)** (Av 1, 4470 Jewish), Muslims landed for the first time on the southern coastline of Iberian Peninsula (today's Spain & Portugal), in an exploratory mission led by **Tarif bin Malik**. The mission was sent by **Musa bin Nusair** (Governor of North Africa) by permission of the **Caliph Al-Waleed bin Abd Al-Malik** of the Umawiyeen Dynasty in Damascus. This led to Muslims' conquest of the Iberian Peninsula which Muslims called it the Andalus and the beginning of the rule of Muslims in the Andalus which ended with the surrender of Granada, the last city ruled by Muslims in the Andalus, by **Abu Abdallah Muhammad XII** of the Umawiyeen Dynasty to the Christian King and Queen of Spain on **January 2, 1492 AD** (Rabi Awwal 2, 897 Hijri).
- On **January 25, 750 AD** (Jumada Thania 11, 132 Hijri), the **Battle of the Zab River** happened and resulted in a decisive defeat of the army of the Umawiyeen against the army of the Abbasiyeen. **Damascus**, capital of the Umawiyeen, was captured by the Abbasiyeen from the Umawiyeen on **April 13, 750 AD (Ramadan 1, 132 Hijri)** (Iyar 1, 4510 Jewish), ending the rule of the Umawiyeen dynasty from Damascus, which started with **Caliph Muawiya** in **661 AD**. The last Caliph of the Umawiyeen Dynasty to rule from Damascus, **Marwan II**, fled the battlefield during **Battle of the Zab River**, reaching Egypt, where he was caught and killed on **August 6, 750** (Zu Al-Hijja 27, 132 Hijri). One of the Umawi princes, **Abd-Rahman** managed to escape to Al-Andalus where he became Prince of Al-Andalus on **May 15, 756 AD (Zu Hijja 10, 138 Hijri)** and established an Umawi dynasty that ruled Al-Andalus for several hundred years.
- As the **first Crusade** was approaching Jerusalem, an eclipse of the moon on **June 5, 1099** was regarded by the Crusaders as a favorable sign from God. The Crusade reached Jerusalem, the main destination of their **pilgrimage journey**, in the morning, on **Tuesday, June 7, 1099 Julian** (Rajab 15, 492 Hijri) (Sivan 15, 4859 Jewish). Faced with a seemingly impossible task, the low morale of the Crusaders was raised when a priest, by the name of **Peter Desiderius**, claimed to have had a divine vision instructing them to fast and then march in a barefoot procession around the city walls, after which the city would fall in nine days, following the Biblical example of Joshua at the siege of Jericho. After fasting for 3 days, on Friday, **July 8, 1099**, the Crusaders performed the procession, sounding trumpets and chanting as instructed by Desiderius, ending on the Mount of Olives where Peter the Hermit preached to them, while the city's Muslim defenders mocked them. More practical help for the Crusaders had already arrived in the form of six ships that anchored at Jaffa, which had been abandoned by the Muslims. The ships were carrying food, armaments, and supplies needed to build siege engines. Using their newly acquired supplies, the Crusaders, with the aid of Genoese engineers, began building **two huge siege towers**, catapults and a battering ram. On **July 10, 1099 (Shaban 18, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 18, 4859 Jewish)**, the two siege towers built by the Crusaders were completed and wheeled into position. For the first time, the Muslim ruler of Jerusalem became concerned, issuing strict orders that he be notified if either tower moved closer to the city. The Crusaders started their assault on Jerusalem on the

night of **July 13, 1099** Julian (**July 19**, 1099 Gregorian) at night. The Crusaders fought all day on **July 14, 1099** Julian (July 20, 1099 Gregorian) (**Shaban 22**, 492 Hijri) (**Tammuz 22**, 4859 Jewish) (2122,661.5<sup>th</sup> or 2122,662<sup>nd</sup> Julian Day) without establishing a foothold. The Crusaders (about 1300 knights and 12,000 soldiers) breached the walls of Jerusalem and conquered Jerusalem on **Friday, July 15, 1099 AD** Julian (July 21, 1099 Gregorian) (**Shaban 23**, 492 Hijri) (**Tammuz 23**, 4859 Jewish) (2122,662.5<sup>th</sup> or 2122,663<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). The next day, on **July 16, 1099** Julian (**July 22**, 1099 Gregorian), the Crusaders forced Jews of Jerusalem to gather in the main synagogue and then, the Crusaders set this synagogue on fire. Most of the **inhabitants of Jerusalem (mostly Muslims) were slaughtered** by the Crusaders within **July 15 - 16**. On **July 22, 1099 (Ramadan 1**, 492 Hijri) (Av 1, 4859 Jewish), a council was held in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and **Godfrey de Bouillon** (descendant of Charlemagne) was chosen as ruler of Kingdom of Jerusalem, but he refused the title of “King”, instead he adopted the title “Advocate of the Holy Sepulchre”. **Pope Urban II** died on **July 29, 1099**, without knowing that Jerusalem was conquered.

- After 4 years of siege, the First Crusade captured **Akka (Acre)**, for the first time, on **May 26, 1104** Julian (June 2, 1104 Gregorian) (**Shaban 29**, 497 Hijri) (**Iyar 29**, 4864 Jewish). In 1187, Salah Eddeen Al-Ayyubi liberated Akka from the Crusaders. After a long siege and confrontation with Salah Eddeen Al-Ayyubi since **August 28, 1189**, **Akka (Acre)** surrendered to the **Crusaders** of the Third Crusade on **July 11, 1191 Julian** (July 18, 1191 Gregorian) (Jumada Thania 16, 587 Hijri) (Tammuz 17, 4951 Jewish) (2156,261.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). One hundred years later, after a siege that started on **April 5, 1291**, **Mamluk Sultan of Egypt Al-Ashraf Khalil** conquered **Akka (Acre)**, the **last capital of the remnant of the Crusaders' Kingdom**, on **May 18, 1291** (Jumada Ula 17, 690 Hijri) (Sivan 18, 5051 Jewish).

- At night, after Taraweeh Prayer, on Friday **September 22, 1256 (Ramadan 1**, 654 Hijri) (Tishri 2, 5017 Jewish), the **Nabawi Mosque** (Prophet Mohammad (p)'s Mosque) in **Medina** was damaged by a **fire**, for the first time, due to an unintended accident caused by a servant of the Mosque, at the time of the **last Abbasi Caliph Al-Mutasim BiAllah**, who ordered its repair, but its repair could not be finished during his reign because of Mongols' conquest of Baghdad, **ending the rule of Abbasi Dynasty** from Baghdad in 1258 AD which started in 750 AD, thus **lasted 508 years**. So, the fire could have been a sign of Allah that the **end of the Caliphate of Abbasi Dynasty** was approaching.

- The **Battle of Marj Al-Suffar**, also known as the **Battle of Shaq'hab**, between the Muslim **Mamluks** and the **Mongols** and their Armenian allies near Kiswe, Syria, just south of Damascus, started on **April 20, 1303 (Ramadan 2**, 702 Hijri) and ended on April 22, 1303. The battle, a disastrous defeat for the Mongols, put an end to Ghazan Khan's Mongols invasions of Syria.

- The **Ottomans** decisively defeated the **Mamluks** in **Battle of Marj Dabiq**, about 40 km north of Aleppo, Syria on **August 23 (or 24), 1516 AD (Rajab 25 (or 26), 922 Hijri)**. **Damascus** surrendered to the Ottomans on **September 27, 1516 (Ramadan 1, 922 Hijri)**. This led to Ottoman's conquest of **Jerusalem** in **December 28, 1516 (Zu Al-Hijja 4, 922 Hijri)**, Ottomans' conquest of Cairo and **end of the rule of the Mamluks** in **January 1517**.

- **Napoleon's** French forces **marched to Rome**, entered it unopposed on **Saturday, February 10, 1798 (Shaban 24, 1212 Hijri)** (Shevat 24, 5558 Jewish) (2377,806.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), proclaimed a **Roman Republic** on **February 15, 1798 (Shaban 29, 1212 Hijri)** (Shevat 29, 5558 Jewish), demanded of **Pope Pius VI** the renunciation of his temporal power, and upon **Pope Pius VI's** refusal, he was taken prisoner. **February 15** was the 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of **Pope Pius VI's** election as Pope on **February 15, 1775**. On **February 20, 1798** (Ramadan 5 (or 4), 1212 Hijri), **Pope Pius VI** was sent by Napoleon from the Vatican to Siena, and afterwards to Certosa, near Florence. He died in prison, on **August 29, 1799**, having then reigned longer than any pope.

- On **May 18, 1804** Gregorian (**May 6, 1804** Julian) (Safar 7, 1219 Hijri) (Sivan 8, 5564 Jewish) (2380,094.5<sup>th</sup> or 2380,095<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), the French Senate vested the Republican government in an **Emperor** and approved granting **Bonaparte Napoleon** the title "**Emperor of the French**". Not content with this secular appointment, Napoleon wanted a religious consecration. On **December 2, 1804 (Shaban 29, 1219 Hijri)** (Kislev 29, 5565 Jewish), **Napoleon Bonaparte** was consecrated as emperor by **Pope Pius VII**, like Charlemagne was consecrated by a **Pope Leo III** in 800 AD, but **Pope Pius VII** had to leave the Vatican and come to France to perform the consecration ceremony at **Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral**. Napoleon placed the crown on his head by himself, facing the congregation, rather than the high altar to mark his independence from the Church.

- On **August 8, 1815 (Ramadan 1 (or 2), 1230 Hijri)** (Av 2, 5575 Jewish) , early in the morning, a British ship called "*The Northumberland*", carrying **Napoleon Bonaparte**, set sail to **Island of Saint Helena** for his last **exile**. He reached Saint Helena on **October 15, 1815** (Zu Al-Qada 11, 1230 Hijri).

- **Dr. Sigmund Freud** is a Jewish Austrian medical doctor and one of the pioneers of the theories and practice of clinical psychology and psychiatry. He was born on **May 6, 1856 (Ramadan 1, 1272 Hijri)** (Iyar 1, 5616 Jewish) and died on Saturday, **September 23, 1939** (Shaban 9, 1358 Hijri) (**Tishri 10, 5700 Jewish**) (2429,529.5 or 2429,530<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).

- Father of Zionism, Jewish journalist **Theodor Herzl's** famous booklet titled ***Der Judenstaat*** (***The Jewish State***), advocating the creation of a **Jewish state**, was published in Vienna, Austria, on **February 14, 1896 (Shaban 29 (or Ramadan 1), 1313 Hijri)** (Shevat 30, 5656 Jewish). The ideas of this book eventually led to the first congress of the Zionist Organization (Z.O.), in which Theodor Herzl was the Chairman and which was held in Basel, Switzerland, from August 29 to August 31, 1897.

- Following the assassination of Arch-Duke Franz Ferdinand of Austria, heir presumptive to the Austro-Hungarian throne, and his wife, in Sarajevo by a Bosnian Serb on **June 28, 1914 (Shaban 4, 1332 Hijri)**, an ultimatum was sent by the Austro-Hungarian Empire and delivered to the Serbian foreign ministry by the ambassador of the Austro-Hungarian Empire to Serbia at **6:00 pm** on **July 23, 1914 (Shaban 29 (or 28), 1332 Hijri)**. On **July 25, 1914 (Ramadan 2 (or 1), 1332 Hijri)**, ten minutes **before the 24-hour 6 p.m.** deadline, Serbian Prime Minister Nicola Pasic delivered the Serbian answer to the ultimatum to the Austrian embassy. Serbia's response effectively accepted all terms of the ultimatum except one: Serbia would not accept the

Austro-Hungarian Empire's participation in any internal inquiry. The Austro-Hungarian Empire considered that Serbia did not accept all the conditions of the ultimatum, so it declared war against Serbia and attempted to invade Serbia on **July 28, 1914** (Ramadan 5, 1332 Hijri). This is the official beginning of **World War I**.

- **Hussein bin Ali** was appointed by the Ottoman Sultan as the Sharif and Amir of Mecca on **November 1, 1908**. As a result of the **McMahon–Hussein Correspondence** (exchange of 10 letters) from **July 14, 1915 (Ramadan 1, 1333 Hijri)** (2420,692.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day) till January 30, 1916 between **Sir Henry McMahon**, British High Commissioner in Egypt and the Sharif of Mecca, **Hussein bin Ali** in which McMahon promised Britain's support for Arab independence (within an area that extends from Taurus mountains in today's southern Turkey in the North to the Arabian Sea in the South and from Persia's borders in the East to the Red Sea in the West, with some exceptions such as Lebanon), the Arab revolution against the Ottoman Sultanate in alliance with Britain started when **Hussein bin Ali's** forces attacked **the Ottoman garrison in Medina** on **June 5, 1916** (Shaban 3, 1334 Hijri). The revolution became formal on **June 10, 1916** when he also declared the establishment of an independent **Kingdom of Hijaz** with himself as its **king**. The forces of **Hussein bin Ali** captured **Jeddah** from the Ottoman forces on **June 12, 1916**. He was deposed of as Sharif of Mecca and Prince of Hijaz by the Ottoman Sultan on **July 1, 1916 (Shaban 29 (or Ramadan 1), 1334 Hijri)**. On **July 9, 1916**, the Ottoman forces in **Mecca** surrendered to the Sharif **Hussein bin Ali**, after several weeks of stubborn resistance. After a siege for 3 months, the Ottoman forces in the **citadel of Taif** finally **surrendered** on **September 23, 1916 (Zu Al-Qada 25, 1334 Hijri) (Elul 25, 5676 Jewish)**. He proclaimed the independence of the Arabs on **October 29, 1916 (Muharram 1, 1335 Hijri)**. He proclaimed at the Al-Haram Mosque in Mecca to be *Malik Al-Bilad Al-'Arabiyya* (King of the Arab Countries/ Territories/ Lands) and *Amir Al-Mumineen* (Prince of the Believers) on Thursday, **November 2, 1916 (Muharram 5, 1335 Hijri)**. He was recognized by the allied powers (Britain, France, and Russia) only as King of the Hijaz, Prince of the Believers, Sharif and Prince of Mecca on **November 6, 1916** (confirmed in public on **January 3, 1917**).

- **Pope John Paul II** was born on **Tuesday, May 18, 1920** Gregorian (**May 5, 1920** Julian) (**Shaban 29 (or Ramadan 1), 1338 Hijri) (Sivan 1, 5680 Jewish)** (2422,462.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).

- The 1928 treaty, of a series of **Anglo-Trans-Jordanian Treaties**, was concluded on **February 20, 1928 (Shaban 29, 1346 Hijri)**, in Jerusalem. It gave certain legislative and executive authority to the Emir (Prince) of Jordan and at the same time strengthened British control over **Trans-Jordan's** foreign, financial, and concessions policy. The treaty also gave Great Britain the right to maintain a certain number of troops in the country and to proclaim martial law.

- **Lateran Treaty** between the **Pope** and the **Kingdom of Italy** was signed in Lateran Palace, by Benito Mussolini, Prime Minister of Italy, representing the Italian government, on **February 11, 1929 (Ramadan 1 (or Shaban 29), 1347 Hijri)** (Adar 1, 5689 Jewish) (2425,653.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), was ratified by the Parliament of Italy, and became effective on **June 7 1929 (Zu Al-Hijja 28, 1347 Hijri) (Iyar 28, 5689 Jewish)** (2425,769.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), establishing **City of the Vatican** as an **independent State**. In this treaty, Italy recognized papal sovereignty over the Vatican, and in return, the papacy recognized the Kingdom of Italy, with Rome as its capital. Since

**September 20 – 21, 1870**, when the **Italian army** entered Rome and the Vatican and **ended the Papal State**, the Pope was a virtual prisoner in the Vatican, never leaving it, **for 59 years** until **Lateran Treaty** was signed. On **February 18, 1984** (Jumada Ula 15, 1404 Hijri) (Adar I 15, 5744 Jewish), the Vatican and Italy signed a new treaty (Concordat) to replace Lateran Treaty. This new treaty became effective on **June 3, 1985 (Ramadan 14, 1405 Hijri) (Sivan 14, 5745 Jewish)**. In the new treaty, for the sake of establishing freedom of religion in Italy, Roman Catholicism no longer remained as the state religion of Italy. The Vatican became more independent without legal ties to Italy which opened the door for the Vatican to become a full-fledged member of the United Nations (U.N.). Furthermore, **Rome** ceased to be considered as a “Holy City”.

- On **October 14, 1939 (Shaban 29 (or Ramadan 1), 1358 Hijri) (Heshvan 1, 5700 Jewish)**, during **World War II**, a **German submarine sank a British battleship** at anchor in Scapa Flow, in Scotland, resulting in the **death of 833 crew members**. The first torpedo fired by the **German submarine** struck the British battleship, a little after midnight, at 12:58 a.m.

- Both of the Prime Minister and the King of Italy approved **Italy's surrender** to the Allies through an armistice on **September 1, 1943 (Shaban 29 (or Ramadan 1), 1362 Hijri) (Elul 1, 1362 Jewish)**. Italy signed the secret **Cassibile Armistice with the Allies, for the surrender of Italy**, in an Allied military base in Cassibile, Sicily on **September 3, 1943 (Ramadan 2 (or 3), 1362 Hijri) (Elul 3, 1362 Jewish)**. U.S. General **Eisenhower** publicly announced the **surrender of Italy** on **September 8, 1943**.

- On **June 6, 1944 (Jumada Thania 14, 1363 Hijri) (Sivan 15, 5704 Jewish)**, more than **160,000 Allied troops** landed along a 50-mile stretch of heavily-fortified French coastline, on the **beaches of Normandy**, France, to fight Nazi Germany which was ruling France. The **Atlantic Wall** (German: Atlantik Wall) was an extensive system of coastal defence and fortifications built by Nazi Germany between 1942 and 1944 along the coast of continental Europe and Scandinavia as a defence against an anticipated Allied invasion of Nazi-occupied Europe from Great Britain during World War II. The defence system of this Wall included colossal coastal guns, batteries, mortars, and artillery, and thousands of German troops stationed to defend the Wall. Almost one million French workers were drafted to build this Wall. However, on **June 6**, most of these Nazi defences were stormed by the invading Allies within hours after the beginning of the invasion. The Allies allocated to this Operation more than **5,000 ships and 13,000 aircrafts**. This is considered the largest amphibious military operation in history. U.S. Army General, Dwight Eisenhower called the operation a **Crusade** in which, “we will accept nothing less than full victory.” This day of landing on the Normandy is called **D-Day**. By the end of this day, the Allies gained a foot-hold in Continental Europe. The cost in lives on **D-Day** was high. More than 9,000 Allied soldiers were killed or wounded, but their sacrifice allowed the Allied forces to begin the slow, hard march across Europe, to defeat the Nazi forces. D-Day not only divided Hitler's armies on two fronts, but it also kept the Soviets out of Western Europe. D-Day was a strategic maneuver against the Soviet Union. The British and American forces wanted to reach Germany before the Soviets. The D-Day for the invasion of Normandy by the Allies was originally set for **June 5, 1944**, but bad weather and heavy seas caused General Eisenhower to delay it until the next day, **June 6, 1944**. The Allies conducted a substantial military deception to mislead the Germans as to the date and location of the main Allied landings. On **June 6, 1944**, in

the U.S., **Philadelphia's historical Liberty Bell was rung** to celebrate Landing on Normandy and the ringing was broadcast by radio across the U.S. The Allies managed to completely **encircle the German army in Normandy** around the French town of **Falaise** by **August 20, 1944 (Ramadan 1, 1363 Hijri) (Elul 1, 5704 Jewish)**. This encirclement, that came to be called the "Falaise Pocket", resulted in 10,000 dead German soldiers and the Allies' capture of about 50,000 German soldiers. This led to **Battle of Liberation of Paris** from **August 19, 1944** till the German garrison surrender in Paris on **August 25, 1944**.

- On **July 16, 1945 (Shaban 6, 1364 Hijri) (Av 6, 5705 Jewish)**, at **05:29 AM local time**, the U.S. conducted the first nuclear detonation test in the World, called Trinity Test, at what is referred to as the Trinity Site, in New Mexico. This test and the atomic bombs that were dropped on Japan were part of the **Manhattan Project**, a research and development program sponsored by the United States, Canada, and the U.K. The date of this test is usually considered to be the **beginning of the Atomic Age**. Most of the components of the bomb, that was later dropped on Hiroshima, left San Francisco on an American ship called USS Indianapolis on **July 16, 1945**, reached Pearl Harbor on **July 19, 1945** and arrived to its final destination, **Tinian** (an island in the Pacific ocean captured from Japan by U.S. forces in July 1944) on **July 26, 1945 (Shaban 16, 1364 Hijri)**. On the same day, **July 26, 1945**, the allies made **Potsdam Declaration**, threatening Japan with "prompt and utter destruction". On **July 29, 1945 (Shaban 19, 1364 Hijri)**, the Japanese government rejected the ultimatum. Halfway between the Philippines and Guam, shortly after midnight, at **12:14 AM local time, on July 30, 1945 (July 29, 1945 GMT)**, USS Indianapolis was struck, by two torpedoes from a Japanese submarine, and sank. Of the 1197 crew members, only 317 survived and were rescued on **August 2, 1945 (Shaban 23 (or 22), 1364 Hijri) (Av 23, 5705 Jewish)**. On **August 2, 1945, assembly of Nagasaki's atomic bomb began**. American war planes dropped Little Boy atomic bomb over Hiroshima, Japan on **August 6, 1945 (Shaban 27 (or 26), 1364 Hijri) (Av 27, 5705 Jewish)**, followed by Fat Man atomic bomb over Nagasaki, Japan at 11:01 a.m. Japan Time on **August 9, 1945 (Ramadan 1, 1364 Hijri) (Av 30, 5705 Jewish)**. On **August 15, 1945 (Ramadan 7 (or 6), 1364 Hijri) (Elul 6, 5705 Jewish)**, 6 days after the bombing of Nagasaki, Japan announced its surrender to the Allies. On Sunday, **September 2, 1945 around 9:00 a.m. (Tokyo Time) (Ramadan 25 (or 24), 1364 Hijri) (Elul 24, 5705 Jewish Calendar) (2431,700.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**, Japan signed a surrender agreement on board of a U.S. ship in Tokyo Bay. Signatures of representatives of both Japan and the Allied countries were in place by **9:22 a.m.** Following a few brief remarks by U.S. President, MacArthur, the surrender ceremony ended at 9:25 a.m. This means the surrender took place on Saturday, **September 1, 1945 around 8:00 p.m. (U.S. Eastern Standard Time) (Ramadan 24 (or 23), 1364 Hijri) (Elul 23, 5705 Jewish Calendar)**. On **September 22, 1945**, the U.S. issued a statement of general initial U.S. policy regarding Japan after its surrender. Japan's signing of the surrender agreement is considered the **official end of World War II**.

- On **July 11, 1947 (Shaban 23, 1366 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 1366 Jewish)**, **Exodus 1947 ship**, carrying illegal Jewish migrants, left the port of Sète near Marseilles, France, heading to Palestine. **Exodus 1947 ship** was the largest **Aliyah Bet** ship. **Aliyah Bet**, meaning "**Migration B**", refers to the Second Wave or Series of Jewish Migration attempts by European Jews to immigrate illegally to Palestine **before and after World War II**. The ship was carrying **4500 Jews**, the largest-ever number of illegal Jewish immigrants to Palestine. The story of this ship received a lot of international attention. On **July 18, 1947, (Ramadan 1, 1366 Hijri) (Av 1, 5707 Jewish)**, the British navy intercepted, boarded the **Exodus ship**, and refused its entry into

Palestine at the port of Haifa. The Jewish migrants resisted violently, and the interception ended with two Jewish migrants and one crewman dead. British Foreign Secretary, Ernest Bevin, said that the migrants on board the Exodus ship would be returned to the ship's port of origin in France to deter future illegal immigrants. However, the French government announced that it would not permit the disembarkation of passengers unless it was voluntary on their part. The passengers refused to disembark, spending weeks in difficult conditions. The ship was then taken to Germany, where the passengers were forcibly removed in Hamburg on **August 22, 1947** and returned to DP camps.

- On **July 8, 1948 (Ramadan 1, 1367 Hijri)** (2432,741<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), the war between the Arabs and the Jews in Palestine was resumed by the Egyptian army after the first truce between them. This day started the decisive “**Battle of the Ten Days**” from July 8 till **July 18, 1948** which tilted the course of the war heavily in favor of the Jews.

- On **July 8, 1948 (Ramadan 1, 1367 Hijri)**, a political committee of the Arab League decided to set up a temporary civil Palestinian administration, not a government, and it would be supervised by the Arab League. At the request of the **Arab Higher Committee (AHC)** which was set up by the Arab League in 1945 and was headed by former Mufti of Jerusalem, **Ameen Al-Husseini** [descendant of Al Hussein, grandson of Prophet Mohammad (p)], a **Palestinian government** based in Gaza (which was ruled by Egypt), was agreed upon at the Arab League's meeting in Alexandria, Egypt, held on **September 6 - 16, 1948** (Zu Al-Qa'da 2 - 12, 1367 Hijri (Elul 2 – 12, 5708 Jewish)). It was formally announced by the Arab Higher Committee (AHC) on **September 23, 1948. Palestinian National Council** convened in **Gaza** on **September 30 - October 1, 1948** (Zu Al-Qa'da 26 - 27, 1367 Hijri) (**Elul 26 - 27, 5708 Jewish**). It issued a **declaration of independence** over the **whole land of Palestine**, with Jerusalem as its capital. It elected unanimously former Mufti of Jerusalem, **Ameen Al-Husseini** as President of Palestine. **Ahmad Hilmi Abd-Al-Baqi** (who was of Albanian origin, born in **Saida**, Lebanon) was chosen as Prime Minister. The government included representatives of many Palestinian political parties. On **October 2, 1948**, Jordan's **King AbdAllah** who was interested in ruling the West Bank, rather than allowing the Palestinians to rule themselves, retaliated by organizing a Palestinian congress to counter the decision taken in Gaza. **King AbdAllah** regarded the attempt to revive **Al-Husseini's Holy War Army** as a challenge to **King AbdAllah's** authority. So, on **October 3, 1948**, Jordan's minister of defense ordered all armed bodies operating in the areas controlled by the Arab Legion to be disbanded. Glubb Pasha, the head of the Jordanian army, carried out the order ruthlessly and efficiently. Nonetheless, Egypt recognized the All-Palestine Government on **October 12, 1948**, followed by Syria and Lebanon on **October 13, 1948** (**Zu Hijja 9, 1367 Hijri**) (**Tishri 10, 5709 Jewish**) (2432,837.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), Saudi Arabia on **October 14, 1948** and Yemen on **October 16, 1948**. Iraq's decision to recognize the All-Palestine Government was made formally on **October 12, 1948**, but was not made public. In contrast, both **Great Britain and the U.S.** backed Jordan's King AbdAllah. A **conference in Jericho**, in the West Bank (which was ruled by Jordan) was held in **December 1948**. The Jericho Conference was sponsored by Jordan's King AbdAllah. It called for unification of the two banks of Jordan River under the rule of Jordan, meaning the **annexation of the West Bank to Jordan**. The Palestinian Government which was based in Gaza was entirely relocated to **Cairo in late October 1948** and became a government-in-exile, gradually losing its importance. The All-Palestine Government was eventually dissolved in **1959** by Gamal Abd-Nasir who

envisaged a United Arab Republic encompassing Syria, Egypt and Palestine so Al-Husseini moved to Lebanon. Al-Husseini died in Beirut, Lebanon, on **July 4, 1974** (Jumada Thania 13, 1394 Hijri).

- In **Turkey**, the **Democratic Party** won 52% of the votes in the first free parliamentary elections in Turkish history on **May 14, 1950** (Rajab 26, 1369 Hijri). This led one of the **Democratic Party's** founders, **Adnan Menderes** to form **Turkey's 19<sup>th</sup> government** and serve as Prime Minister from **May 22, 1950** (Shaban 4, 1369 Hijri). He introduced pro-Islam policies. On **Friday, June 16, 1950** (Shaban 29, 1369 Hijri), the Azan (Call to Prayer in Mosques) in Arabic was legalized in Turkey. A military coup took over on May 27, 1960 Gregorian (**May 14, 1960** Julian) (Zu Hijja 1, 1379 Hijri). While Turkey was ruled by the military coup leaders, **Adnan Menderes** was hanged on **September 17, 1961** (Rabi Thani 6, **1381 Hijri**).

- On **September 25, 1973** (Shaban 28, 1393 Hijri) at night, meaning eve of **Shaban 29, 1393 Hijri**, **King Hussein** of Jordan personally flew an airplane to Israel and held a secret meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir somewhere in the Arava Valley on the Israel-Jordan border, to warn her of an impending Arab assault on Israel. The **1973 Israel – Arab war** started at 2:00 pm on Saturday, **October 6, 1973 Gregorian** (September 23, 1973 Julian) (**Ramadan 10, 1393 Hijri**) (**Tishri 10, 5734 Jewish**) (2441,961.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day) when **Egypt** (**Anwar Al-Sadat** was president of Egypt) and **Syria** orchestrated an attack against **Israel**. It coincided with the most important Jewish holiday, **Yom Kippur** (Day of Atonement) on Tishri 10. Israel calls it "*Milhemet Yom Kippur*", while Egypt calls it "*Operation of Badr*".

- **Prince William** was born on Monday, June 21, 1982 (**Shaban 29** (or **Ramadan 1**), 1402 Hijri) (Sivan 30, 5742 Hebrew) (2445,141.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).

- On **June 5, 1945** (**Jumada Thania 23** (or **24**), 1364 Hijri) (Sivan 24, 5705 Jewish), the Soviet Union, the U.S., the U.K., and France acting on behalf of the Allies of World War II, signed **Berlin Declaration**, in which they jointly assumed "supreme authority" over German territory. The preamble of the declaration confirmed the complete legal extinction of the German State of the Third Reich, but the continued subsequent existence of a German national territory which for the purpose of the Declaration was taken to be as defined on December 31, 1937, subject to the four signatory powers also asserting their authority to determine the future boundaries of Germany. These four Allies would exercise supreme civil and military authority within German territory and over former German forces. **The Treaty on the Final Settlement with respect to Germany** was signed in Moscow on **September 12, 1990** (**Safar 22, 1411 Hijri**) (**Elul 22, 5750 Hijri**) between on one side, the West Germany and East Germany, and on the other side, the Four Powers which occupied Germany at the end of World War II in Europe: the Soviet Union, the U.S., the U.K., and France. This Treaty paved the way for **unification** of East and West Germany on **October 3, 1990** (Rabi Awwal 14, 1411 Hijri) (Tishri 14, 5751 Jewish). In this Treaty, the Four Powers renounced all rights they held in Germany, allowing a united Germany to become fully sovereign when this Treaty became effective on **March 15, 1991** (**Shaban 29, 1411 Hijri**) (Adar 29, 5751 Jewish).

- The first elections for the President of the **Palestinian National Authority** (PNA) and for members of the **Palestinian Legislative Council** (PLC), the legislative arm of the PNA, took



place in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and East Jerusalem on Saturday, **January 20, 1996 (Shaban 28, 1416 Hijri) (2450,102.5 Julian Day)**. The results were announced on **January 21, 1996 (Shaban 29, 1416 Hijri)**. **Yasir Arafat** was elected as **President** of the **Palestinian National Authority (PNA)** in a landslide victory, winning 88% of the votes cast.

- **Yasir Arafat**, following a meal, became very ill with nausea, vomiting, and abdominal pain, on **October 12, 2004 (Shaban 27, 1425 Hijri)**, **at night**, meaning on the eve of **Shaban 28, 1425 Hijri**. He arrived to Paris, France, for medical treatment at the Percy Military Hospital on **October 29, 2004**. He fell into a coma on **November 4, 2014**. He died in France on **November 11, 2004 (Ramadan 27, 1425 Hijri) (2453,320.5<sup>th</sup> Julian day)**. He was born on **August 24, 1929**.

- On **August 11, 2010 (Ramadan 1, 1431 Hijri) (Elul 1, 5770 Jewish)**, **Mecca Clock**, atop **Mecca Clock Royal Tower**, near the Haram Mosque (the holiest Islamic sanctuary), started operating for a 3-month trial period, to be ready for the pilgrimage season. **Mecca Clock** is the largest clock in the World and it is more than five times larger than **Big Ben Clock** in London. The objective behind this clock is to establish Mecca as the World's central time zone, as an alternative time standard to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

- On **June 29, 2014 (Ramadan 1, 1435 Hijri) (Tammuz 1, 5774 Jewish) (2456,837.5<sup>th</sup> or 2456,838<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**, the **Islamic State in Iraq & Syria (I.S.I.S.)** announced the establishment of an **Islamic Caliphate** of all Muslims around the World and changed its name to "**The Islamic State**" by removing "**in Iraq & Syria**" from its name. The head of I.S.I.S., **Abu Bakr Al-Baghdadi**, became the **Caliph**, to be known as the **Caliph Ibrahim**. The real name **Abu Bakr Al-Baghdadi** is **Ibrahim (Abraham)**.

- **Donald Trump** formally **announced** his candidacy for presidency of the U.S. on **June 16, 2015 (Shaban 29, 1436 Hijri) (Sivan 29, 5775)**, with a **campaign** rally and speech at Trump Tower in New York City.

## 11. **Ramadan 22 - 23**

**Ramadan 22** is the **258<sup>th</sup> day** of the Hijri calendar.

**Ramadan 23** is the **259<sup>th</sup> day** of the Hijri calendar.

The following events happened during this period:

- After the Muslims conquered Mecca on **Ramadan 20, 8 Hijri**. On **Ramadan 23, 9 Hijri (January 3, 631 AD)**, the Muslims destroyed of the **idol of Al-Lat**, one of the top idol gods worshipped in Arabia at the time of Prophet Mohammad (p).

- On **Ramadan 23, 31 Hijri (May 8, 652 AD)**, at the time of Muslims' Caliph Othman, the Persian Empire was decisively defeated by Muslims. Thus, the Persian Empire ended.

- On January 1, **1837 (Ramadan 23, 1252 Hijri)** (2392,011<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), a severe **earthquake** hit **Northern Palestine** and **Southern Lebanon**. The epicenter of this earthquake was near Safad. Many thousands of deaths with entire towns destroyed. About **28% of the population of Tiberias died** and its city walls were destroyed. Seiche swept shores of Sea of Galilee killing many people. Moderate damage happened in **Nazareth, Bethlehem, Hebron and Jerusalem**. In Lebanon, **Sidon** was damaged considerably and in **Tyre** the fallen homes made the streets nearly impassable with people sleeping in boats and in tents alongside the shore.

- On Friday, **July 13, 1917 (Ramadan 23, 1335 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 5677 Jewish)** (2421,422.5<sup>th</sup> or 2421,423<sup>rd</sup> Julian Day) (472,985<sup>th</sup> Hijri day), three Catholic children, in a town called Fatima in Portugal, experienced the third of a series of 6 apparitions (visions) of a lady that happened on May 13, June 13, July 13, August 19, Sept. 13, and October 13, 1917. During the apparition of July 13, the lady revealed to them 3 secrets about the future, which included murder of a Pope.

- **World War II** ended on the day Japan signed its surrender agreement called Instrument of Surrender. On Sunday, **September 2, 1945** around **9:00 a.m.** (Tokyo Time) (**Ramadan 24, 1364 Hijri**) (Elul 24, 5705 Jewish) (2431,700.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), Japan signed this surrender agreement on board of a U.S. ship in Tokyo Bay. This means the surrender took place on Saturday, **September 1, 1945** around **8:00 p.m.** (U.S. Eastern Standard Time) (**Ramadan 23, 1364 Hijri**) (Elul 23, 5705 Jewish). ]

- In 1949, Israel signed an Armistice agreement with each of its neighboring **Arab countries** to end 1948 war. The fourth and last of these Armistice agreements was signed between Israel and Syria on **July 20, 1949 (Ramadan 23, 1368 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 5709 Jewish)** (2433,118<sup>th</sup> Julian day).

- President of Israel, **Shimon Peres**, visited **Mosque of the Jazzar** (Slaughterer) in **Akka, Israel**, on Tuesday, **August 23, 2011 (Ramadan 23, 1432 Hijri) (Av 23, 5771 Jewish)** (2455,796.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).

**Ramadan 23** is the **259<sup>th</sup> day** of the Hijri calendar. Number **259** is the **203<sup>th</sup> Composite Number**. Number **203** is the numerical value of:

الامام المهدي The Imam Mahdi:  $113 + 90 = 203$  (=  $7 \times 29$ ) (=  $141 + 62$ ) (=  $31 + 172$ )  
(**203** is the **156<sup>th</sup> Composite Number**) (**259** is the **203<sup>rd</sup> Composite Number**) (**1237** is the **203<sup>rd</sup> Prime Number**)

## Chapter 2

### Significant Days of the Christian Calendar in History

Significant days of the **Christian Calendar** in History include:

#### 1. February 10 – 11

**February 11** is the **42<sup>nd</sup> day** of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **323 days** remaining until the end of the year.

Number **42** is equivalent to the numerical value of:

ماء Water (verse 6 of Sura 86): **42** (**42** is the **28<sup>th</sup>** Composite Number) (**60** is the **42<sup>nd</sup>** Composite Number) (**181** is the **42<sup>nd</sup>** Prime Number)

الحج The Hajj (Pilgrimage) (verse 3 of Sura 9): **42**

نهاية عذرا Nihaya (End) of Azra (Virgin or Virgo):  $71 + 971$  (or  $972$ ) = **1042 (or 1043)** (**1042** is the **866<sup>th</sup>** Composite Number) (**1246** is the **1042<sup>nd</sup>** Composite Number)

The following events happened during this period:

- Byzantine Emperor **Heraclius** died in Constantinople on **February 11, 641 AD**.
- **State of Abbasiyeen** ended when **Baghdad** was captured by the invading Mongols under the leadership of Hulagu on **February 10, 1258 (Safar 4 (or 5), 656 Hijri)** (Adar 5, 5018 Jewish). (2180,582.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).
- On **February 11, 1531 (Jumada Thania 23, 937 Hijri)**, the Catholic Church in England recognized **King of England, Henry VIII** as its supreme head. This day marked an important step in the formation of the Church of England as a separate entity independent of papal authority. On **July 11, 1533 (Zu Hijja 18, 939 Hijri)**, **Henry VIII** was excommunicated from the Catholic Church by **Pope Clement VII**. In 1534, the **Act of Submission of the Clergy** removed the right of any appeal to Rome, which ended the Vatican's influence with regard to the Church of England. Thus, **Henry VIII** ceased to be **Defender of the Faith**, a title that was bestowed upon him by Pope Leo X after **Henry VIII** published a small book criticizing Martin Luther (founder of Protestantism) in **1521**.
- **Napoleon's** French forces **marched to Rome**, entered it unopposed on **Saturday, February 10, 1798 (Shaban 23 (or 24), 1212 Hijri)** (Shevat 24, 5558 Jewish) (2377,806.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), proclaimed a Roman Republic on **February 15, 1798 (Shaban 28 (or 29),**

**1212 Hijri**), and demanded of **Pope Pius VI** the renunciation of his temporal power. Upon **Pope Pius VI**'s refusal, he taken prisoner. On **February 20, 1798** (Ramadan 3 (or 4), 1212 Hijri), **Pope Pius VI** was escorted from the Vatican to Siena, and afterwards to the Certosa near Florence. He died in prison, on **August 29, 1799**, having then reigned longer than any pope.

- The first of **Our Lady of Lourdes, France** apparitions of Virgin Mary happened **February 11, 1858** (Jumada Thania 26, 1274 Hijri), when **Bernadette Soubirous**, a 14-year-old Catholic French peasant girl, told her mother that a "lady" spoke to her in the cave of Massabielle (a mile from the town) while she was gathering firewood with her sister and a friend. She claimed that a beautiful woman appeared to her and said, "I am the Immaculate Conception". Similar apparitions of the alleged "Lady" were reported on **17 occasions** that year, until the climax revelation of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception took place. On **February 25, 1858** (Rajab 10, 1274 Hijri) (2399,735.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), the Lady asked **Bernadette** to **dig in the ground and drink water** from the **spring** that resulted from her digging. The last apparition was on **July 16, 1858 (Zu Al-Hijja 5, 1274 Hijri)**. As word spread, this water was given to medical patients of all kinds, and many reports of miraculous cures followed. Bernadette Soubirous was later **canonized as a Saint**. Roman Catholics and some Protestants believe her apparitions have been validated by the overwhelming popularity and testament of healings claimed to have taken place at the **Lourdes water spring**. Because of these apparitions, **Lourdes** is now a major **pilgrimage site** in France, only Paris has more hotels than Lourdes. Around 4 - 6 million **pilgrims** travel annually to **Lourdes**.

- Ottoman Sultan **Abdul Hameed II** was the last Sultan to have absolute power and exert autocratic control over the Ottoman State. He opposed the establishment of Jewish state in Palestine. He was born on **September 22, 1842** (Shaban 16, 1258 Hijri) and died on **February 10, 1918** (Rabi Thani 28, 1336 Hijri).

- **Lateran Treaty** between the **Pope** and the **Kingdom of Italy** was signed in Lateran Palace, by Benito Mussolini, Prime Minister of Italy, representing the Italian government, on **February 11, 1929 (Ramadan 1** (or Shaban 29), 1347 Hijri) (Adar 1, 5689 Jewish) (2425,653.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), was ratified by the Parliament of Italy, and became effective on **June 7 1929 (Zu Al-Hijja 28, 1347 Hijri) (Iyar 28, 5689 Jewish) (2425,769.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**, establishing **City of the Vatican** as an independent State. In this treaty, Italy recognized papal sovereignty over the Vatican, and in return, the papacy recognized the Kingdom of Italy, with Rome as its capital. Since **September 20 – 21, 1870**, when the **Italian army** entered Rome and the Vatican and **ended the Papal State**, the Pope was a virtual prisoner in the Vatican, never leaving it, **for 59 years** until **Lateran Treaty** was signed. On **February 18, 1984** (Jumada Ula 15, 1404 Hijri) (Adar I 15, 5744 Jewish), the Vatican and Italy signed a new treaty (Concordat) to replace Lateran Treaty. This new treaty became effective on on **June 3, 1985 (Ramadan 14, 1405 Hijri) (Sivan 14, 5745 Jewish)**. In the new treaty, for the sake of establishing freedom of religion in Italy, Roman Catholicism no longer remained as the state religion of Italy. The Vatican became more independent without legal ties to Italy which opened the door for the Vatican to become a full-fledged member of the United Nations (U.N.). Furthermore, **Rome** ceased to be considered as a "Holy City".

- The **Yalta Conference**, sometimes called the **Crimea Conference**, held from **February 4,**

**1945 to February 11, 1945 (Safar 27, 1364 Hijri)**, was the World War II meeting of U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, U.K. Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet Union's Premier Joseph Stalin, for the purpose of discussing Europe's post-war re-organization. The conference convened in the Livadia Palace near Yalta in Crimea.

- On **December 10 - 11, 1978** (Muharram 9 – 10, 1399 Hijri), around 6 to 9 million anti-Shah Iranian demonstrators marched throughout Iran, about **10%** of Iran's population. It is rare for a revolution to involve as much as **1%** of a country's population. According to one historian, "these figures may represent the largest protest event in history." On December 11, a dozen military officers were shot dead by their own troops at Tehran's Lavizan barracks. The last **Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi**, left Iran for exile on **January 16, 1979** (Safar 16, 1399 Hijri), as the last Persian monarch, leaving his duties to a regency council and an opposition-based prime minister, Bakhtiar. Bakhtiar took several measures designed to appeal to moderate elements in the opposition movement. He lifted restrictions on the press, set free remaining political prisoners. He promised the dissolution of SAVAK, the lifting of martial law, and free elections. Bakhtiar sought unsuccessfully to persuade Ayatollah Khomeini to postpone his return to Iran until conditions in the country were normalized. Khomeini refused to meet in Paris a member of the regency council Bakhtiar sent as an emissary. After some hesitation, Khomeini rejected Bakhtiar's offer to come to Paris personally for consultations. Bakhtiar's attempt to prevent Khomeini's imminent return by closing the Mehrabad Airport in Tehran on **January 26, 1979 (Safar 26, 1399 Hijri)** proved to be only a stopgap measure. **Ayatollah Khomeini** returned to Iran and was greeted by millions of supporting Iranians on **February 1, 1979**. Khomeini established *komiteh-ye Imam* ( the Imam's committee) to oversee the revolution. On **February 5, 1979**, Khomeini named Mehdi Bazargan as prime minister of a provisional government. On **February 10, 1979 (Rabi Awwal 12, 1399 Hijri)**, fighting erupted at Tehran's Doshan Tappeh air force base. The armed rebels attacked a weapons factory, capturing nearly 50,000 machine guns and distributing them to civilians who joined in the fighting. The rebels began storming police stations, military bases, and government buildings throughout Tehran. The final collapse of the government came at 2 p.m. on **February 11, 1979 (Rabi Awwal 13, 1399 Hijri)** (Shevat 14, 5739 Jewish) (**2443,915.5 or 2443,916<sup>th</sup> Julian Day**), when the Supreme Military Council announced that the armed forces would observe neutrality in the confrontation between the government and the people and ordered the troops back to their base. Revolutionaries took over government buildings, T.V. and radio stations, and palaces of the Pahlavi Dynasty, marking the end of the monarchy in Iran, and bringing **AyatAllah Khomeini** to official power. Today, the period, from **February 1 to 11**, is celebrated annually in Iran as the "Decade of Fajr (Dawn)". **February 11** is celebrated as "Islamic Revolution's Victory Day". On **March 30 - 31, 1979**, a national referendum was held in Iran over whether to replace the monarchy with an "Islamic Republic". The result which was in favor of becoming an **Islamic Republic** was announced on **April 1, 1979** (Jumada Ula 4, 1399 Hijri). The last **Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi**, died of cancer in his exile in Egypt on **July 27, 1980**.

- On **August 5, 1962 Gregorian** (July 23, 1962 Julian) (Av 5, 5722 Hebrew), **Nelson Mandela** was captured by South African police and was not released until **February 11, 1990** (Rajab 15, 1410 Hijri).

- On **February 11, 1967** (Zu Al-Qada 1, 1386 Hijri), **Cardinal Ottaviani** on behalf of the Pope, made a long declaration regarding the **Third Secret of Fatima**, in order to explain that it would still not be revealed.
- On Wednesday, **February 11, 2004** (Zu Al-Hijja 19, 1424 Hijri) (Shevat 19, 5764 Jewish), the eastern wall of the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound was damaged by an **earthquake**. The damage threatens to topple sections of the wall into the area known as Solomon's Stables. On **February 14, 2004**, 3 days after the earthquake, a **winter storm** destroyed the stone walkway leading from the Western Wall plaza to the Maghariba Gate in Al-Aqsa Mosque compound. An **800 year-old wall** holding back part of the hill jutting out from the Western Wall leading up to the Maghariba Gate partially collapsed. Muslim officials attributed the collapse to Israeli excavation work in the area. The Maghariba Gate became unsafe and in danger of collapse. So, the Israel Antiquities Authority started work on the construction of a temporary wooden pedestrian pathway to the Temple Mount in **February 2007**.
- **Pope Benedict XVI** announced his resignation on **February 11, 2013** (Rabi Awwal 30, 1434 Hijri) (2456,334.5<sup>th</sup> or 2456,335<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), but his resignation became effective on **February 28, 2013** (Rabi Thani 17, 1434 Hijri) (2456,351.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). It is worth noting that on **February 11, 2013**, a lightning struck Saint Peter's Basilica in the Vatican twice around 6 p.m., few hours after the announcement of resignation.

## 2. May 5 – 6

**May 5** is the **125<sup>th</sup> day** of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **240 days** remaining until the end of the year.

**May 6** is the **126<sup>th</sup> day** of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **239 days** remaining until the end of the year.

The following events happened during this period:

- **Prophet Mohammad** (s.a.w.) was possibly born on **Monday May 5, 570 AD Julian** (**May 7, 570 AD Gregorian**) (Rabi Awwal 12).
- **Kublai Khan**, Mongolian emperor reigned from **May 5, 1260** till **February 18, 1294**. He was the founder of the **Yuan dynasty** in Mongolia and China, a division of the Mongol Empire. In 1271, Kublai established the Yuan dynasty, which ruled over present-day Mongolia, China, Korea, and some adjacent areas, and assumed the role of Emperor of China. By 1279, the Yuan forces had overcome the last resistance of the Southern Song dynasty, and Kublai became the **first non-Han Emperor** to conquer all of China. He was born on **September 23, 1215**.

- The **Sacking of Rome** on **May 6, 1527 Julian** (May 16, 1527 Gregorian) (Shaban 5, 933 Hijri) (**Sivan 6**, 5287 Jewish) was a military event carried out by the mutinous troops of **Charles V, Holy Roman Emperor** in Rome, then part of the Papal States. It marked a crucial imperial victory in the conflict between Charles and the League of Cognac (1526 –1529) — the alliance of France, Milan, Venice, Florence and the Papacy. **Pope Clement VII** had given his support to the **Kingdom of France** in an attempt to alter the balance of power in the region, and free the Papacy from dependency, i.e. a growing weakness to "Imperial domination" by the Holy Roman Empire (and the Habsburg dynasty).

- After 4 years of siege, the First Crusade captured **Akka (Acre)**, for the first time, on **May 26, 1104 Julian** (June 2, 1104 Gregorian) (**Shaban 29**, 497 Hijri) (**Iyar 29**, 4864 Jewish). In 1187, Salah Eddeen Al-Ayyubi liberated Akka from the Crusaders. After a long siege and confrontation with Salah Eddeen Al-Ayyubi since **August 28, 1189**, **Akka (Acre)** surrendered to the **Crusaders** of the Third Crusade on **July 12, 1191 Julian** (**July 19**, 1191 Gregorian) (Jumada Thania 18, 587 Hijri) (**Tammuz 18**, 4951 Jewish) (2156,262.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). It was one of the deadliest events of the whole period of the Crusades. **Qalawun, the Mamluk Sultan of Egypt** conquered the **Tripoli** in 1289, and in 1290, he marched on Acre, but he died in **November** before launching the attack. He was succeeded by his son **Sultan Al-Ashraf Khalil** who started a siege of Akka (the **last capital of the remnant of the Crusaders' Kingdom**) on **April 5, 1291**. On **May 5, 1291**, some hope was revived for the Crusaders when King Henry II of Cyprus arrived with forces transported by 40 ships. Early in the morning of Friday, **May 18, 1291** (Jumada Ula 17, 690 Hijri) (Sivan 18, 5051 Jewish), **Sultan Al-Ashraf Khalil** gave his order to launch an attack on all points of Acre, **accompanied by sound of trumpets and drums** carried on 300 camels. **Acre** was captured by the Mamluks with the exception of a fortress that served as headquarters of the Templars which stood on the west side of the city seashore. Under the cover of darkness, **Thibaud Gaudin**, the new Master of the Temple, left the fortress for **Sidon** with a few followers and the fortune of the Templars. On **May 28 (or 29), 1291 Julian** (**June 4 (or 5)**, 1291 Gregorian), the Sultan's forces captured the remaining fortress. With the fall of Acre, the Crusaders lost their last major stronghold of the **Crusaders' Kingdom in the Middle East**. The capture of the Acre by the Mamluks marked the end of further crusades to the Levant. The **Crusaders' Kingdom** continued to exist, theoretically, on the **Island of Cyprus**, where the Crusaders schemed and planned to recapture the mainland, but in vain.

- On **May 18, 1804 Gregorian** (**May 6**, 1804 Julian) (Safar 7, 1219 Hijri) (**Sivan 8**, 5564 Jewish) (2380,094.5<sup>th</sup> or 2380,095<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), the French Senate vested the Republican government in an **Emperor** and approved granting **Napoleon Bonaparte** the title "**Emperor of the French**". Not content with this secular appointment, Napoleon wanted a religious consecration. On **December 2, 1804** (**Shaban 29**, 1219 Hijri), Napoleon Bonaparte was consecrated as emperor by **Pope Pius VII**, like Charlemagne was consecrated by a Pope Leo III in 800 AD, but **Pope Pius VII** had to leave the Vatican and come to France to perform the consecration ceremony at **Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral**. Napoleon placed the crown on his head by himself, facing the congregation, rather than the high altar to mark his independence from the Church.

- **Karl Marx**, father of Communism, was born on **May 5, 1818** (Jumada Thania 28, 1233 Hijri) and died on **March 14, 1883** (Jumada Ula 5, 1300 Hijri).

- **Napoleon Bonaparte** died on **May 5, 1821** (Shaban 2, 1236 Hijri) (Iyar 3, 5581 Jewish) during his exile in the Island of St. Helena.

- On **May 6, 1868** Julian (**May 18, 1868** Gregorian), the last Czar of Russia, **Nicholas II** was born. After he was forced to abdicate the throne on **March 15, 1917**, he was imprisoned by the communists. On the night of **July 16-17, 1918**, he and his family were executed. He was of the Romanov Dynasty that ruled Russia from 1613, meaning for **304 years**. On **May 18, 1896** Julian (**May 30, 1896** Gregorian), a tragic human stampede, due to mass panic, in Khodynka Field, in Moscow, resulted in the deaths of 1,389 people, during the festivities following the **crowning of Nicholas II** on **May 14, 1896** Julian (**May 26, 1896** Gregorian). This incident is called the **Khodynka Tragedy**.

- **Archibald Wavell** was a British military officer who reached the rank of **Field Marshal** by the end of his military career. In the **Second Battle of Ypres** against Germany, during **World War I**, he was wounded by a shell splinter that **destroyed his left eye** on **June 16, 1915** (Shaban 3 (or 4), 1333 Hijri). He was awarded a Military Cross. In 1917, as a **Lieutenant-Colonel**, **Archibald Wavell** was assigned to serve in the Middle East under General Edmund Allenby. Wavell considered Allenby a mentor, from whom he learned the importance secrecy, surprise and deception in combat. When **Edmund Allenby** entered Jerusalem in **December 11, 1917**, **Archibald Wavell** was with him. **Archibald Wavell** was an **Awar** (a person who has a defective eye) like the Dajjal, as described by Prophet Mohammad (p). He participated in **World War II**. He also served as **Viceroy to India** (1943 - 1947). He was born on **May 5, 1883** (Jumada Thania 27, 1300 Hijri) and died on **May 24, 1950** (Shaban 7, 1369 Hijri).

- During World War I, after three years of terrible suffering in the greatest war up to then, **Pope Benedict XV** pleaded in great anguish with the Blessed Virgin Mary in a very public prayer on **May 5, 1917** (Rajab 13, 1335 Hijri) (**Iyar 13, 5677 Jewish**) to ask her to show him and all humanity the way to peace. Three Catholic children (**Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco**), in a town called **Fatima in Portugal**, in 1917, experienced apparitions in which they visualized what looked like a lady holding a rosary (but not a physical person), once a month, for 6 consecutive months: on May 13 (Rajab 21, 1335 Hijri) (**Iyar 21, 5677 Jewish**) (**472,923<sup>rd</sup> Hijri day**), June 13, July 13, August 19, September 13, and October 13, 1917. On **July 13, 1917** (**Ramadan 23, 1335 Hijri**) (**Tammuz 23, 5677 Jewish**) (**2421,422.5<sup>th</sup> or 2421,423<sup>rd</sup> Julian Day**) (**472,984<sup>th</sup> Hijri day**), she told them **three secrets** about future events. For the **Third Secret**, the children were able to visualize events that included a Pope passing by a big city, half in ruins and later, this Pope and a group of bishops and priests were killed by soldiers.

- **Pope John Paul II** was born on **Tuesday, May 18, 1920 Gregorian** (**May 5, 1920 Julian**) (Shaban 29, **1338 Hijri**) (Sivan 1, 5680 Jewish) (**2422,462.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day**).

- **Dr. Sigmund Freud** is a Jewish Austrian medical doctor and one of the pioneers of the theories and practice of clinical psychology and psychiatry. He was born on Tuesday, **May 6, 1856** (Ramadan 1, 1272 Hijri) (Iyar 1, 5616 Jewish) and died on Saturday, **September 23, 1939** (Shaban 9, 1358 Hijri) (Tishri 10, 5700 Jewish) (**2429,529.5 or 2429,530<sup>th</sup> Julian Day**).



- **Jamal Pasha**, the Ottoman governor of Greater Syria, hanged prominent activists and intellectuals, opposed to his oppressive rule, in both Damascus and Beirut, on **May 6, 1916 Julian** which was still used by the Ottoman Empire (**May 19, 1916 Gregorian**) (Rajab 3, 1334 Hijri) (Iyar 3, 5676 Jewish) (2420,989.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). In commemoration of this event, **May 6** is celebrated annually as the **Martyrs' Day** in Syria and Lebanon. He is referred to as the **Jazzar** (Butcher or Slaughterer). He was **born on May 6, 1872 (Safar 27, 1289 Hijri)**. He was killed on **July 21, 1922 (Zu Al-Qada 25, 1340 Hijri) (Tammuz 25, 5682 Jewish) (2423,256.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**.

- On **May 20, 1948 (May 7, 1948 Julian) (Rajab 11, 1367 Hijri) (Iyar 11, 5708 Jewish)**, **Count Folke Bernadotte** was appointed by the United Nations as a mediator in Palestine, based on U.N. Resolution 186 issued on May 14, 1948. It was the first official mediation in the U.N. history. On **June 28, 1948 (Shaban 20, 1367 Hijri)**, **Folke Bernadotte's** submitted his first peace plan, for resolving the Israeli - Palestinian conflict, in secret to the various relevant parties. His plan called for Palestine and Transjordan to be structured as "a Union, comprising two Members, one Arab and one Jewish", each member with full control over its own affairs, including its foreign relations. The plan suggested the inclusion of the City of Jerusalem in Arab territory, with municipal autonomy for the Jewish community and special arrangements for the protection of the Holy Places.

- The last time top Egyptian singer **Um Kulthum** sang, in front of public audience on stage, Ahmad Shawqi's poem "**The Huda** has been born" which is about Prophet Mohammad (p) or the Mahdi was on **May 5, 1955 (Ramadan 13, 1374 Hijri) (Iyar 13, 5715 Jewish)**.

- **Al-Hadi Adam**, a famous poet from Sudan who wrote a poem that talks about the **Dunya (World before the End times)**, died on Wednesday, **November 29, 2006 (Zu Al-Qada 8, 1427 Hijri) (2454,068.5<sup>th</sup> or 2454,069<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)** and was buried in, the city in which he was born, **Hilaliya**, Sudan on **November 30, 2006 (334<sup>th</sup> day of the year)**. This poem became particularly famous after it was transformed into a song by top Arab singer, **Um Kulthoom** who sang it for the first time in a concert on **May 6, 1971 (Rabi Awwal 11, 1391 Hijri)**. Note how his first name **Al-Hadi (the Guider)** is derived from the same root as the word **Al-Mahdi (the Guided)**.

- Great-grandson of the man who claimed to be the Mahdi in Sudan, **Al-Sadiq Al-Mahdi** became Prime Minister of Sudan twice from July 27, 1966 till **May 18, 1967** and from **May 6, 1986** till June 30, 1989.

- On the morning of **December 9, 1531**, a native peasant named **Juan Diego** saw a vision of a maiden at a place called the Hill of Tepeyac, which would become part of **Villa de Guadalupe**, a suburb of Mexico City. Speaking to him in his native Nahuatl language (the language of the Aztec empire), the maiden identified herself as the **Virgin Mary**, and **asked for a church to be built** at that site in her honor. Today, this is known as the apparition of **Our Lady of Guadalupe or Virgin of Guadalupe**. Construction of a church on that site of this apparition started in 1695, but was not finished until 1709. Next to it, construction of a new church called **Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe** started in 1974. The new Basilica was consecrated on **October 12, 1976**. It is the most visited Catholic pilgrimage site in the World, and the world's third most-visited sacred site. **Pope John Paul II** beatified Juan Diego at **Basilica of Our Lady**

of **Guadalupe** during a Mass on **May 6, 1990**. On **July 31, 2002**, **Pope John Paul II** canonized Juan Diego before a crowd of 12 million at the **Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe**.

- On **May 6, 2001** (Safar 12, 1422 Hijri) (**Iyar 13**, 5761 Jewish) (2452,035.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), during a trip to Syria, **Pope John Paul II** became the first pope to enter a mosque when he entered the Umawi Mosque in Damascus to visit the relics of Prophet Yahya (John the Baptist).

#### 4. **May 13 - 15**

**May 14** is the **134<sup>th</sup>** day of the Gregorian Calendar.

The following events happened during this period:

- One of the Umawi princes, **Abd-Rahman** managed to escape to Al-Andalus where he later became **Prince of Al-Andalus** on **May 15, 756 AD (Zu Hijja 10**, 138 Hijri) and established an Umawi dynasty that ruled Al-Andalus for several hundred years.

- On **May 15 1648**, the **Peace Treaty of Münster** was signed, ending the **Thirty Years' War** in Europe.

- **Golda Meir**, former Prime Minister of Israel, was born on **May 3, 1898 Julian (May 15, 1898 Gregorian) (Zu Al-Hijja 23, 1315 Hijri) (Iyar 23, 5658 Jewish)** in Kiev, Ukraine. She died on **December 8, 1978** (Muharram 7, 1399 Hijri) (Kislev 8, 5739 Jewish) (2443,850.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). She served as Prime Minister of Israel from **March 17, 1969** to **June 3, 1974**.

- During World War I, after three years of terrible suffering in the greatest war up to then, **Pope Benedict XV** pleaded in great anguish with the Blessed Virgin Mary in a very public prayer on **May 5, 1917** (Rajab 13, 1335 Hijri) (**Iyar 13**, 5677 Jewish) to ask her to show him and all humanity the way to peace. Three Catholic children (**Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco**), in a town called **Fatima in Portugal**, experienced apparitions in which they visualized what looked like a lady holding a rosary (but not a physical person), once a month, for 6 consecutive months in 1917: on May 13, June 13, July 13, August 19, September 13, and October 13, 1917. The first apparition happened on **May 13, 1917** (Rajab 21, 1335 Hijri) (**Iyar 21**, 5677 Jewish) (472,923<sup>rd</sup> Hijri day). The second apparition happened on **June 13, 1917** (**Shaban 23**, 1335 Hijri) (**Sivan 23**, 5677 Jewish). In the third apparition which happened on **July 13, 1917** (**Ramadan 23**, 1335 Hijri) (**Tammuz 23**, 5677 Jewish) (2421,422.5<sup>th</sup> or 2421,423<sup>rd</sup> Julian Day), she told them **three secrets** about future events. For the **Third Secret**, the children were able to visualize events that included a Pope passing by a big city, half in ruins and later, this Pope and a group of bishops and priests were killed by soldiers.

- **Pope Pius XII** was consecrated by Pope Benedict XV as titular **Bishop of Sardis** and elevated to archbishop in the Sistine Chapel on **May 13, 1917**. He was born on **March 2, 1876** (Safar 5,

1293 Hijri). He was **elected as Pope** on his birthday, **March 2, 1939** (Muharram 10, 1358 Hijri). He was buried in a crypt under Saint Peter's Basilica on **October 13, 1958** (Rabi Awwal 29, 1378 Hijri) (**Tishri 29, 5719** Jewish). After **Pope Pius XII's** death, **Pope John XXIII** was elected as Pope. According to Pope Pius XII's own testimony in a handwritten, unpublished note, **Pope Pius XII** saw the "miracle of the Sun" four times in **1950**: on October 30, October 31, November 1 (the day of the definition of the dogma of the Assumption of Mary), and the last time on November 8. The **first of these visions** took place at 4:00 pm on **October 30, 1950** (Muharram 18, 1370 Hijri) during his "habitual walk in the Vatican Gardens, reading and studying," having arrived to the statue of Our Lady of Lourdes, "toward the top of the hill [...]" he was awestruck by a phenomenon that he had never seen before. "The sun, which was still quite high, looked like a pale, opaque sphere, entirely surrounded by a luminous circle," he recounted. And one could look at the sun, "without the slightest bother.

- General **Edmund Allenby**, who led the British forces in the conquest of Jerusalem in December 1917, ending the rule of Jerusalem by the Ottomans which had lasted since December 1516, and the rule of Jerusalem by Muslims which had lasted since July 1244, was born on **April 23, 1861** (Shawwal 13, 1277 Hijri) (Iyar 13, 5621 Jewish) and died on **May 14, 1936** (**Safar 22, 1355** Hijri) (**Iyar 22, 5696** Jewish). After he died, he was cremated and his ashes were buried in the Warriors Chapel (now St George's chapel) in Westminster Abbey on **May 19, 1936** (**Safar 27, 1355** Hijri) (**Iyar 27, 5696** Jewish). Westminster Abbey (formally titled "the Collegiate Church of St Peter") is located in London, just to the west of the Palace of Westminster. It is one of Britain's most notable religious buildings and the traditional place of coronation and burial site for English and, later, British monarchs.

- On **May 14, 1948** (**Iyar 5, 5708** Jewish), the Jews declared the creation of the **State of Israel**. At midnight of **May 14**, the **British mandate** of Palestine ended. On **May 15, 1948** (**Iyar 6, 5708** Jewish Calendar), neighboring Arab countries sent their armies to Palestine to liberate it and put an end to the Zionist State of Israel.

- In **Turkey**, the **Democratic Party** won 52% of the votes in the first free elections in Turkish history on **May 14, 1950** (Rajab 26, 1369 Hijri). This led one of its founders, **Adnan Menderes**, to serve as Prime Minister from **May 22, 1950** (Shaban 4, 1369 Hijri). He introduced pro-Islam policies. A military coup took over on May 27, 1960 Gregorian (**May 14, 1960 Julian**) (Zu Hijja 1, 1379 Hijri). While Turkey was ruled by the military coup leaders, **Adnan Menderes** was hanged on **September 17, 1961** (Rabi Thani 6, **1381 Hijri**).

- On **May 13, 1981** (Rajab 9, 1401 Hijri) (**Iyar 9, 5741** Jewish), a Turkish man called **Mehmet Ali Agca** (who was **23 years old**) shot at **Pope John Paul II**. The Pope was hit by three bullets, one of which entered his stomach. He accused the Bulgarian secret service and the Soviet KGB for plotting the assassination attempt. Two years later the Pope publicly forgave Agca and even visited him for 20 minutes in his prison in Rome. At the plea of Pope John Paul II, he was **pardoned** by Italian President Carolo Ciampi on **June 13, 2000** (**Rabi Awwal 10, 1421** Hijri) (Sivan 10, 5760 Jewish). However, he was extradited to Turkey to complete his prison sentence for the murder of Abdi Ipekci, a prominent newspaper editor in Turkey, whom he killed in 1979. He was released from prison in Turkey on **January 18, 2010** (**Safar 4, 1431** Hijri) (Shevat 4,

5770 Jewish). He was declared mentally disturbed by doctors. Following his release, he declared himself the "Christ eternal" and prophesied that humanity would be wiped out this century.

- On **May 13, 1982** (65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first apparition in Fatima, Portugal) (Rajab 20, 1402 Hijri) (**Iyar 20**, 5742 Jewish) (2445,102.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **during his first visit to Fatima, Portugal, Pope John Paul II** had a private meeting with **Lucia** for the **first time** at 8:00 am, and later he consecrated the World (but not specifically Russia and not in union with Bishops of the World) to the Immaculate Heart of Virgin Mary. On **May 19, 1982, Pope John Paul II** explained why he did not specifically consecrate Russia during his visit to Fatima, Portugal on **May 13, 1982**, by saying: *"I tried to do all which I could do in the given circumstances to show forth the collegial unity of the Bishop of Rome with all his brothers in the ministry and the episcopal service of the World."* During this visit to Fatima, **Pope John Paul II was attacked with a knife (or dagger) by Juan Fernandez y Krohn**, a fanatical, ultra-conservative **Spanish Catholic priest** on **May 12, 1982** (Rajab 19, 1402 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5742 Jewish) (2445,101.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). The Vatican chose not to disclose that **Pope John Paul II** was wounded in the attack. The news media reported that the Pope was attacked, but he was not wounded. **Juan Maria Fernandez y Krohn** attacked **Pope John Paul II** because he thought **Pope John Paul II** was a communist and an agent working for the Soviet Union. On **October 15, 2008**, Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz finally disclosed that the Pope was actually wounded in the attack on **May 12, 1982**. Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz served as **Pope John Paul II's** secretary and closest aide for nearly 40 years, including all of his 27 years as Pope, and after the **Pope John Paul II's** death, Stanislaw Dziwisz became Archbishop of Krakow, Poland on June 3, 2005 and Cardinal in 2006. Cardinal Dziwisz made this revelation as the Vatican prepared for the first screening of the movie titled *Testimony*, based on Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz's book, *My Friend Karol* (Karol is the real first name of Pope John Paul II), about his 40 years as secretary of **Pope John Paul II**. After being convicted of the assault, Juan Fernandez y Krohn was sentenced to six years, but served only three years, in a Portuguese prison and then he was expelled from Portugal. After he was released from prison, he worked as a lawyer in Belgium but became known for his violent acts in court rooms. He has been involved in several other criminal cases involving violent behavior at extremist political protests. In 1996, in Spain, Juan Fernandez y Krohn was charged with setting to fire in a local centre of the Heri Batasuna Party of Bask separatists. Juan Fernandez y Krohn was arrested again in July 2000 and received a five-year sentence after climbing over a security barricade at the Royal Palace of Brussels, intending to kill either King Albert II or the approaching Spanish King Juan Carlos. Juan Fernandez y Krohn believed Juan Carlos Bourbon, King of Spain was involved in the killing his older brother Alfonso Bourbon, Infante of Spain in 1956 so that he could become king.

- At night, on **May 14, 1998 (Muharram 18, 1419 Hijri) (Iyar 18, 5758 Jewish)** (2450,947.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), meaning on the eve of **May 15 (Muharram 19) (Iyar 19)**, **Frank Sinatra** died, at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. Frank Sinatra's funeral ceremony was held at the Roman Catholic Church of the Good Shepherd in Beverly Hills, California, on **May 20, 1998**, with 400 mourners in attendance and thousands of fans outside. Sinatra was buried in a blue business suit. His most famous song **"My Way"** written by Lebanese Canadian singer and song-writer **Paul Anka**, tells the World that the End Times is near. The song starts with **"And now the End is near"**. He was born on **December 12, 1915** (Safar 4, 1334 Hijri) (2420,843.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).

- On **May 14, 1998 (Muharram 18, 1419 Hijri) (Iyar 18, 5758 Jewish)** (2450,947.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), the final episode of popular TV show **Seinfeld** (starring **Jerry Seinfeld**, a Jewish American actor and comedian) aired on NBC to an audience of 76 million viewers.

### 3. **May 18 - 20**

**May 19** is the **139<sup>th</sup>** day of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **226 days** remaining until the end of the year.

The following events happened during this period:

- The infamous first Christian ecumenical council known as **First Council of Nicaea**, convoked by Emperor Constantine, was held from **May 20, 325** till **June 19, 325**. The Council adopted Trinity as a Christian doctrine, deviating Christians from the true Unitarian teachings of Prophet Jesus (p).

- On **May 19, 363**, for a second day in a row, a **series of earthquakes** that took place along a fault-line stretching from the **Dead Sea** to the **Gulf of Aqaba** shook the region around the **Galilee**. According to some, this seismic event was part of the reason the **Jewish Temple** in Jerusalem was not rebuilt despite Emperor Julian's support for the project.

- On **May 20, 526**, an earthquake, with an epicenter in **Antioch, Syria** that reportedly killed 250,000 - 300,000 people. It was felt throughout much of the Near East including **Akka** in Palestine.

- On **May 19, 715, Pope Gregory II** began his reign as Catholic Pope.

- **Abd-Rahman I** son of Muawiya son of Hisham son of Abd Al-Malik escaped from persecution by the Abbasi Caliph after the fall of the Umawi Dynasty in Damascus in **132 Hijri** (750 AD) and he finally reached Al-Andalus, Spain. On **May 15, 756** Julian (**May 19, 756** Gregorian) (Zu Hijja 10, 138 Hijri) (1997,320.5 Julian Day), he captured Cordoba and he was offered allegiance to become a **Prince of Al-Andalus**. He established an Umawi Dynasty that ruled Al-Andalus as an independent state, after being ruled from Africa by a governor appointed by the Umawi Caliph in Damascus. Cordoba served as the capital of Al-Andalus.

- Followers of Count Emicho of the **First Crusade**, on its way to Jerusalem, arrived to **Worms**, one of the oldest cities in **Germany**, on **May 18, 1096** Julian (**Jumada Ula 23, 489 Hijri**) (**Iyar 23, 4856 Jewish**). The Crusaders launched a savage attack on the town's Jews. Bishop Adalbert intervened and allowed his palace to serve as a refuge for the Jews, but eight days later the mob broke in and slaughtered those seeking asylum there. Those Crusaders believed that the Jews were the race responsible for the death and crucifixion of Jesus, so they deserved nothing better than conversion or death. In all, around 800 Jews were killed. The great majority of Jews

preferred to be killed or commit suicide rather than convert to Christianity and be baptized. Only few Jews survived because they agreed to convert to Christianity.

- The **Crusaders conquered Beirut**, causing bloodshed, on **May 13, 1110 AD Julian** (**May 20, 1110 AD Gregorian**) (Shawwal 21, 503 Hijri) (Iyar 21, 4870 Jewish) (2126,617.5 or 2126,618<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).

- John II, **King of Cyprus and Jerusalem** (who had been crowned at Santa Sophia, Nicosia, Cyprus on May 11, 1284) died on **May 20, 1285**. His brother **Henry II**, succeeded him as **King of Cyprus** and the **last ruling and first titular King of Jerusalem**. He became titular King of Jerusalem after the fall of Acre (Akka), the last capital of Kingdom of Jerusalem, on **May 18, 1291**. **Henry II** was crowned at Santa Sophia, Nicosia, Cyprus on **June 24, 1285**. Henry had himself crowned as King of Jerusalem in Acre (Akka) on **August 15, 1286**, but returned to Cyprus and appointed his uncle Philip of Ibelin as Bailiff in his absence. However, when Acre was captured by the Mamluks, **Henry II** was in Acre (Akka) and he fled the city. **Henry II** reigned in Cyprus till he died on August 31, 1324 in Strovolos, near Nicosia. His nephew Hugh IV succeeded him as King.

- After 4 years of siege, the First Crusade captured **Akka (Acre)**, for the first time, on **May 26, 1104 Julian** (June 2, 1104 Gregorian) (**Shaban 29, 497 Hijri**) (**Iyar 29, 4864 Jewish**). In 1187, Salah Eddeen Al-Ayyubi liberated Akka from the Crusaders. After a long siege and confrontation with Salah Eddeen Al-Ayyubi since **August 28, 1189**, **Akka (Acre)** surrendered to the **Crusaders** of the Third Crusade on **July 12, 1191 Julian** (July 19, 1191 Gregorian) (Jumada Thania 18, 587 Hijri) (Tammuz 18, 4951 Jewish) (2156,262.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). It was one of the deadliest events of the whole period of the Crusades. **Qalawun, the Mamluk Sultan of Egypt** conquered the **Tripoli** in 1289, and in 1290, he marched on Acre, but he died in **November** before launching the attack. He was succeeded by his son **Sultan Al-Ashraf Khalil** who started a siege of Akka (the **last capital of the remnant of the Crusaders' Kingdom**) on **April 5, 1291**. On **May 5, 1291**, some hope was revived for the Crusaders when **King Henry II** of Cyprus arrived with forces transported by 40 ships. Early in the morning of **May 18 (or 19), 1291** (Jumada Ula 18 (or 19), 690 Hijri) (Sivan 18 (or 19), 5051 Jewish), **Sultan Al-Ashraf Khalil** gave his order to launch an attack on all points of Acre, **accompanied by sound of trumpets and drums** carried on 300 camels. **Acre** was captured by the Mamluks with the exception of a fortress that served as headquarters of the Templars which stood on the west side of the city seashore. Under the cover of darkness, **Thibaud Gaudin**, the new Master of the Temple, left the fortress for **Sidon** with a few followers and the fortune of the Templars. On **May 28, 1291 Julian** (**June 4, 1291 Gregorian**), the Sultan's forces captured the remaining fortress. With the fall of Acre, the Crusaders lost their capital and last major stronghold in the **Middle East**. The capture of the Acre by the Mamluks marked the end of further crusades to the **Middle East**. The **Crusaders' Kingdom** continued to exist, theoretically, on the **Island of Cyprus**, where the Crusaders schemed and planned to re-capture the mainland of the Middle East, but in vain. The **Templars** and **Order of St. Thomas of Acre** moved their headquarters to Cyprus. The **Hospitaller Knights** (Order of Knights of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem) moved their headquarters to Cyprus, later to Rhodes and finally to Malta. The **Teutonic Knights** moved their headquarters to Venice. The Mamluks destroyed the fortifications of **Acre (Akka)** so that it will not be of interest to the Crusaders to re-capture it. **Acre (Akka)** remained

ruined and desolate for nearly 400 years. After capturing Acre, the Mamluks captured **Tyre on May 19, 1291**. Later, Mamluks captured **Sidon on July 14, 1291**, **Beirut on July 31, 1291**, and **Haifa also on July 31, 1291**.

- On **May 20, 1293**, an earthquake hit Kamakura, **Japan**, killing 30,000 people.

- **Pope Celestine V** died in prison on **May 19, 1296**. He served as for five months from **July 5, 1294** till his resignation on **December 13, 1294**. He was imprisoned by his successor Pope Boniface VIII. He was later canonized as a saint on **May 5, 1313**. Today, **May 19** is celebrated by the Catholic Church as **his Feast Day**.

- On **May 20, 1303**, the **Treaty of Paris** was signed between King **Philip IV** of France and King **Edward I** of England. Based on the terms of the treaty, Gascony was restored to England from France.

- **Hagia Sophia** (in Greek language, it is called **Aya Sophia**, meaning “Holy Wisdom”) in Constantinople served as the Byzantine Orthodox Patriarchal Cathedral of Constantinople (comparable to St. Peter’s Basilica in the Vatican). Hagia Sophia was inaugurated on **February 15, 360 AD** (Adar 12, 4120 Jewish) during the reign of Emperor Constantius II. A fire, that accompanied riots, burned down Hagia Sophia in **June 404 AD**. A new church was ordered to be rebuilt by Theodosius II, who inaugurated the second Hagia Sophia on **October 10, 415 AD** (Tishri 21, 4176 Jewish). A fire burned the second Hagia Sophia to the ground on **January 13 – 14, 532 AD** (Shevat 20 – 21, 4292 Jewish). On **February 23, 532 AD** (Adar II 1, 4292 Jewish), only a few weeks after the destruction of the second Hagia Sophia, Emperor Justinian I decided to build a third basilica, larger and more majestic than its predecessors. More than ten thousand workers were employed in the construction. Emperor Justinian I and Patriarch Menas inaugurated the third Hagia Sophia on **December 27, 537** (Teveth 8, 4298 Jewish). Earthquakes in August 553 and on **December 14, 557 AD** (Teveth 6, 4318 Jewish) caused cracks in the main dome and eastern half-dome. The main dome collapsed completely during a subsequent earthquake on **May 7, 558 AD** (Sivan 3, 4318 Jewish). After the great earthquake of **October 25, 989 AD** (Rajab 22, 379 Hijri), which collapsed the Western dome arch, the extent of the damage required six years of repair and reconstruction until the church was re-opened on **May 13, 994 AD** Julian (**May 18**, 994 Gregorian) (Rabi Thani 1, 384 Hijri) (Sivan 1, 4754 Jewish). Upon the capture of Constantinople during the Fourth Crusade, the church was ransacked and desecrated by the Latin Christians. During the Latin occupation of Constantinople (from 1204 till 1261), the church became a Roman Catholic cathedral. **Baldwin I** of Constantinople was crowned as an emperor on **May 16, 1204** (Ramadan 15, 600 Hijri) (Sivan 15, 4964 Jewish) in Hagia Sophia. New cracks developed in the dome of Hagia Sophia after the earthquake of **October 1344**. Later on, due to an earthquake on **May 19, 1346** (Muharram 26, 747 Hijri) (**Iyar 26**, 5106 Jewish), several parts of Hagia Sophia collapsed. Consequently, the church was closed until **1354**, when repairs were undertaken by architects Astras and Peralta. After the Ottomans conquered Constantinople on **May 29, 1453** Julian (**June 7, 1453** Gregorian) (Jumada Al-Ula 20, 857 Hijri) (Sivan 21, 5213 Jewish) (2251,914.5th 2251,915th Julian Day), Hagia Sophia was converted into a mosque, serving as the Cami-i Kebir “Grand Mosque” of the Ottoman sultans. After the end of the Ottoman Sultanate, at the time of the first President of Turkey, Kemal Ataturk, Hagia Sophia was closed for 4 years from 1931 until it was converted into a museum that opened on **February 1, 1935** (Shawwal 26, 1353

Hijri). Hagia Sophia was converted in to the Museum by the decree of the Council of Ministers dated **November 24, 1934** (Shaban 16, 1353 Hijri).

- On **May 20, 1471**, **King Henry VI** died. He was king of England (1422-61 and 1470-71) and king of France (1431-71).

- On **May 20, 1506**, **Christopher Columbus**, explorer and discoverer of the Americas, **died** in Valladolid, Spain.

- On **May 19, 1535**, French explorer **Jacques Cartier** set sail for North America.

- On **May 19, 1568**, after being **defeated by the Protestants**, **Mary the Queen** of Scots, fled to England where she was imprisoned by Queen Elizabeth.

- On **May 20, 1571**, the **Holy League** was arranged by **Pope Pius V** and included the major Catholic maritime states in the Mediterranean (such as Spain and Venice) except the Holy Roman Empire and France. It was intended as a united front **against the Ottomans**.

- On **May 19, 1588**, the **Spanish Armada** fleet of ships set sail from Lisbon, bound for England.

- On **May 19, 1604**, city of **Montreal** in **Quebec, Canada** was founded.

- On **May 19, 1608**, **Protestant states** formed the **Evangelical Union of Lutherans and Calvinists**.

- On **May 19, 1643**, delegates from four New England colonies met in Boston to **form a confederation**.

- On **May 19, 1643**, during the Thirty Years' War, **French forces** led the Duc d'Enghien decisively defeated **Spanish forces** in the Battle of Rocroi, marking the symbolic **end of Spain as a dominant land power**.

- On **May 19, 1649**, an Act declaring England a Commonwealth was passed by the Long Parliament. **England would be a republic** for the next eleven years.

- On **Friday, May 19, 1780 (May 8, 1780 Julian)** (Jumada Ula 15, 1194 Hijri) (**Iyar 14**, 5540 Jewish), starting from around 10:30 AM, much of **New England** (13 British colonies on the East Coast of **North America** that were the forerunners of what would become later the **United States**) and some parts of **Canada**, turned totally black with ominous clouds, hiding the Sun. At mid-day, it was like midnight. The people were terrified. They waited for the darkness to lift, but it did not. Minutes began to feel like months. As the daytime hours of blackness wore on, some people began to think that there might never be light again and that **Judgment Day** may have come. Some Christian regarded this incident as fulfillment of the Bible's Joel 2:31: *"The Sun shall be turned into darkness, and the Moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come."* The blackness lasted until midnight, when it finally dispersed and the stars



appeared. This day is referred to as the **Dark Day** or **Day of Darkness** as well as **Black Friday**. The cause of this incident is still a mystery, but today some scientists propose that the darkness of this day may have been the result of massive wildfires burning in the forests of Canada and a thick fog.

- On **May 20, 1784**, England and the Netherlands signed **Peace Treaty** in Paris.
- On **May 18 - 19, 1792 (May 7 - 8, 1792 Julian)**, the **Russian army entered Poland**. First Russian forces crossed the border of Poland from Ukraine at night on **May 18 1792**, eve of **May 19**. Eventually, Poland was partitioned among its three imperial neighbors.
- On **May 19, 1798 (May 8, 1798 Julian)**, a **French fleet** of 400 ships sailed from Toulon, France, with an expeditionary force of over 30,000 men led by General **Napoleon Bonaparte**. The force was destined for **Egypt**. The fleet reached **Alexandria, Egypt** on **July 1, 1798**.
- On **May 18, 1803 (May 6, 1803 Julian)**, **Britain declared war on France**, ending the Peace Treaty of Amiens between Britain and France.
- On **May 18, 1804** Gregorian (**May 6, 1804 Julian**) (**Safar 7, 1219 Hijri**) (**Sivan 8, 5564 Jewish**) (2380,094.5<sup>th</sup> or 2380,095<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), the French Senate vested the Republican government in an **Emperor** and approved granting **Napoleon** the title "**Emperor of the French**". Not content with this secular appointment, Napoleon wanted a religious consecration. On **December 2, 1804 (Shaban 29, 1219 Hijri)**, Napoleon Bonaparte was consecrated as emperor by **Pope Pius VII**, like Charlemagne was consecrated by a Pope Leo III in 800 AD, but **Pope Pius VII** had to leave the Vatican and come to France to perform the consecration ceremony at **Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral**. Napoleon placed the crown on his head by himself, facing the congregation, rather than the high altar to mark his independence from the Church.
- On **May 17, 1809 (May 5, 1804 Julian)** (**Rabi Thani 2, 1224 Hijri**) (**Sivan 2, 5569 Jewish**) (2381,919.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), Napoleon issued two decrees in which he reproached the popes for the improper use of the donation of Charlemagne, his "august predecessor", and annexed those territories, which were still under the direct control of the **Papal State**, to the French empire. As compensation, the Pope would receive a stipend of 2,000,000 francs per annum. On **June 10, 1809, Pope Pius VII** made public a bull of excommunication of those involved in the annexation, including Napoleon. Around 3:00 AM on Thursday, **July 6, 1809 (Jumada Ula 22, 1224 Hijri) (Tammuz 22, 5569 Jewish)** (2381,969.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Pope Pius VII was arrested** and remained imprisoned.
- On **May 20, 1835 (May 8, 1835 Julian)**, **Otto** was named the first modern **king of Greece**.
- On **May 19, 1848 (May 7, 1848 Julian)**, **Mexico** in order to end the Mexican–American War, it ratified the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo **ceding California, Nevada, Utah** and parts of four other modern-day U.S. states to the United States **for \$ 15 million**.
- On **May 6, 1868 Julian (May 18, 1868 Gregorian)**, the last Czar of Russia, **Nicholas II** was born. After he was forced to abdicate the throne on **March 15, 1917**, he was imprisoned by the

communists. On the night of **July 16-17, 1918**, he and his family were executed. He was of the Romanov Dynasty that ruled Russia from 1613, meaning for **304 years**. On **May 18, 1896 Julian (May 30, 1896 Gregorian)**, a tragic human stampede, due to mass panic, in Khodynka Field, in Moscow, resulted in the deaths of 1,389 people, during the festivities following the **crowning of Nicholas II on May 14, 1896 Julian (May 26, 1896 Gregorian)**. This incident is called the **Khodynka Tragedy**.

- **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** was the first President of Turkey and was behind the end of the Ottoman Sultanate in 1922 and **abolition of the Islamic Caliphate in 1924**. His father's name is Ali Riza. At birth, he was identified as **Mustafa son of Ali Riza**. He was an army officer. During a battle in Derna, Libya on **January 16-17, 1912** (Muharram 26 - 27, 1330 Hijri) (Teveth 26 - 27, 5672 Jewish), while the Ottoman forces were attacking the Italian-controlled fortress of Kasr-i Harun, two Italian planes dropped bombs on the Ottoman forces and a piece of limestone shrapnel from a damaged building's rubble entered Mustafa Kemal's left eye which caused a **permanent damage on his left eye's tissue**, but not total loss of sight. So, **Mustafa Kemal** became an **Awar** (person with a **defective eye**). Prophet Mohammad (p) described the Dajjal as an **Awar**. Some researchers believe that **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's** ancestors were **Crypto Jews**, possibly **Dönme** (**descendants of followers of Sabbatai Zevi** who claimed to be the **awaited Jewish Messiah**, but after being imprisoned by the Ottomans, he was freed after pretending to convert to Islam). **Crypto Jews** pretend in public to be Muslims, but remain Jews in private. **Salonica** (the city where **Mustafa Kemal** was born) served as an important center for such **Crypto Jews** and the base of the **Young Turks movement** which led a rebellion to turn the Ottoman Sultanate into constitutional monarchy, governed according to a constitution, thus limiting the power of the Sultan. Today, **Salonica** is called Thessaloniki and it is the capital Macedonia region of Greece and the second largest city in Greece. **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** made a name for himself as the **Commander of the 19th Division of the Ottoman army**, where his bravery and strategic prowess helped thwart the Allied invasion of the Dardanelles in **1915**. The real date of birth of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk is unconfirmed. In a speech he delivered in 1927, **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** claimed to have been born on the same day as day of **his landing in Samsun**, meaning **May 19. Atatürk landed in Samsun on May 19, 1919** (May 6, 1919 Julian) (**Shaban 19, 1337 Hijri**) (**Iyar 19, 5679 Jewish**) (242,2097.5<sup>th</sup> or 242,2098<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). **Atatürk's landing in Samsun** is considered the **beginning Turkey's War of Independence**, the Turkish uprising against the decision of the Allies after World War I to divide among themselves many territories of the defeated Ottoman Empire. **Turkey** designates **Atatürk's** date of birth as **May 19, 1881 Gregorian** (Jumada Thania 19, 1298 Hijri) (**Iyar 20, 5641 Jewish**) (2408,219.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). Today, **May 19** is an annual national holiday in Turkey, called "Commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports Day". Greece claims that starting from **May 19, 1919**, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk began a genocide or ethnic cleansing against the Greeks, known as Pontos, who had been living in the region for thousands of years. That is why today, in Greece, **May 19** is an annual holiday to commemorate what Greece claims to be a genocide against of Pontic Greeks in which 353,000 Pontic Greeks died. **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** died in Istanbul (Constantinople) on **November 10, 1938**. At 8:10 a.m. on **November 19, 1938** (Ramadan 26 (or 25), 1357 Hijri) (Heshvan 25, 5699 Jewish) (2429,221.5<sup>th</sup> or 2429,222<sup>nd</sup> Julian Day), a religious funeral prayer was conducted by the Director of the Institute for Islamic Studies, in Turkish, not in traditional Arabic, and was attended by people who were close to him. His state funeral was held in Ankara on **November 21, 1938**, and was attended by dignitaries from 17 countries. Atatürk's coffin was placed inside a white marble sarcophagus at the

**Ethnography Museum of Ankara** and remained there until **November 10, 1953** (Rabi Awwal 3, 1373 Hijri), the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death, when his coffin was buried in his final resting place at **Anıtkabir (Masuleum or Memorial Tomb)** in **Ankara**.

**Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** was closely connected to **Number 19** in several ways:

(a) He was born on **May 19, 1881 Gregorian** (Jumada Thania **19**, 1298 Hijri) (**Iyar 20**, 5641 Jewish).

(b) He landed in Samsun on **May 19, 1919** (May 6, 1919 Julian) (**Shaban 19**, 1337 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5679 Jewish).

(c) His funeral was held on **November 19, 1938**.

(d) **From 1881** (year of his birth) **till 1919** (year of his landing in Samsun), there are **38 years** (= **19** x 2).

(e) **From 1919** (year of his landing in Samsun) **till 1938** (year of his death), there are **19 years**.

(f) **From 1881** (year of his birth) **till 1938** (year of his death), there are **57 years** (= **19** x 3).

(g) He made a name for himself as the **Commander of the 19<sup>th</sup> Division of the Ottoman army**.

- In 1878, an Egyptian army officer, **Ahmad Urabi Al-Husseini** [a descendant of Al-Hussein, grandson of Prophet Mohammad (p)] started a rebellion against **Tewfik Pasha**, the Khedive of Egypt and Sudan, against the corrupted government of Egypt. On **May 20, 1882 (May 8, 1882 Julian)**, a combined Anglo-French fleet arrived at Alexandria to support Tewfik Pasha. On **June 13, 1882**, Khedive Tewfik fled from Cairo to Alexandria which was protected by the British fleet. On **July 11, 1882 (Shaban 24 (or 23), 1299 Hijri) (Tammuz 24, 5642 Jewish)**, the British fleet started bombarding Alexandria. A large British naval force finally managed to land in Alexandria by **July 13, 1882**. On **September 13, 1882** (Shawwal 29, 1299 Hijri) (Elul 29, 5642 Jewish), Britain's decisively defeated the Egyptian forces loyal to Ahmad Urabi in the Battle of Tal El-Kabir, near Cairo. In the evening of **September 14, 1882** (Zu Al-Qada 1, 1299 Hijri) (**Tishri 1, 5642 Jewish**), the British advancing forces reached Cairo and Ahmad Urabi surrendered to the British forces. On **September 24, 1882**, Khedive Tewfik and his "ministers" returned to Cairo. Ahmad Urabi was sentenced to death in December 1882, but was later exiled to the British colony of Ceylon (Sri Lanka).

- **Iraq's King Faisal bin Hussein** (son of Sharif of Mecca, Hussein bin Ali, who led the Arab revolution against the Ottomans) was born on **May 20, 1883 (May 8, 1883 Julian) (Rajab 13, 1300 Hijri) (Iyar 13, 5643 Jewish)**. He was 50 years old when he died. He died due to poisoning on **September 8, 1933** (Jumada Ula 17, 1352 Hijri) (Elul 17, 5693 Jewish) (2427,323.5<sup>th</sup> or 2427,324<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).

- On **May 19, 1891 (May 7, 1891 Julian)**, **Alexander III**, the **Czar of Russia**, issued a proclamation, ordering the **expulsion of the Jews** from the Asiatic provinces of the Russian Empire.

- On **May 20, 1892 (May 8, 1892 Julian)**, **Triple Alliance** between **Germany, Italy and Austria** was formed.

- After the Spanish–American War, Spain and the United States signed the Treaty of Paris (1898), by which Spain ceded Puerto Rico, the Philippines, and Guam to the United States for the sum of \$20 million. **Cuba** gained formal **independence** from **the U.S.** on **May 20, 1902 (May 7, 1902 Julian)**, as the Republic of Cuba. Under Cuba's new constitution, the U.S. retained the right to intervene in Cuban affairs and to supervise its finances and foreign relations. Under the Platt Amendment, the U.S. leased the Guantánamo Bay naval base from Cuba.

- The approach of **Halley's comet** to the Earth in 1910 was notable. On **February 7, 1910**, the **Yerkes Observatory** announced there was **Cyanogen** in the **tail of Halley's Comet**. Cyanogen is a poisonous gas commonly known as Cyanide; this gas was discovered by a new scientific process known as Spectroscopy, which examines the way light is dispersed in order to determine the composition of an object. It is easy to dismiss the danger of something in space, but astronomers announced that the **Earth was going to pass through the 25-million-kilometre-long tail of Halley's Comet** on **May 19, 1910 (May 6, 1910 Julian)** (Jumada Ula 10, 1328 Hijri) (Iyar 10, 5670 Jewish). Fear began to mount during **February 1910**, with three reports in **New York Times** about poison cyanogen fallout, and an editorial on this subject on **February 11, 1910**. The newspaper ran a story in which French astronomer Camille Flammarion claimed the **Cyanogen** “would impregnate the atmosphere and possibly snuff out all life on the planet.” Halley's comet came into naked-eye view around **April 10, 1910** and came to perihelion on **April 20, 1910**. Despite continued re-assurance from many other scientists that the poisonous gas would not penetrate Earth's atmosphere, concern among the public grew in the weeks leading to the Earth's passage through the comet's tail on **May 19, 1910**. Some people bought gas masks. Comet pills were sold that would supposedly protect against the effects of the poison. Churches held all-night prayer vigils. The Sacred Followers, a religious group based in Oklahoma, attempted to sacrifice a virgin to ward off the impending disaster, but were stopped by the police. Doomsayers wrote to the Royal Greenwich Observatory, England, to say that the comet would cause massive tides across the Americas as the Pacific ocean emptied itself into the Atlantic ocean. Every issue of New York Times newspaper during the month of May, except on May 2 and May 4, carried a story about Halley's Comet. The demand for telescopes to view the comet increased significantly. The World cautiously waited as Halley's Comet approached Earth in 1910. Finally, on **May 19, 1910**, it took **6 hours** for the Earth to pass through on tail of Halley's Comet. No serious catastrophes happened. However, tragically a 16-year-old Amy Hopkins lost her life falling from a roof, while watching for the comet with friends. U.S. President W. H. Taft viewed the comet at the U.S. Naval Observatory. The 1910 approach of Halley's Comet was also recorded as being the travelling companion of the first known English Muslim to travel to Mecca for pilgrimage. Significant events around the time of the approach of Halley's comet included: (a) **King Edward VII** died on **May 6, 1910**, but his funeral was held on **May 20, 1910 (May 7, 1910 Julian)**, (b) the comet added to the unrest in **China** in connection

with the **Xinhai Revolution** that started in 1911 ended the abdication of the six-year-old "Last Emperor", Puyi, on **February 12, 1912**, that marked the **end of 2,000 years of imperial rule** and the beginning of China's early republican era (1912–1916). **Halley's comet** is named after **Edmond Halley**, a British astronomer, who determined in **year 1705** that this comet would return to be seen from the Earth periodically every about 76 years and thus because the last time it appeared was in **1682**, he predicted its return around **1758**. Indeed, it was seen on **December 25, 1758**. Some scholars have proposed that first-century Mesopotamian astronomers already had recognized Halley's Comet as periodic, Jews among them. This theory notes a passage in the Bavli Talmud that refers to *"a star which appears once in seventy years that makes the captains of the ships err."* This may be a reference to the **66 AD** appearance of Halley's comet, because this passage of the Talmud is attributed to the Rabbi Yehoshua ben Hananiah. This apparition was the only one to occur during ben Hananiah's lifetime. Halley's comet appeared in **608 AD**, about one year before **Prophet Mohammad (p) became a prophet** and the **Quran started to revealed** to him. The Chinese book Pei Shih talks about a "Broom star" seen on **October 22, 608 AD**. In 1805, astronomer **J. R. Hind** confirmed that the path indicated by the Chinese was precisely the path that Halley's comet must have followed when the perihelion must have happened in October or early November in **608 AD**. In **837 AD**, Halley's comet made by far its closest approach to Earth, passing as close as 0.03 AU (3.2 million miles; 5.1 million kilometers) from Earth. It was recorded by astronomers in China, Japan, Germany, the Byzantine Empire, and the Middle East. The first person to visually observe Halley's comet on its **1985 - 1986 return** was amateur astronomer Stephen James O'Meara on **January 24, 1985** with home-built 24-inch telescope.

- **King of Britain, Edward VII** died on **May 6, 1910**, aged 68 years, but his funeral was held on **May 20, 1910 (May 7, 1910 Julian)** (the day after the Earth passed through the tail of Halley's comet). His funeral was one of the largest gatherings of European royalty ever to take place, and one of the last before many royal families were deposed in World War I and its aftermath. He was succeeded by his son George V. King **Edward VII** was born on **November 9, 1841** and he ascended to the throne on **January 22, 1901**.

- **Moshe Dayan**, whose real name is Moshe Kitaigorodsky, was born to Jewish Ukrainian immigrant parents in a Jewish Kibbutz in Palestine on **May 20, 1915 (May 7, 1915 Julian)** (Rajab 7, 1333 Hijri) (Sivan 7, 5675 Jewish) and died on **October 16, 1981** (Zu Al-Hijja 17, 1401 Hijri) (Tishri 18, 5742 Jewish). In 1929, he joined the **Haganah**, a powerful underground Jewish militia in Palestine. He became involved in launching raids against the British rule of Palestine and against Arab Palestinians. In 1939, he was captured and imprisoned in Acre (Akka), Palestine, but he was **released in 1941**, with an offer to join the British forces in Palestine, as a Haganah scout, in fighting the pro-Nazi Vichy French ruling Lebanon. On **June 1, 1941** Gregorian (**May 19, 1941 Julian**) (**Jumada Ula 6, 1360 Hijri**) (**Sivan 6, 5701 Jewish**) (**2430146.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day**), he was called by his immediate superior in Haganah and he was ordered to join a Haganah unit slated to operate in support of the **Australian 7<sup>th</sup> Division** of the British forces, as an Officer of the unit, leading a group of 30 fighters who were to operate in the area of Bint-Jbeil in Southern Lebanon. On **June 7, 1941**, Dayan's unit crossed the Palestine-Lebanon border and secured two bridges over the Litani River in Southern Lebanon. When Dayan's unit was not relieved as expected, at 4:00 AM on **June 8, 1941 (Jumada Ula 13, 1360 Hijri)**, the unit perceived that it was exposed to possible attack and, on its own initiative, attacked

a nearby Vichy French police station and was able to capture it. A few hours later, while he was on the roof of the building of the Police Station using **binoculars** to scan Vichy French positions on the other side of the Litani River, his binoculars was struck by a bullet fired by a French sniper, propelling metal and glass fragments into his **left eye**. Six hours passed before he could be evacuated. Not only Moshe Dayan lost the eye, but in addition, the damage to the extra-ocular muscles was so severe to the extent that Dayan could not even be fitted with a glass eye. So, he was compelled to wear the black eye-patch for the rest of his life and that this eye-patch on became his distinguished feature. So, he was an **Awar** (a person who has a defective eye) like the Dajjal, as described by Prophet Mohammad (p). Dayan wrote in his autobiography that he was *"ready to make any effort and stand any suffering, if only I could get rid of my black eye patch. The attention it drew was intolerable to me. I preferred to shut myself up at home, doing anything, rather than encounter the reactions of people wherever I went."* De Gaulle's Free France troops and British troops liberated Syria from Vichy France on **June 14, 1941**. When Arab armies marched into Palestine in 1948, Moshe Dayan fought the Syrians in Galilee, led a commando battalion on raids against Lod and Ramallah, and **commanded the Jerusalem front**. In his capacity as **Commander of the Jerusalem front**, Moshe Dayan met **King Abdullah of Jordan** a number of times and engaged in informal negotiations with him. He was involved in reaching the informal agreement concerning the border of "no man's land" of Jerusalem which became operative on December 1, 1948. Dayan became **Chief of Staff of the Israeli Armed Forces** in **1953** and in this position, he drew up and executed the plan for the Sinai invasion in **1956**. On **June 1, 1967** Gregorian (**May 19, 1967** Julian) (**Safar 22, 1387 Hijri**) (**Iyar 22, 5727 Jewish**), Israel did a re-shuffle in the government while keeping the same Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, but turning it into Israel's first National Unity Government, in which **Moshe Dayan** was appointed as **Minister of Defence**, instead of Levi Eshkol. On **June 4, 1967**, Israel's government decided to go to war against its Arab neighbors. He personally oversaw Israel's **capture of East Jerusalem** on **June 7, 1967**. On **June 8, 1967**, Dayan bypassed both the Prime Minister and the Chief of Staff, ordering the Israeli army to attack and capture the **Golan Heights in Syria**. On Saturday **June 17, 1967** (Rabi Awwal 9, 1387 Hijri), shortly after the end of the Six Day War, Defense minister **Moshe Dayan** entered the Al-Aqsa Mosque for a historic meeting. In a gesture of good will, Dayan sat down on the prayer carpet with five leaders of the Supreme Muslim Council (the Waqf) of what had been Jordanian-controlled Jerusalem. That discussion fixed Israel's policy regarding the Temple Mount, a policy that remains unchanged to this day. The administrative control over the Temple Mount was to be the sole responsibility of the Supreme Muslim Council - the (Jordanian) Waqf. For the next six years following Israel's victory in 1967 war and until the 1973 war, Moshe Dayan was like a **king of Israel**, like no man before him and no man after him. Together with Israel's next Prime Minister, **Golda Meir**, he led a firm state policy, which opposed receding any territories, approved the first Jewish settlements and delayed peace efforts. Israeli Military historian Yossi Argaman said about Moshe Dayan: *"In all the years of Israel's history, there has not existed a military hero or dominant figure like him. Moshe Dayan symbolized the national and military rebirth and the revitalization of Jewish strength, the myth of the Jewish fighter. He climbed so high, that he became a kind of god."* However, after being criticized for the Israeli's army unreadiness for the **Yom Kipper War** of October 6 - 24, 1973, Moshe Dayan **resigned as Minister of Defense** on **June 3, 1974**. From 1977 to 1979, he **served as the Foreign Minister** of Israel and in that capacity, he helped negotiate the final peace treaty between Israel and Egypt. **Moshe Dayan** was also one of the Leaders of **Palmach** (Jewish

commando units founded on **May 19, 1941**). **Moshe Dayan** was an **atheist**. **Moshe Dayan** is also widely considered Israel's most famous **adulterer**.

- On **May 20, 1915 (May 7, 1915 Julian)**, the Ottoman government allowed Hebrew to be used once again as a written language for letters, although it will be censored by the military.

- **Jamal Pasha**, the Ottoman governor of Greater Syria, hanged prominent activists and intellectuals, opposed to his oppressive rule, in both Damascus and Beirut, on Friday, **May 6, 1916** Rumi Calendar (**May 19, 1916** Gregorian) (Rajab 16, 1334 Hijri) (Iyar 16, 5676 Jewish) (242,1002.5 Julian Day). In commemoration of this event, **May 6** is celebrated annually as the **Martyrs' Day** in Syria and Lebanon. He is referred to as the **Jazzar** (Butcher or Slaughterer). He was **born** on **May 6, 1872** Rumi Calendar (**May 18, 1872** Gregorian) (**Rabi Awwal 10**, 1289 Hijri) (**Iyar 10**, 5632 Jewish). He was killed on **July 21, 1922 (Zu Al-Qada 25, 1340 Hijri)** (Tammuz 25, 5682 Jewish) (2423,256.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).

- On **May 20, 1917 (May 7, 1917 Julian)**, the Ottoman government authorized the Jews to return to Tel Aviv and Jaffa.

- Today, **May 19** is an **annual official holiday** in **Turkey**. It is called "Day of Commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports". It commemorates **Mustafa Kemal's birth on May 19, 1881**, and **his landing at Samsun on May 19, 1919 (May 6, 1919 Julian) (Shaban 19, 1337 Hijri) (Iyar 19, 5679 Jewish) (May 19** in both Rumi and Gregorian calendars because after January 1, 1918, the day became the same in both calendars), which is regarded as the **beginning of the Turkish War of Independence**. Greece claims that starting from **May 19, 1919**, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk began a genocide or ethnic cleansing against the Greeks, known as Pontos, who had been living in the region for thousands of years. That is why today, in Greece, **May 19** is an annual holiday to commemorate what Greece claims to be a genocide against of Pontic Greeks in which 353,000 Pontic Greeks died.

- On **May 19, 1919 (May 6, 1919 Julian) (Shaban 19, 1337 Hijri) (Iyar 19, 5679 Jewish)** (242,2097.5<sup>th</sup> or 242,2098<sup>th</sup> Julian), a **great fire** broke out in the northern parts of Western **Canada**.

- **Pope John Paul II** was born on Tuesday, **May 18, 1920** Gregorian (**May 5, 1920** Julian) (**Shaban 29, 1338 Hijri)** (Sivan 1, 5680 Jewish).

- **Malcolm X** was born on **May 19, 1925 (May 6, 1925 Julian)** and was assassinated on **February 21, 1965**.

- On **May 19, 1926 (May 6, 1926 Julian)**, **Thomas Edison spoke on the radio** for the first time. In 1926, inventor **Thomas Edison** spoke at a dinner for the National Electric Light Association in Atlantic City, NJ. When asked to speak into the microphone, he said, "I don't know what to say. This is the first time I ever spoke into one of these things ... Good night." During 1877 – 1878, **Edison invented** and developed the carbon **microphone** used in all telephones along with the Bell receiver until the 1980s.

- On **May 19, 1926 (May 6, 1926 Julian)**, during the **Great Syrian Revolt**, French air force bombed **Damascus**, Syria.

- After **Ottoman Caliphate** was abolished on March 3, 1924, **Al-Hussein son of Ali**, claimed the title of the **Caliph** on **March 7, 1924**. Six months later, **Al-Hussein son of Ali** was forced to abdicate all of his secular titles in favour of his eldest son Ali on **Friday, October 3, 1924** (at night, the eve of October 4) (Rabi Awwal 5, 1343 Hijri) (Tishri 5, 5685 Jewish) (2424,061.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day) due to his defeat against the advancing forces of Abdul Aziz Al-Saud, the Sultan of Najd at that time (who later on established the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia). This effectively turned out to be the end of the Islamic Caliphate because neither Al-Hussein's son, Ali nor Abdul Aziz Al-Saud proclaimed to be Caliph of Muslims. **Al-Hussein son of Ali** was the last credible person to have claimed to be Caliph of all Muslims. **Abdul Aziz Al-Saud** captured **Mecca** on **October 13, 1924** (Rabi Awwal 14, 1343 Hijri) (Tishri 15, 5685 Jewish Calendar) (2424,071.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Calendar). **Medina** surrendered to **Abdul Aziz's** forces on **December 12 (or 5), 1925**. **King Ali son Al-Hussein** abdicated on **December 19, 1925** (Jumada Thania 2, 1344 Hijri) and fled to Iraq on December 22, 1925. **Jeddah** fell on **December 23, 1925**, but Abdul Aziz's forces entered it on Friday, **January 8, 1926 (Jumada Thania 22 (or 23), 1344 Hijri)**. On **January 10, 1926 (Jumada Thania 24 (or 25), 1344 Hijri)**, **Abdul Aziz** declared himself **King of the Hijaz**. On **January 27, 1927** (Rajab 24, 1345 Hijri), he added the title of **King of Najd** (his previous title was **Sultan of Najd**), and elevated the status of Najd from Sultanate to Kingdom. For the next five years, he administered the two parts of his dual kingdom as separate units. By the **Treaty of Jeddah**, signed on **May 20, 1927 (May 7, 1927 Julian)**, Britain recognized the independence of Abdul-Aziz's realm (then known as the Kingdom of Hijaz and Kingdom of Najd) and in return, Abdul-Aziz agreed to stop his forces from attacking and harassing neighboring British protectorates. On **September 23, 1932 (Jumada Ula 22, 1351 Hijri) (Elul 22, 5692 Jewish)**, the **Kingdom of Najd** and the **Kingdom of Hijaz** were united to form the **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia** and **Abdul Aziz** became the **King of Saudi Arabia**. That is why today, the **Saudi National Day** is celebrated annually on **September 23**. **Al-Hussein son of Ali** was forced to live in exile in Cyprus where he suffered a stroke. Only then, he was allowed to move to Amman, Jordan, where he died on **June 4, 1931 (Muharram 17, 1350 Hijri)** and was buried in the Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem.

- On **May 20, 1927 (May 7, 1927 Julian)**, at 07:52, **Charles Lindbergh** took off from Roosevelt Field in Long Island, New York, on the **World's first solo non-stop air flight across the Atlantic Ocean**. His plane touched down at Le Bourget Field in Paris at 22:22 the next day.

- Upon the recommendation of the Shaw Commission, the British authorities conducted an investigation into the possibilities for future immigration to and settlement of Palestine. The **investigation** was headed by **Sir John Hope-Simpson**. He **arrived to Palestine** on **May 20, 1930 (May 7, 1927 Julian)**. According to his report, there was not sufficient land to support continued immigration. Arab farmers were suffering from severe economic difficulties and the Jewish policy of hiring only Jews was responsible for the deplorable conditions in which the Arabs found themselves. Due to these conditions, Hope-Simpson recommended the cessation of Jewish immigration. The Hope-Simpson Report was published in October 1930. At the same time, the Passfield White Paper was issued, clarifying British intentions in Palestine.

- On **May 20, 1932 (May 7, 1932 Julian)**, **Amelia Earhart** started her flight from



Newfoundland, Canada to Ireland to become the **World's first solo non-stop air flight across the Atlantic Ocean by a female pilot**, landing in Ireland the next day.

- On **May 19, 1935 (May 6, 1935 Julian)**, **T. E. Lawrence** (also known as Lawrence of Arabia) **died** in a motorcycle accident in Dorset, England. He was a British intelligence officer who played a key liaison role in Arabia between the British government and the Sharif of Mecca, Hussein son of Ali, who led the Arab revolution against the Ottoman Sultanate during World War I. He was born on **August 16, 1888**.

- General **Edmund Allenby**, who led the British forces in the conquest of Jerusalem in December 1917, ending the rule of Jerusalem by the Ottomans which had lasted since December 1516, and the rule of Jerusalem by Muslims which had lasted since July 1244, was born on **April 23, 1861 (Shawwal 13, 1277 Hijri) (Iyar 13, 5621 Jewish)** and died on **May 14, 1936 (Safar 22, 1355 Hijri) (Iyar 22, 5696 Jewish)**. After he died, he was cremated and his ashes were buried in the Warriors Chapel (now St George's chapel) in Westminster Abbey on **May 19, 1936 (May 6, 1936 Julian) (Safar 27, 1355 Hijri) (Iyar 27, 5696 Jewish)**. Westminster Abbey (formally titled "the Collegiate Church of St Peter") is located in London, just to the west of the Palace of Westminster. It is one of Britain's most notable religious buildings and the traditional place of coronation and burial site for English and, later, British monarchs.

- On **May 20, 1939 (May 7, 1939 Julian)**, **Pan Am airlines** began trans-Atlantic passenger and air mail service.

- On **May 20, 1940 (May 7, 1940 Julian)**, **Igor Sikorsky** unveiled his **helicopter** invention.

- On **May 20, 1940 (May 7, 1940 Julian)**, the infamous **Auschwitz concentration camp** in Poland for the Jews began operating.

- On **May 19, 1941 (May 6, 1941 Julian)**, the **Palmach**, Jewish commando units, **were established** as a defense from any Axis (Germany and Italy) attack on Israel. Later, Palmach assisted in planning and executing the dropping of Parachutists in occupied Europe. Palmach units were mainly responsible for capturing Safad and Tiberias as well helping to open the road to Jerusalem during the 1948 war in Palestine between the Zionist Jews and the Arabs. Palmach leaders included Yigal Allon, **Moshe Dayan**, **Yitzhak Rabin**, Haim Bar-Lev, and **Ezer Weizman**.

- On **May 20, 1941 (May 7, 1941 Julian) (Iyar 23, 5701 Jewish)**, David Raziel, **one of the founders of Irgun (a Jewish militia)**, was killed. He was serving with the British forces in Iraq in their fight against the pro-Axis Iraqi government when a bomb from a German aircraft killed him and the British officer with whom he was serving.

- On **May 20, 1941 (May 7, 1941 Julian)**, in France, under the rule of Pro-Nazi Vichy government, more laws were put into place restricting Jewish movements in all aspects of life. Jews are prohibited from engaging in wholesale and retail trade or owning banks, hotels, or restaurants.

- On **May 20, 1941 (May 7, 1941 Julian)**, Jesuit priest Peter Archer's "*Christian Calendar and Gregorian Reform*" was published. In this book, he attempted to correct his church's mistake by inserting a year 0 into the calendar, but the idea was ignored by the Catholic hierarchy.
  
- On **May 18, 1942 (May 5, 1942 Julian)**, physicist Dr. **Gregory Breit** resigned and physicist Dr. **J. Robert Oppenheimer** was appointed to take over in his position in the project to develop an atomic bombs that were dropped on Japan in 1945. On **May 19, 1942, Robert Oppenheimer** wrote to **Ernest O. Lawrence** (American nuclear scientist) that the **atomic bomb** problem was solved in principle and that six good physicists should have the details mostly worked out in six months. His optimism is based on the belief that gun assembly would suffice for both uranium and plutonium.
  
- On **May 19, 1943 (May 6, 1943 Julian)**, during World War II, **Berlin was declared** "Judenrien" meaning "**free of Jews**".
  
- On **May 19, 1944 (May 6, 1944 Julian)**, during World War II, **German defense line** in Italy collapsed.
  
- On **May 20, 1944 (May 7, 1944 Julian)**, the U.S. **Communist Party** was dissolved.
  
- The **German U-234 submarine** left Germany on **March 25, 1945**, bound for Japan on a voyage around the horn of Africa, to deliver important materials from Germany to Japan. After Hitler's death a month later, the submarine surrendered to American forces in the north Atlantic and was taken to the American submarine base at Portsmouth, N.H., where media reporters watched its arrival on **May 19, 1945 (May 6, 1945 Julian)**. This submarine was carrying surprisingly diverse cargo bound for Tokyo as part of a secretive exchange of war materials between Hitler and Hirohito. The cargo included the pride of German technology such as parts and blueprints for proximity fuzes, antiaircraft shells, jet planes, chemical rockets, and 10 containers filled with 1,200 pounds of uranium oxide, a basic material of atomic bombs.
  
- General Charles De Gaulle's Free France troops and British troops liberated Syria from Vichy France on **June 14, 1941**. De Gaulle appointed Taj Al-Din Al-Hasani as President of Syria on **September 12, 1941**. Georges Catroux, General Delegate of "Free France" in Syria, declared the independence (but not full independence) of the Republic of Syria on **September 27, 1941**. On **May 17, 1945**, French troops landed in Beirut, Lebanon in order to restore French administration over Lebanon and Syria after the surrender of Germany in World War II in early May 1945. On **May 19, 1945 (May 6, 1945 Julian)**, a group of Syrian army officers who were seeking full independence of Syria from France, including **Afif Al-Bizri** who had joined Rashid Kilani's revolt against the British influence in Iraq in 1941 and who later became Chief of Syrian Armed Forces in 1957, were arrested and imprisoned in Beirut, Lebanon. On **May 29 - 31, 1945**, French troops shelled the Syrian parliament and attempted to arrest Syrian government leaders in Damascus, resulting in the death of about 500 Syrians. Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of Britain, demanded a ceasefire on **May 31, 1945**. **Afif Al-Bizri** managed to escape from prison on **June 3, 1945**. The French government agreed to transfer command of the Syrian army to the **Republic of Syria** on **August 1, 1945 (Shaban 22, 1364 Hijri) (Av 22, 5705 Jewish)**. The **Republic of Syria** achieved full independence when the last remaining French troops withdrew on **April 17, 1946**.

- **Tiferet Yisrael Synagogue** was one of the most outstanding synagogues in the Old City of **Jerusalem** in the 19th and 20th centuries. Named after Rabbi Yisroel of Ruzhin, founder of the Ruzhin Hasidic dynasty. During the 1948 Arab-Israeli War, the **Tiferet Yisrael Synagogue** was used as a post by Haganah, Jewish gang, in the defense of the Old City. During the Jordanian army's attempt to capture the Old City, it blew up the synagogue an hour after midnight on the night of **May 20 - 21, 1948 (May 7-8, 1948 Julian)**. It was left as ruins by the Israeli government after the re-capture of the Old City in the Six-Day War. In **2012**, the Municipality of Jerusalem announced its approval for the plan to rebuild the synagogue. The cornerstone for the construction of **Tiferet Yisrael Synagogue** was laid on **May 29, 2014**.

- On **May 19, 1948 (May 6, 1948 Julian) (Rajab 10, 1367 Hijri) (Iyar 10, 5708 Jewish)**, Jordanian army forces headed by AbdAllah Al-Tal marched to Jerusalem and took up positions in Zion Gate, closing access to Jewish Quarter. The Jordanian forces captured the Police Station in Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood, as Jewish gang fighters fled without a fight. Then, the Jordanian forces proceeded towards Mandelbaum House area, but were repulsed after heavy battle with Jewish fighters. Their real objective was Damascus Gate in the wall of the Old City. On **May 28, 1948 (Rajab 19, 1367 Hijri) (Iyar 19, 5708 Jewish)**, the **Jewish Quarter** of the old city of **Jerusalem was captured by the Jordanian forces**. The civilian, non-combatant, Jewish inhabitants were protected from the wrath of angry Arabs by the Jordanian forces of **King AbdAllah**, and were expelled to West Jerusalem which was under control of the Jews. About 300 fighters of the Haganah (Jewish terrorist group) were taken prisoners. After the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem was captured, the destruction, desecration and looting of Jewish sites began. According to a Jewish source, about 57 ancient synagogues, libraries and centers of religious study were ransacked and 12 were totally destroyed such as **Hurva Synagogue**, the oldest synagogue dated back to the 13th century. The Old City of Jerusalem remained under the control of Jordan till it was captured by Israeli forces, 19 years later, on **June 7, 1967 (Safar 28, 1387 Hijri) (Iyar 28, 5727 Jewish)** in the 6-day war between Israel and the Arabs.

- 101 Squadron of the Israeli Air Force, also known as the First Fighter Squadron, is Israel's first fighter squadron, was formed on **May 20, 1948 (May 7, 1948 Julian)**.

- On **May 20, 1948 (May 7, 1948 Julian) (Rajab 11, 1367 Hijri) (Iyar 11, 5708 Jewish)**, **Count Folke Bernadotte** was appointed by the United Nations as a mediator in Palestine, based on U.N. Resolution 186 issued on May 14, 1948. It was the first official mediation in the U.N. history. On **June 28, 1948 (Shaban 20, 1367 Hijri)**, **Folke Bernadotte's** submitted his first peace plan, for resolving the Israeli - Palestinian conflict, in secret to the various relevant parties. His plan called for Palestine and Transjordan to be structured as "a Union, comprising two Members, one Arab and one Jewish", each member with full control over its own affairs, including its foreign relations. The plan suggested the inclusion of the City of Jerusalem in Arab territory, with municipal autonomy for the Jewish community and special arrangements for the protection of the Holy Places.

- On **May 19, 1950 (May 6, 1950 Julian) (Shaban 2, 1369 Hijri) (Sivan 3, 5710 Jewish) (2433,420.5 or 2433,421<sup>st</sup> Julian Day)**, the **first 175 Jews were airlifted** out of Iraq in two planes to Israel. Jews started leaving Iraq earlier by land, but that was not sufficient, so air

transportation was deemed necessary. Iraqi laws authorized the revocation of Iraqi citizenship to any Jew who willingly left Iraq. Upon exit from Iraq, assets of Jews were frozen. Once the Jews registered to migrate, they were required to leave Iraq within 15 days. In 1949, there were an estimated **130,000 Jews** in the Iraq, with about 90,000 of them in Baghdad. In fact, Baghdad Chamber of Commerce listed 2,430 member companies. A third of these companies were owned by Jews. A third of the Chamber's board and almost all of its employees were Jewish. Jewish firms transacted 45 percent of all exports and nearly 75 percent of all imports. Between January 1950 and December 1951, about **119,788 Iraqi Jews** left Iraq to Israel by land or by air. Only few thousand Jews remained in Iraq. Israel at first called the planned exodus of Iraqi Jews as "Operation Ali Baba", but it later became known by the original code name, "Operation Ezra and Nehemiah". Ezra and Nehemiah are the prophets who had led the Jews of Babylon out of exile back to Israel. The Jews in Iraq are descendants of the Jews who were exiled by Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylonians (also known as Chaldeans), 2600 years ago from Judah (the southern Kingdom of Israel whose capital was Jerusalem) to Babylon, the capital the Babylonian Empire, in today's Iraq. Babylonians conquered Jerusalem and started deporting Jews in **597 BC** and the second wave of deportation happened 11 years later in **586 BC** when Kingdom of Judah ceased to exist. The Babylonians destroyed the first Temple of Solomon. After Cyrus, the King of Persia, conquered the Babylonian Empire, he issued a decree in **539 BC**, allowing the Jews to return to Israel. Only about 50,000 Jews returned from Babylon to Israel, while most of the Jews chose to remain in Babylon. The period these Jews spent in Babylon is called the **Babylonian Exile**.

- On **May 19, 1950 (May 6, 1950 Julian)**, Egypt announced that the **Suez Canal is closed** to Israeli ships.

- On **May 18, 1951 (May 5, 1951 Julian)**, the U.N. moved its headquarters from the town of Lake Success in State of New York (location of U.N. from 1946 to 1951) to Manhattan, New York City. The General Assembly that year would be held in Paris, France as the permanent Assembly Hall would not be ready until the following year.

- **United Nations Security Council** adopted **Resolution 93** on **May 18, 1951 (May 5, 1951 Julian)** in which it condemned the pre-arranged and planned attack ordered by Israel authorities on the Egyptian regular army in the Gaza Strip on **February 28, 1951**. The Council condemned this attack as a violation of the cease-fire provisions of UNSC Resolution 54 and as inconsistent with the obligations of the parties under the General Armistice Agreement between Egypt and Israel and under the United Nations Charter.

- On **May 20, 1954 (May 7, 1954 Julian) (Ramadan 17, 1373 Hijri) (Iyar 17, 5714 Jewish)**, **David Alexander Paterson** was born. He is American politician and the former, **55<sup>th</sup> Governor of State of New York** (from March 17, 2008 till December 31, 2010). When **Eliot Spitzer**, who was a Jew and **governor of State of New York**, resigned in the wake of a prostitution scandal, David Paterson, the lieutenant governor, was automatically sworn in as governor of State of New York on March 17, 2008 to finish the term of the governor. He is the first Black, African American governor of New York and also the second legally blind governor of any U.S. state after Bob C. Riley, who was Governor of Arkansas for **eleven days** in January 1975. At the age of three months, he contracted an ear infection which spread to his optic nerve, leaving him with

no sight in his left eye and severely limited vision in his right eye.

- On **May 20, 1956 (May 7, 1956 Julian)**, as the test, **the U.S.** dropped, for the first time, a **hydrogen (Thermos-Nuclear) bomb** from plane over a tiny island called Namu in Bikini Atoll (an atoll in the Marshall Islands which consists of 23 islands in the Pacific Ocean). Observers said that the fireball caused by the explosion measured at least four miles in diameter and was brighter than the light from 500 Suns. The successful test indicated that hydrogen bombs were viable airborne weapons and that the arms race had taken another giant leap forward. The massive open-air blast in 1956 caused concerns among scientists and environmentalists about the effects of such testing on human and animal life. Later, a growing movement in the United States and elsewhere began to push for a ban on open-air atomic testing. The **Limited Test Ban Treaty**, signed in 1963 by the United States, the Soviet Union, and Great Britain, prohibited open-air and underwater nuclear testing.

- An agreement to create **Arab Union** (or Confederation), between Hashimite Kingdom of **Iraq** and Hashimite Kingdom of **Jordan**, was signed by King Faisal II of Iraq and King Hussein of Jordan on **February 14, 1958**. The membership in this union was also made open to other Arab countries wishing to join it later. The head of this union was designated as the King of Iraq and the headquarters of the union would be changed every 6 months: Baghdad for 6 months and Amman for 6 months. Each of the two Kingdoms remained as a sovereign state with its own separate government. This **Arab Union** between Iraq and Jordan was designed to be a pro-Western rival to the pro-Soviet Union, socialist union between Syria and Egypt, called United Arab Republic, that was announced on **February 1, 1958**. Constitution of the Arab Union of Iraq and Jordan was completed on **March 29, 1958**. King of Saudi Arabia, Saud bin Abd-Al-Aziz Al-Saud, made an 8 – day visit to Iraq from May 11 to May 18, 1958 to meet King Faisal II to support this Union. On **May 19, 1958 (May 6, 1958 Julian) (Shawwal 29, 1377 Hijri) (Iyar 29, 5718 Jewish)**, the Arab Union of Iraq and Jordan officially came into existence and the first government was formed with Nuri Al-Saeed as prime minister. A military coup in Iraq led by socialist officers, Abd Al-Kareem Qasim and Abd Al-Salam Arif on **July 14, 1958** killed Iraq's King Faisal II and his family and ended the monarchy in Iraq that had lasted for 37 years since **August 23, 1921** when King Faisal I became the first King of Iraq after the end of the Ottoman's rule of Iraq. Prime Minister Nuri Al-Saeed was captured, killed, and mutilated on **July 15, 1958**.

- On **May 18, 1965 (May 5, 1965 Julian) (Muharram 17 (or 16), 1385 Hijri) (Iyar 16, 5725 Jewish)**, **Eli Cohen** (اليهاو بن شاؤول كوهين) was hanged in Marga Square in Damascus, **Syria**. He was a Jewish spy who worked for Mossad (Israel's intelligence service) in Syria. He was born on **December 26, 1924 (Jumada Akhira 1, 1343 Hijri) (Kislev 29, 5685 Jewish)**.

- On **May 21, 1963 (May 8, 1963 Julian)**, **Zalman Shazar** was elected **President** of the State of **Israel**. He served as President till **May 24, 1973**. He was the President of Israel during Israel's 1967's war against its Arab neighbors in which Israel captured the West Bank, including Old City of Jerusalem, and Gaza.

- On **May 20, 1966 (May 7, 1966 Julian)**, the **Palestinian National Council** convened in Gaza. The Council decided to establish the **Liberation Army**, to be the vanguard in the fight to liberate Palestine. Additionally, it unified the Guerilla factions, under the framework of the PLO. The

Council refused all projects which aimed to undermine the sole and legitimacy of the PLO to represent all the Palestinians.

- On **May 16, 1967**, **Egypt** began massing its troops in two defensive lines in the Sinai Peninsula on Israel's border. On **May 19, 1967 (May 6, 1967 Julian)**, **Egypt** expelled the United Nations' Peace force from Gaza and Sinai and the Egyptian army took up United Nations' Peace force positions at Sharm El-Sheikh, overlooking the Straits of Tiran. On **May 23, 1967**, **Egypt** closed the Straits of Tiran to ships bound to Israel.

- On **May 19, 1967 (May 6, 1967 Julian)**, the **Soviet Union** ratified a treaty with the **United States** and **Britain** that **banned nuclear weapons** from outer space. The United States, Great Britain, and several dozen other nations had already signed and/or ratified the treaty. With the advent of the so-called “space race” between the United States and the Soviet Union, which had begun in 1957 when the Russians successfully launched the Sputnik satellite, some began to fear that outer space might be the next frontier for the expansion of nuclear weapons. To forestall that eventuality, an effort directed by the United Nations came to fruition in **January 27, 1967** when the United States, Britain, the Soviet Union, and dozens of other nations signed off on a treaty banning nuclear weapons from outer space. The agreement also banned nations from using the moon, other planets, or any other “celestial bodies” as military outposts or bases. The treaty was opened for signature in the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Soviet Union on **January 27, 1967**, and entered into force on October 10, 1967. As of January 2017, 105 countries are parties to the treaty, while another 24 have signed the treaty but have not completed ratification

- On **May 19, 1967 (May 6, 1967 Julian)**, U.S. planes bombed Hanoi, Vietnam, for the first time.

- Great-grandson of the man who claimed to be **the Mahdi** in Sudan, **Al-Sadiq Al-Mahdi** became Prime Minister of Sudan twice from July 27, 1966 till **May 18, 1967 (May 5, 1967 Julian)** and from **May 6, 1986** till June 30, 1989.

- On **May 18, 1974 (May 5, 1974 Julian)**, **India** became the sixth nation to explode an **atomic bomb**.

- On **May 20, 1974 (May 7 1974 Julian)**, one of the most popular songs of Elton John “***Don't Let the Sun Go Down on Me***” was released.

- On **May 20, 1980 (May 7, 1974 Julian)**, in a referendum, the people of Quebec rejected, by 60% of the vote, a Quebec government proposal to move towards independence from Canada.

- On **May 13, 1982 (65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first apparition in Fatima, Portugal) (Rajab 20, 1402 Hijri) (Iyar 20, 5742 Jewish) (2445, 102.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**, **during his first visit to Fatima, Portugal, Pope John Paul II** had a private meeting with **Lucia** for the **first time** at 8:00 am, and later he consecrated the World (but not specifically Russia and not in union with Bishops of the World) to the Immaculate Heart of Virgin Mary. On **May 19, 1982 (May 6, 1982 Julian)**, **Pope John Paul II** explained why he did not specifically consecrate Russia during his visit to Fatima,

Portugal on **May 13, 1982**, by saying: *"I tried to do all which I could do in the given circumstances to show forth the collegial unity of the Bishop of Rome with all his brothers in the ministry and the episcopal service of the World."* During this visit to Fatima, **Pope John Paul II was attacked with a knife (or dagger)** by **Juan Fernandez y Krohn** (born in 1948), a fanatical, ultra-conservative **Spanish Catholic priest** on **May 12, 1982** (Rajab 19, 1402 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5742 Jewish) (2445,101.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). The Vatican chose not to disclose that **Pope John Paul II** was wounded in the attack. The news media reported that the Pope was attacked, but he was not wounded. **Juan Maria Fernandez y Krohn** attacked **Pope John Paul II** because he thought **Pope John Paul II** was a communist and an agent working for the Soviet Union. On **October 15, 2008**, Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz finally disclosed that the Pope was actually wounded in the attack on **May 12, 1982**. Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz served as **Pope John Paul II's** secretary and closest aide for nearly 40 years, including all of his 27 years as Pope, and after the **Pope John Paul II's** death, Stanislaw Dziwisz became Archbishop of Krakow, Poland on June 3, 2005 and Cardinal in 2006. Cardinal Dziwisz made this revelation as the Vatican prepared for the first screening of the movie titled *Testimony*, based on Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz's book, *My Friend Karol* (Karol is the real first name of Pope John Paul II), about his 40 years as secretary of **Pope John Paul II**. After being convicted of the assault, Juan Fernandez y Krohn was sentenced to six years, but served only three years in a Portuguese prison and then he was expelled from Portugal. After he was released from prison, he worked as a lawyer in Belgium but became known for his violent acts in court rooms. He has been involved in several other criminal cases involving violent behavior at extremist political protests. In 1996, in Spain, Juan Fernandez y Krohn was charged with setting to fire in a local centre of the Heri Batasuna Party of Bask separatists. Juan Fernandez y Krohn was arrested again in July 2000 and received a five-year sentence after climbing over a security barricade at the Royal Palace of Brussels, intending to kill either King Albert II or the approaching Spanish King Juan Carlos. Juan Fernandez y Krohn believed Juan Carlos Bourbon, King of Spain was involved in the killing his older brother Alfonso Bourbon, Infante of Spain in 1956 so that he could become king.

- On **May 20, 1985** (**May 7, 1985** Julian) (**Shaban 29, 1405 Hijri**) (**Iyar 29, 5745 Jewish**), in an exchange between Israel and the Popular Front for Liberation of Palestine-General Command, Israel exchanged 1150 prisoners, mostly Palestinian and Lebanese, in return for 3 Israeli soldiers captured during the 1982 invasion of Lebanon. This exchange was the third exchange since the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon. This exchange was mediated by Austrian diplomats, including former Chancellor Bruno Kreisky. The prisoner exchange was arranged by the Red Cross in Switzerland and involved a day-long trans-continental flights spanning the continents of Europe, Africa and Asia. The exchange started when the Palestinians flew the three Israeli soldiers from Damascus, Syria, to Geneva, Switzerland.

- On **May 18 – 19, 1989** (**May 5 - 6, 1989** Julian) (**Shawwal 14, 1409 Hijri**) (**Iyar 14, 5749 Jewish**), Israel arrested **Sheikh Ahmad Yaseen** (Ahmed Ismail Hassan Yaseen), the founder and spiritual leader of **Hamas**, in Gaza and put him in jail, and then, he was sentenced to life imprisonment. **Ahmad Yaseen** was a quadriplegic who had used a wheelchair since a sporting accident at the age of 12. In addition, he was nearly blind. In **1997**, Yaseen was released from Israeli prison as part of an arrangement with Jordan following the failed assassination attempt of Khaled Mashal, which had been conducted by the Israeli Mossad in Jordan. Yaseen was released by Israel in exchange for two Mossad agents who had been arrested by Jordanian authorities, on the condition that he would refrain from continuing to call for suicide bombings against Israel.

On **March 22, 2004**, he was killed by an Israeli helicopter gunship which fired a missile at him after the morning prayer at dawn.

- On **May 20, 1989 (May 7, 1989 Julian)**, China **declared martial law** in Beijing, in the face of pro-democracy demonstrations, and mobilized many as 300,000 troops to Beijing, setting the scene for the **Tiananmen Square massacre** on **June 4, 1989**.

- **Sammy Davis Jr.** was an American singer, dancer, actor, and comedian. He was born on **December 8, 1925** (Jumada Ula 22, 1344 Hijri) (Kislev 21, 5686 Jewish). On **November 19, 1954 (Rabi Awwal 23, 1374 Hijri)** (Heshvan 23, 5715 Jewish), he lost his left eye due to a car accident. At around 7:00 a.m., while Sammy Davis Jr. was driving his new Cadillac car from Las Vegas (after performing at the Frontier Hotel) back to Los Angeles to record a soundtrack for the film *Six Bridges to Cross*, his car hit the rear of a car driven by an elderly lady that was backing out in front of him in San Bernardino, California. Then, Sammy's car shifted its direction, miraculously missing oncoming traffic, and came to a stop after slamming into a stone column at the entrance to a driveway. The impact of the crash actually pushed the engine of his car back into the front seat, driving Sammy's face into the steering wheel and his **left eye was forced out of its socket** by the bullet-shaped cone at the center of the steering wheel. Sammy broke his nose on the sun visor, and he broke his knee cap on the emergency brake handle. He had a companion in his car who had driven the first part of the trip. His companion was also badly injured in the collision which fractured his jaw and broke out all of his teeth. Sammy and his companion were rushed by ambulance to San Bernardino County Hospital and were transferred to San Bernardino Community Hospital later that day. Sammy spent six hours in the hospital hallway waiting for an operating room in the cramped and outdated hospital. The damage to his left eye was so severe that it had to be removed. The eye surgeon attached a **prosthetic socket** onto Sammy's left eye muscles to hold and direct a **"glass eye"** that was later implanted after he healed further. So, he became an Awar (with a defective eye or has lost one of his eyes). Prophet Mohammad (p) said the Dajjal is Awar. Sammy was released from the hospital on **November 28, 1954**. **Sammy Davis Jr.** was back on stage only two months later. The car accident and hospital stay made a profound impact on Sammy's life. He believed that surviving the car accident was a miracle and spent much of his recovery reflecting on his existence. While being treated at the hospital in San Bernardino, he was visited by a Jewish rabbi chaplain. Later, Sammy Davis Jr. said about this visit: "We had a long talk. Some of the things he said helped me; and for the first time in my life, a religion started to make sense to me." Although Sammy's parents were Christians, he was not deeply religious. But after learning about history of the Jews, he felt that the Jews and the Blacks shared a similar history of oppression. Over the next years, he studied more Judaism and eventually converted to Judaism few years after his car accident. In August 1989, doctors discovered a cancerous tumor in **Sammy Davis'** throat. Realizing that Sammy Davis was not going to be around much longer, his friends in the entertainment industry arranged a tribute to Sammy Davis which was broadcast on TV on **February 4, 1990**. **Sammy Davis Jr.** attended the event, and at the end of it, he got up, did not speak, but did a little soft-shoe tap dance to a standing ovation. **Frank Sinatra** visited Sammy Davis Jr. at the hospital where he was being treated, and according to the National Enquirer "A softball-size tumor stuck out of Sammy's neck, giving off a horrible odor". This sight devastated Sinatra. After **Sammy Davis Jr.** died on **May 16, 1990** (Shawwal 20, 1410 Hijri) (Iyar 21, 5750 Jewish), it was decided that his memorial service would be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, **May 18, 1990 (May 5, 1990 Julian)**



(Shawwal 22, 1410 Hijri) (**Iyar 23**, 5750 Jewish) at Hall of Liberty in Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Hollywood Hills, Los Angeles, California and that it would be open to the public. So, on **Friday morning**, 400 free tickets were given to individuals who arrived early enough to Forest Lawn Memorial Park. People started lining up at 6 a.m. About 1200 people jammed the Hall of Liberty, and hundreds more were outside. His song "I've Got To Be Me" was played on the loudspeaker, and the crowd cheered. The service lasted for 90 minutes. Rev. Jesse Jackson eulogized him. Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Michael Jackson and Bill Cosby were honorary pallbearers. After the memorial service, Sammy was buried in the Davis family plot at Forest Lawn in Glendale.

- On **May 20, 1991 (May 7, 1991 Julian)**, **Soviet Union** parliament approved a law **allowing citizens of the Soviet Union to travel abroad**.

- **Jerusalem Covenant** was written in 1992 by Deputy Chief Justice Rabbi Menachem Elon. It is intended as a **renewal of the Biblical covenant** between God and the Children of Israel and emphasizes the importance of Jerusalem for the Jews and their insistence of having all of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. The signing of this Covenant started in **May 31, 1992 (Iyar 28, 5752 Jewish)** because it was Jerusalem Day, an annual holiday celebrated in Israel on Iyar 28, the anniversary of Israel's capture of the Old City of Jerusalem on June 7, 1967 (Iyar 28, 5727 Jewish). **May 31, 1992 (Iyar 28, 5752 Jewish)** was the **25<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of Israel's capture of Old City of Jerusalem. The Covenant is in the form of a **scroll written on parchment**. It was circulated to all the Jewish communities in the World for signing for **one Jewish year** that was designated as **Year of Jerusalem**, starting from May 31, 1992 (Zu Al-Qada 28, 1412 Hijri) (Jerusalem Day, **Iyar 28, 5752 Jewish**) till **Iyar 28** of the next year, meaning till **May 19, 1993 (May 6, 1993 Julian)** (Zu Al-Qada 28, 1413 Hijri) (Jerusalem Day, **Iyar 28, 5753 Jewish**) the day on which the Covenant returned to Jerusalem and was signed by hundred of prominent individuals who came to Jerusalem to sign this Covenant and attend the big celebration of this occasion that was held in Jerusalem. The Jerusalem Covenant has been displayed since 1993 alongside Israel's Declaration of Independence in the Knesset (Parliament) of Israel. The Jerusalem Covenant project was the main accomplishment of the **Ministry of Jerusalem Affairs** created by Prime Minister **Yitzhak Shamir**. The campaign to solicit signatures to this Covenant from the general public throughout the World, particularly on the internet, continues even till now in 2017.

### Jerusalem Covenant

As this day, Jerusalem day, the **twenty-eighth day of the month of Iyar** in the year five thousand seven hundred fifty-two; **one thousand nine hundred and twenty-two years** after the destruction of the Second Temple; forty-four years since the founding of the State of Israel; **twenty-five years** since the Six Day War during which the Israel Defense Forces, in defense of our very existence, broke through the walls of the city and **restored** the Temple Mount and the **unity of Jerusalem**; twelve years since the Knesset of Israel reestablished that Jerusalem, "**unified and whole, is the Capital of Israel**"; "the State of Israel is the State of the Jewish People" and the Capital of Israel

is the Capital of the People of Israel.

We have gathered together in Zion, national leaders and heads of our communities everywhere, to enter into a covenant with Jerusalem, as was done by the leaders of our nation and all the people of Israel upon Israel's return to its Land from the Babylonian exile; and the people and their leaders vowed to "dwell in Jerusalem, the Holy City".

Once Again, "our feet stand within your gates, O Jerusalem - **Jerusalem** built as a **city joined together**" which "unites the people of Israel to one another", and "links **heavenly Jerusalem** with **earthly Jerusalem**."

We have returned to the place that the **Lord vowed to bestow upon the descendants of Abraham**, Father of our Nation; to the City of David, King of Israel; where Solomon, son of David, built a **Holy Temple**; a Capital City which became the Mother of all Israel; a metropolis for justice and righteousness and for the wisdom and insights of the ancient world; where a **Second Temple** was erected in the days of Ezra and Nehemiah. In this city, the prophets of the Lord prophesied; in this city, the Sages taught Torah; in this City, the Sanhedrin convened in session in its stone chamber. "For there were the seats of Justice, the Throne of the House of David", "for out of Zion shall go forth Torah, and the Word of the Lord from Jerusalem."

Today, as old, we hold fast to the truth of the words of the Prophets of Israel, that all the inhabitants of the World shall enter within the gates of Jerusalem; "And it shall come to pass at the End of Days, the mountain of the House of the Lord will be well established at the peak of the mountains and will tower above the hills, and all the nations shall stream towards it. "Each and every nation will live in it by its own faith:" "For all the nations will go forward, each with its own Divine Name; we shall go in the name of the Lord our God forever and ever, " And in this spirit, the Knesset of the State of Israel has enacted a law: the **places holy to the peoples of all religions shall be protected** from any desecration and from any restriction of free access to them.

Jerusalem - peace and tranquility shall reign in the city: "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; may those who love you be tranquil. May there be peace within your walls, and tranquility within your palaces." Out of Jerusalem, a message of peace went forth and shall yet go forth again to all the inhabitants of the Earth: "And they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation will not lift up sword against nation, nor shall they learn war any more." Our sages, peace be upon them, said: in the future, the Holy One, the Blessed, will comfort Jerusalem only with peace.

From this place, we once again take this vow: "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, may my right hand lose its strength; may my tongue cleave to my palate if I

do not remember you, if I do not raise up Jerusalem at the very height of my rejoicing."

And with all these understanding, we enter into this Covenant and write: "We shall bind you to us forever; we shall bind you to us with faithfulness, with righteousness and justice, with steadfast love and compassion. We love you, O Jerusalem, with eternal love, with unbounded love, under siege and when liberated from the yoke of oppressors. We have been martyred for you; we have yearned for you, we have clung to you. Our faithfulness to you we shall bequeath to our children after us. Forevermore, our home shall be within you.

In certification of this Covenant, we sign.

- On **May 20, 1993 (May 7, 1993 Julian)**, 10 meter **meteor** came within 150,000 km of Earth (1993KA)
- On **May 20, 1993 (May 7, 1993 Julian)**, the 274<sup>th</sup> and final episode of TV series "Cheers" aired on NBC.
- On **May 19, 1994 (May 6, 1994 Julian)**, **Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy**, wife of U.S. President, John F. Kennedy, died of cancer. Her father, **John "Jack" Bouvier III**, was born on **May 19, 1891 (May 7, 1891 Julian)**.
- In fulfillment of "**The Gaza-Jericho agreement**" signed on **May 4, 1994 (Zu Al-Qada 23, 1414 Hijri) (Iyar 23, 5754 Jewish)**, the Israeli forces withdrew from **Jericho** on **May 13, 1994** and from most of the **Gaza Strip** on **May 18 - 19, 1994 (May 5 - 6, 1994 Julian) (Zu Al-Hijja 8 - 9, 1414 Hijri) (Sivan 8 - 9, 5754 Jewish)** and then, Palestinian Authority police and officials immediately took control. This was the first Israeli withdrawal from Palestinian land since June 1967 war in which Israel captured the West Bank and Gaza. On **May 4, 1994**, Israeli Prime Minister **Yitzhak Rabin** and PLO Chairman **Yasir Arafat** reached an agreement in Cairo called "**The Gaza-Jericho agreement**" on the first stage of Palestinian self-rule. This agreement addressed four main issues: security arrangements, civil affairs, legal matters and economic relations. It included an Israeli military withdrawal from about **60 percent of the Gaza Strip** (Jewish settlements and their environs excluded) and the West Bank town of **Jericho**, land captured by Israel during the Six-Day War of 1967. This agreement also included an agreement to a transfer of authority from the Israeli Civil Administration to the newly created Palestinian Authority, its jurisdiction and legislative powers, a Palestinian police force and relations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority. This agreement was made in accordance with the **Oslo Accords**, signed in Washington, D.C. on **September 13, 1993**.
- At night, on **May 14, 1998 (Muharram 17, 1419 Hijri) (Iyar 18, 5758 Jewish)** (2450,947.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), meaning on the eve of **May 15** (Muharram 18, 1419 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5758 Jewish), **Frank Sinatra** died in Los Angeles. On **May 18, 1998**, about 800 - 1000 people, from all over the East Coast, overflowed from **St. Francis Church** (the same church in which he was baptized

when he was a baby) onto the street, in Sinatra's hometown of Hoboken, New Jersey, for a public religious memorial service, at the end of which those in attendance sang his most famous song "My Way. A private service for the reading of the Rosary took place on **Tuesday night May 19, 1998 (May 6, 1998 Julian) (Iyar 23, 5758 Jewish)** in Beverly Hills. Sinatra's funeral was held at **noon on Wednesday, May 20, 1998 (May 7, 1998 Julian) (Iyar 24, 5758 Jewish)** at the **Beverly Hills Roman Catholic church** and Cardinal Roger Mahony, archbishop of Los Angeles, led the services. Attendance of the funeral services was by **invitation only**. Sinatra's friends from the music and film industry attended the funeral. His most famous song "My Way" written by Lebanese Canadian singer and song-writer Paul Anka, tells the World that the End Times is near. The song starts with "And now the End is near". People on Twitter asked Sinatra's daughter, Nancy, how she felt about "My Way" being sung at the inauguration of Donald Trump as President of the U.S., she prophetically replied by tweeting: "Just remember the first line of the song," He was born on **December 12, 1915** (Safar 4, 1334 Hijri) (2420,843.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). **Frank Sinatra** had a private meeting with **Pope Pius XII** at the **Vatican on June 21, 1945**. As his first visit to Israel that was part of his first World Tour, Frank Sinatra arrived to Israel in his private plane at night on **May 3, 1962 (Zu Qada 29, 1381 Hijri) (Nisan 29, 5722 Jewish)**, for series of seven performances in six cities in Israel from which the proceeds will go toward establishment of a youth center called **Frank Sinatra Brotherhood and Friendship Center for Arab and Israeli Children**, in the Arab city of Nazareth. His visit coincided with Israel's annual Yom Ha'atzmaut (Independence Day) celebrations that commemorate the Zionist Jews' declaration of the establishment of State of Israel on **May 14, 1948 (Iyar 5, 5708 Jewish)**. Sinatra sang at the official Independence Day event in **Tel Aviv on May 9, 1962 (Iyar 5, 5722 Jewish)** and was seated beside Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion and General Moshe Dayan on the reviewing stand during the Israel Defense Forces parade. During this visit, he visited the **Old City of Jerusalem** which was ruled by Jordan.

- On **March 5, 2000 (Zu Al-Qada 28, 1420 Hijri)**, the Israeli cabinet (headed by Prime Minister, **Ehud Barak**) voted unanimously to unilaterally **withdraw from Lebanon** by **July 7, 2000**, the first anniversary of Ehud Barak's becoming Prime Minister. Around **mid May, 2000**, in preparation for its Israeli army's main withdrawal from southern Lebanon in **July 2000**, the Israeli army started transferring control of some outposts in southern Lebanon to Israel's ally, the South Lebanon Army (S.L.A.) Israeli-backed Lebanese militia. A brief hand-over ceremony for each of these posts was held with the SLA commander assuming responsibility. On **May 18, 2000 (May 5, 2000 Julian) (Safar 13, 1421 Hijri) (Iyar 13, 5760 Jewish)**, the attack of the Lebanese resistance forced members of the South Lebanon Army (SLA) to abandon a Lebanese village they were holding in Israel's self-declared "security zone" inside Lebanon. On **May 21 - 22, 2000**, the South Lebanon Army (S.L.A.) started to quickly collapse against the advancing Lebanese resistance forces and civilian demonstrations. Some S.L.A. soldiers surrendered to Lebanese authorities while others took refuge in Israel. The quick collapse of S.L.A. was in contrast with how S.L.A. managed to maintain its control of a significant area of South Lebanon between the Israel's invasion in 1978 and Israel's invasion in 1982. This forced Israel in the night of **May 23 - 24, 2000**, before the dawn of **May 24, 2000 (Safar 19, 1421 Hijri) (Iyar 19, 5760 Jewish)**, to complete full **withdrawal** of Israeli troops (ahead of its initial planned withdrawal in July) from **most of the Lebanese territories** it had occupied since its Israel's first invasion of Lebanon in 1978.

- On **Friday, May 19, 2000 (May 6, 2000 Julian)**, the Friday sermon delivered in Al-Aqsa Mosque, Jerusalem included what has been translated as: *“This Mosque will not be entered through negotiations or peace agreements. This Mosque will be entered (liberated) by armies... Jerusalem will return to Muslims, but not through treason. It will return to Islam and Muslims. It will not be the capital of the Palestinian state, but it will be, Insha'Allah, the capital of the State of the Islamic Caliphate.”*

- On **May 19, 2006 (May 6, 2006 Julian)** (Iyar 21, 5766 Jewish), **Yitzhak Ben-Aharon**, the last founding giant of Israel's left wing, **died** two months short of his 100th birthday. A controversial figure on the Israeli political scene, he was one of the first to call for the **return of all territories occupied by Israel in the June 1967 Arab-Israeli war**, and reached the peak of his career as secretary-general of the Histadrut, Israel's trade union federation.

- On **May 19, 2006 (May 6, 2006 Julian)** (Iyar 21, 5766 Jewish), *“The Da Vinci Code”* film was released in the United States, starring Tom Hanks. Prior to its release in the U.S., the film was released in some countries starting from May 17, 2006 (**Iyar 19, 5766 Jewish**). The film is based on a best-seller book *“The Da Vinci Code”* by Ron Brown.

- On **May 18, 2007 (May 5, 2007 Julian)**, during Friday prayer, a bomb exploded at **Mecca Mosque** (where about 10,000 Muslims were participating in the prayer) in **Hyderabad, India**, killing five and injuring about 35 people. Subsequently, Indian police started firing on innocent people who were proceeding towards Mosque or going away from the Mosque, killing nine and injuring several others.

- On **May 20, 2007 (May 7, 2007 Julian)**, a fighting started between **Fath Al-Islam**, an extremist Islamic Palestinian group headed by Shakir Al-Absi, and the **Lebanese army** in Nahr Al-Barid Palestinian camp, near city of Tripoli, in northern Lebanon. This war led to almost total destruction of Nahr Al-Barid Palestinian camp. On **September 2, 2007 (Shaban 19, 1428 Hijri)**, the Lebanese army finally managed to take full took of Nahr Al-Barid camp.

- On **May 19, 2009 (May 6, 2009 Julian)**, **Israel** launched an air attack on **Gaza Strip**, after an Israeli woman was lightly injured from a rocket explosion in Sderot. Israel claimed that it targeted weapon factories and arms smuggling tunnels, along the border between Gaza and Egypt.

- **AntiChrist** is a 2009 English-language **Danish horror film**, with heavy **sexual content**, written and directed by Danish Director **Lars von Trier**, and starring American Actor **Willem (William) Dafoe** and British-French actress **Charlotte Gainsbourg**. The film was primarily a Danish production and co-produced by companies from six different European countries. It was filmed in Germany and Sweden. It was shown for the first time on **May 18, 2009 (May 5, 2009 Julian)** (Jumada Ula 23, 1430 Hijri) (Iyar 24, 5769 Jewish) at the **Cannes Film Festival** in France, where **Charlotte Gainsbourg** won the festival's award for Best Actress, Other awards won by the film include the Robert Award for best Danish film and **Willem (William) Dafoe** won Bodil Award for Best Actor in a Leading Role, the Nordic Council Film Prize for best Nordic film and the European Film Award for best cinematography. This film was released for the first time to the general public in movie theaters on **May 20, 2009** in Denmark, and later in other countries.

- On **May 18, 2009 (May 5, 2009 Julian)**, the **Tamil Tigers** were defeated by the Sri Lankan government, ending almost 26 years of fighting between the two sides in the Sri Lankan Civil War.

- On **May 19, 2011 (May 6, 2011 Julian)** (Jumada Thania 15, 1432 Hijri) (**Iyar 15, 5771 Jewish**), a day before Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu's arrival to Washington, U.S. President **Barack Obama** delivered a speech at the State Department in which he declared that the prevailing **borders before the 1967** Arab-Israeli war, adjusted to some degree to account for Israeli settlements in the West Bank, should be the **basis of a deal**. Israel learned in advance about what Obama was going to propose, so Israel immediately protested. Netanyahu held an angry phone conversation with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on May 19 before the speech, in which he demanded that the president's reference to 1967 borders be cut. White House officials said he did not alter anything under Israeli pressure, though the president made changes in the text that delayed his appearance by 35 minutes. On **May 20, 2011**, in a meeting with Barack Obama, **Benjamin Netanyahu** said that **Israel would not fully withdraw to the pre-1967 borders** as Obama requested.

- **Reshma Bano Qureshi**, a **Muslim girl**, when she was 17 years old, she went from Mumbai (Bombay), India (where she lives with parents) to the northern Indian city of **AllahAbad (City of Allah**. It is also a holy city for Hindus) to appear for an examination. Her sister was living in AllahAbad and had left her husband after being subjected to abuse and torture and taken her son with her, away from her husband. This made her sister's husband so angry that he planned to punish his wife by spilling acid onto her face. On **May 19, 2014 (May 6, 2014 Julian)** (**Rajab 19, 1435 Hijri**) (**Iyar 19, 5774 Jewish**), while Reshma was with her sister on the way to the exam center, her sister's husband with 2 other men attacked her sister. While her sister's husband was about to spill sulphuric acid onto her sister, Reshma jumped to defend her sister without noticing that he was carrying a bottle of acid, the acid was spilled by mistake into the face of Reshma, instead of her sister's face. The two girls were left to suffer in agony on roadside for several hours after nobody called an ambulance. When they finally managed to get somebody to call their parents, they were taken to a police station and then a hospital. This incident caused Reshma severe facial burns, disfiguring Reshma's face, particularly her left eye. Reshma **lost sight in her left eye** permanently. So, since that incident, Reshma has become an **Awar** (a person with a defective eye). Prophet Mohammad (p) said that **Dajjal is an Awar**. She is one of tens of girls in India who suffer from an acid attack annually, but her campaign to bring attention the plight of such victims of acid attacks was successful in catching the attention of the media WorldWide.

- On **May 20, 2015 (May 7, 2015 Julian)**, **David Letterman**, after 33 years, hosted his late night television talk show "Late Show with David Letterman" for the last time. **David Letterman** is the longest-serving late-night talk show host in TV history.

- On **May 19, 2015 (May 6, 2015 Julian)**, a fire that erupted a 16-story apartment building in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan, resulting in the death of at least 15 people and the injury of 63 people.

- At 02:33 Egypt Standard Time (UTC+2), on **May 19, 2016 (May 6, 2016 Julian)**, **EgyptAir Flight 804** crashed into the Mediterranean Sea. It was a scheduled international passenger flight from Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport to Cairo International Airport, operated by EgyptAir. The aircraft departed from Charles de Gaulle Airport heading to Cairo International Airport on **May 18** at 23:09 (all times refer to UTC+2, used in France and Egypt at the time). The aircraft was an **Airbus A320-232**. There were 66 people on board: 56 passengers, 7 crew, and 3 security personnel. No survivors were found.

- On **May 19, 2017 (May 6, 2017 Julian)**, the **people of Iran** are expected to vote to **elect the next President of Iran**.

- On **May 19, 2017 (May 6, 2017 Julian) (Iyar 23, 5777 Jewish)**, **Donald Trump** is scheduled to leave Washington, DC heading to **Saudi Arabia**. This is going to be his first foreign trip since becoming the president of the U.S. Trump is expected to attend three meetings in Saudi Arabia: (a) one with Salman, King of Saudi Arabia, (b) a meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council, which consists of Saudi Arabia and other Persian Gulf countries, and (c) a broader meeting with Arab and Muslim countries. During this trip, which seems to have a religious tone, after Saudi Arabia (which is associated with Islam), he is expected to visit **Israel** (which is associated with Judaism) on **May 22 – 23, 2017**. May 22, 1967 is **Iyar 26**, the **50<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the beginning of the 1967 war on **June 5, 1967 (Iyar 26, 5727 Jewish)**, the day on which Israel made a surprise attack on Egypt and destroyed most of the war planes of Egypt while they were parked in the air bases. May 23 is Iyar 27, the eve of **Iyar 28**, which is an annual holiday in Israel called **Jerusalem Day** which is the **50<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of **Israel's capture of Old City of Jerusalem** on **June 7, 1967 (Iyar 28, 5727 Jewish)**. After Israel, Trump is expected to go to the **Vatican** (which is associated with Christianity).

### 3. **May 28 – 29**

**May 28** is the **148<sup>th</sup> day** of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **217 days** remaining until the end of the year.

**May 29** is the **149<sup>th</sup> day** of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **216 days** remaining until the end of the year.

The following events happened during this period:

- After 4 years of siege, the First Crusade captured **Akka (Acre)**, for the first time, on **May 26, 1104 Julian** (June 2, 1104 Gregorian) (**Shaban 29, 497 Hijri) (Iyar 29, 4864 Jewish)**. In 1187, Salah Eddeen Al-Ayyubi liberated Akka from the Crusaders. After a long siege and confrontation with Salah Eddeen Al-Ayyubi since **August 28, 1189**, **Akka (Acre)** surrendered to the **Crusaders** of the Third Crusade on **July 12, 1191 Julian** (July 19, 1191 Gregorian) (Jumada Thania 18, 587 Hijri) (Tammuz 18, 4951 Jewish) (2156,262.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). It was one of the deadliest events of the whole period of the Crusades. **Qalawun, the Mamluk Sultan of Egypt** conquered the **Tripoli** in 1289, and in 1290, he marched on Acre, but he died in **November**

before launching the attack. He was succeeded by his son **Sultan Al-Ashraf Khalil** who started a siege of Akka (the **last capital of the remnant of the Crusaders' Kingdom**) on **April 5, 1291**. On **May 5, 1291**, some hope was revived for the Crusaders when King Henry II of Cyprus arrived with forces transported by 40 ships. Early in the morning of Friday, **May 18, 1291** (Jumada Ula 17, 690 Hijri) (Sivan 18, 5051 Jewish), Sultan **Al-Ashraf Khalil** gave his order to launch an attack on all points of Acre, **accompanied by sound of trumpets and drums** carried on 300 camels. **Acre** was captured by the Mamluks with the exception of a fortress that served as headquarters of the Templars which stood on the west side of the city seashore. Under the cover of darkness, **Thibaud Gaudin**, the new Master of the Temple, left the fortress for **Sidon** with a few followers and the fortune of the Templars. On **May 28 (or 29), 1291 Julian (June 4 (or 5), 1291 Gregorian)**, the Sultan's forces captured the remaining fortress. With the fall of Acre, the Crusaders lost their last major stronghold of the **Crusaders' Kingdom in the Middle East**. The capture of the Acre by the Mamluks marked the end of further crusades to the Levant. The **Crusaders' Kingdom** continued to exist, theoretically, on the **Island of Cyprus**, where the Crusaders schemed and planned to recapture the mainland, but in vain.

- After a 7-week siege that started on **April 6, 1453** (Rabi Awwal 26, 857 Hijri), **an Ottoman army**, under the command of the 21-year-old Sultan Mehmed II (whose is also called "Al-Fatih", meaning "the Conqueror") **conquered Constantinople** (capital of the Eastern Roman Empire), on Tuesday, **May 29, 1453 Julian (June 7, 1453 Gregorian)** (Jumada Al-Ula 20, 857 Hijri) (Sivan 21, 5213 Jewish) (2251,914.5th or 2251,915th Julian Day). Constantine XI Palaiologos (the last Byzantine Emperor) is believed to have died during the conquest, but his body was not found. At the beginning of the siege, less than 50,000 people were living in Constantinople. The invading Ottoman army consisted of about 70,000 men. Constantinople was defended by about 7,000 men, 2,000 of whom were foreigners, primarily from Venice and Genoa. Constantinople had about 20 km of walls (Theodosian Walls: 5.5 km, Sea walls along the Golden Horn: 7 km, and Sea walls along the Sea of Marmara: 7.5 km), some of the strongest fortified walls in the World at the time. The walls had recently been repaired and thus were in fairly good shape. The Ottomans were equipped with state-of-the-art siege equipment including powerful cannons to destroy walls of the city. Preparations of the Ottomans for the final assault started in the evening of **May 26, 1453**. Prayer and resting periods were granted to the Ottoman soldiers on **May 28**. On **May 28, 1453**, large-scale religious processions were held in the streets of Constantinople. In the evening of May 28, a last solemn ceremony was held in the **Hagia Sophia**, in which the Emperor Constantine XI and representatives of both the Latin and Greek churches participated. Several ominous portents were noticed before the fall of Constantinople. A total lunar eclipse (the color of the Moon was red like Blood during the eclipse) on **May 22, 1453**, representing a fulfillment of a prophecy of the city's demise, crushed the morale of defenders of Constantinople. Four days later, unusual thick fog covered Constantinople. When the fog was lifted that evening, a strange light was seen hovering around the dome of the Hagia Sophia, which some people interpreted as the Holy Spirit departing the city. Further ominous portents included an icon of the Virgin Mary that slipped from its platform as it was carried in a procession through the streets of the city. Then, a thunder-storm halted the procession. Shortly after midnight, in the early hours of **May 29, 1453**, the attack of the Ottomans started, accompanied by a deafening noise of **trumpets, drums** and war-cries. Taking booties and looting happened, but Mehmed II attempted to protect key buildings such as Churches. On **May 29, 1453**, the Ottoman forces entered **Hagia Sophia** during the morning



religious service in the church. Later, **Sultan Mehmet II** entered the **Hagia Sophia** and ordered an Imam to claim it for the Muslim faith. **Mehmet II** attended the first Friday prayer in the mosque on **June 1, 1453** (Jumada Al-Ula 23, 857 Hijri) (Sivan 24, 5213 Jewish) (2251,917.5<sup>th</sup> 2251,918<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). **Sultan Mehmet II** handed over, to the Greek Orthodox patriarch, the city's second most important church, **Church of the Holy Apostles**. During the Ottoman rule, the Greek Orthodox patriarchate survived as an institution for administering the Greek and other Orthodox Christian communities in the new multinational Ottoman empire. As a strange side-effect of the Ottoman conquest of Constantinople, the doctrinal integrity of eastern Christianity was preserved. This conquest ended the Byzantine Empire which had lasted for about one thousand years. The political capital of eastern Orthodoxy moved northwards to Russia, where patriots proclaimed that Moscow as “the third Rome” after the conquest of Constantinople, which used to be known as “the New Rome”. After the fall of Constantinople, Sultan Mehmed II changed the capital of the Ottoman Empire from **Edirne (Adrianople)** to Constantinople and declared himself Kayser-i Rum (Caesar of the Romans). On **January 5, 1454**, Gennadios (Georgios Scholarios), a staunch enemy of the West, was chosen as the Orthodox Patriarch of Constantinople by Mehmed II himself acting as Roman Emperor and in turn Gennadios recognized Mehmed II as an Emperor. Mehmed II had a blood lineage to the Byzantine Imperial family. Mehmed II was planning on conquering Rome itself when the Italian campaign was cut short by his sudden death. However, after Mehmed II death, the title “Caesar of the Romans” was not adopted by his successors. Following the fall of Constantinople, many Byzantine Greek scholars fled westward to Europe, taking with them valuable ancient manuscripts, where they helped to stimulate the Renaissance.

- On **May 28, 1588**, the Spanish Armada fleet, with 130 ships and 30,000 men, set sail from Lisbon, Portugal, heading for the English Channel. It took until **May 30** for all ships to leave port.

- **BahaAllah**, founder of the Bahai religion, died in the early hours of **May 29, 1892** (Zu Al-Qada 3, 1309 Hijri) after a 24-year confinement in the prison of the city of **Akka (Acre)** in Palestine.

- **U.S. President, John F. Kennedy** was born on **May 29, 1917** (Shaban 7, 1335 Hijri). He was assassinated on **November 22, 1963** [Rajab 6 (or 5), 1383 Hijri].

- Following the Russian Revolution and the collapse of the Russian empire, the **Transcaucasian Democratic Federative Republic** was formed in March 1918, comprising modern day **Georgia, Azerbaijan** and **Armenia**. This republic only lasted until May 26 1918 when Georgia left the republic. Armenia and Azerbaijan followed suit two days later, on May 28. The **Azerbaijani National Council** declared the independence of **Azerbaijan** and the establishment of **Azerbaijan Democratic Republic** on **May 28, 1918**. The Declaration of Independence and creation of the Azerbaijani Democratic Republic was signed on May 28, 1918 in the building of former Palace of the Governor in Tiflis, Georgia. Today, **Azerbaijan** celebrates annually the **Republic Day** on **May 28**.

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**Azerbaijan and Armenia.** This republic only lasted until May 26 1918 when Georgia left the republic. Armenia and Azerbaijan followed suit two days later, on May 28. The **Armenian National Council** declared the **independence of Armenia** on **May 28, 1918**, establishing **First Republic of Armenia** since the fall of the Armenian **Kingdom of Cilicia** in 1375. The **First Republic of Armenia** ceased to exist as an independent state, and was superseded by the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic that became part of the Soviet Union in **1922**.

- On **May 28, 1918**, in the first battle with the Germans, after nearly a year of preparation in France, **U.S. forces** in France captured Cantigny in France from the **Germans**. The **Battle of Cantigny** lasted till **May 30**, because Germans engaged in a series of counter-attacks, but the Americans managed to repel the attacks. This victory is considered a turning point in favor of the Allies in the war.

- **Henry Kissinger** was born on **May 27, 1923** in Furth Bavaria, Germany. He is a Jewish American diplomat and political scientist. He served as National Security Advisor and as Secretary of State in the administrations of Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford.

- On **May 29, 1923**, **Palestine's constitution** was suspended by Britain (which was ruling Palestine under the British Mandate) after the Arabs refused to participate in the government.

- The **May 28, 1926 *coup d'état* or *Revolution*** was a military action that put an end to the unstable Portuguese First Republic and initiated the Ditadura Nacional (National Dictatorship), later refashioned into the Estado Novo (New State), an authoritarian dictatorship that would last until the **Carnation Revolution in 1974**.

- On the night of **May 29-30, 1930 (Muharram 1 - 2, 1349 Hijri)**, as **Lucia** (one of the 3 children who witnessed the 6 apparitions in Fatima, Portugal in 1917) was praying, she received an interior locution explaining why it was necessary to have a communion of reparation on five Saturdays.

- On **May 28, 1948** (Rajab 19, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 19, 5708 Jewish**), the Provisional Government of the **State of Israel** issued an ordinance establishing the **Israel Defense Forces (IDF)**, to be comprised of land forces, a navy and an air force. This ordinance was signed by Israel's Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion.

- On **May 28, 1948** (Rajab 19, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 19, 5708 Jewish**), Czech technicians at the Ekron Airbase in Israel finished assembling four Avia S-199 planes brought from Czechoslovakia.

- **Tiferet Yisrael Synagogue** was one of the most outstanding synagogues in the Old City of **Jerusalem** in the 19th and 20th centuries. Named after Rabbi Yisroel of Ruzhin, founder of the Ruzhin Hasidic dynasty. During the 1948 Arab-Israeli War, the **Tiferet Yisrael Synagogue** was used as a post by Haganah, Jewish gang, in the defense of the Old City. During the Jordanian army's attempt to capture the Old City, it blew up the synagogue an hour after midnight on the night of **May 20-21, 1948**. It was left as ruins by the Israeli government after the re-capture of the Old City in the Six-Day War. In **2012**, the Municipality of Jerusalem announced its approval

for the plan to rebuild the synagogue. The cornerstone for the construction of **Tiferet Yisrael Synagogue** was laid on **May 29, 2014**.

- On **May 19, 1948** (Rajab 10, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 10**, 5708 Jewish), Jordanian army forces headed by AbdAllah Al-Tal marched to Jerusalem and took up positions in Zion Gate, closing access to Jewish Quarter. The Jordanian forces captured the Police Station in Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood, as Jewish gang fighters fled without a fight. Then, the Jordanian forces proceeded towards Mandelbaum House area, but was repulsed after heavy battle with Jewish fighters. Its actual objective was Damascus Gate in the wall of the Old City. On **May 28, 1948** (Rajab 19, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5708 Jewish), the **Jewish Quarter** of the old city of **Jerusalem was captured by the Jordanian forces**. The civilian, non-combatant, Jewish inhabitants were protected from the wrath of angry Arabs by the Jordanian forces of **King AbdAllah**, and were expelled to West Jerusalem which was under control of the Jews. About 300 fighters of the Haganah (Jewish terrorist group) were taken prisoners. After the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem was captured, the destruction, desecration and looting of Jewish sites began. About 57 ancient synagogues (**Hurva Synagogue**, the oldest dated to the 13th century), libraries and centers of religious study were ransacked and 12 were totally destroyed. On the Mount of Olives, Arabs removed 38,000 tombstones from the ancient Jewish cemetery and used them as paving stones for roads. The Old City of Jerusalem remained under the control of Jordan till it was captured by Israeli forces on **June 7, 1967** (Safar 28, 1387 Hijri) (**Iyar 28**, 5727 Jewish) in the 6-day war between Israel and the Arabs.

- The **Hurva Synagogue**, (in Hebrew, it is called Beit ha-Knesset ha-Hurva, literally means "The Ruin Synagogue") (In Arabic, it is called Khirba, meaning "Ruin"), also known as Hurvat Rabbi Yehudah he-Hasid ("Ruin of Rabbi Judah, the Pious"), is a historic synagogue located in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem. In the **winter of 1700**, a group of around 500 Ashkenazi Jews led by **Yehudah (Judah) heHasid** arrived from Europe. They were mystics who were intent on **advancing the arrival of the Messianic Era** by settling in Jerusalem and leading ascetic lives. **A few days after their arrival** in the city, **he-Hasid died**. They became without a leader. So, their **messianic hopes** dissipated and the community began to disintegrate. Those who remained managed to build forty dwellings and a **small synagogue** in the Ashkenazic Compound. Soon after, they endeavored to construct a **larger synagogue**, but the task proved expensive. So, they borrowed money, as loans, from local Arabs, eventually falling into severe debt. In **late 1720**, with the debts still outstanding, the Arab lenders lost patience and **set the synagogue and its contents on fire**. The leaders of the community were imprisoned and shortly after, **all the Ashkenazim were banished** from the city. The **synagogue was left desolate**, in a pile of rubble, so it thus became known as the "Hurva (Ruin) of Rabbi Judah heHasid". Between 1808 and 1812, another group of Jews, known as Perushim, immigrated to Palestine from Lithuania. They were disciples of the **Vilna Gaon** and had settled in the city of Safed. In late 1815, leader of the Safed Perushim, Rabbi Menachem Mendel of Shklov, arrived to Jerusalem with a group of followers. They directed their main efforts to rebuilding the Hurva Synagogue, which had symbolized the expulsion of the Ashkenazi Jews from Jerusalem. The **rebuilding of Hurva Synagogue** would represent the first step of **rebuilding Jerusalem** that the Bible mentions as a pre-requisite for the **arrival of the Messiah**. After a very lengthy series of diplomatic efforts by the Jews and Europeans, the Ottoman Sultan, Abdul-Majid I, granted a permit for the rebuilding of the Hurva. The groundbreaking of the **synagogue** ceremony took

place on the **last day of Hanukkah of 1855**. On **April 22, 1856 (Shaban 17, 1272 Hijri) (Nisan 17, 5616 Jewish)**, the cornerstone was laid in the presence of Chief Rabbi of Jerusalem, Shmuel Salant. In **1864**, the new **synagogue was dedicated**. Among the prominent figures who attended the dedication ceremony was Baron Alphonse James de **Rothschild**, who 8 years earlier had been given the honor of laying the first stone. The building was officially named Beit Yaakov – "House of Jacob". **The new Hurva Synagogue** was designed by the Ottoman Sultan's official architect who had come to Jerusalem to restore the Islamic shrines in the Aqsa Mosque compound. **Hurva Synagogue** had a neo-Byzantine design, similar to Constantinople's Hagia (Aya) Sophia cathedral/mosque, featuring 14-meter-high window arches and a huge dome which spanned the entire prayer space. The height of Hurva Synagogue, to the top of the dome, was 24 meters, making it one of the tallest structures in the walled Old City of Jerusalem. A balcony around the dome gave visitors an outstanding view over the city. The interior was decorated with ritual objects donated by different Jewish communities in Europe, and the Holy Ark, which could store up to 50 Torah scrolls, had come from the Nikolaijewsky Synagogue in Kherson, Russia. From 1864 onwards till 1948, the Hurva Synagogue was considered the most beautiful and most important synagogue in Palestine. It also housed part of the Etz Chaim Yeshiva, the largest yeshiva (Jewish religious school or college) in Jerusalem. It was a focal point of Jewish spiritual life in the city. It became Jerusalem's main Ashkenazic synagogue and the site of the installation ceremonies of the Ashkenazic chief rabbis in Palestine. In 1948, about 100,000 Jews lived in Jerusalem: 2,000 in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem and 98,000 in the western neighborhoods of Jerusalem. The Jewish presence in the Old City declined from a peak of 19,000 in the 1880, as people moved to the newer Western neighborhoods outside the walls of the Old City. Eight hours before the **end of the British Mandate of Palestine**, which was due to finish at **midnight of May 14 -15, 1948**, **David Ben-Gurion**, Executive Head of the World Zionist Organization who later became the first Prime Minister of Israel, announced unilateral establishment of the **State of Israel** on the land of Palestine at **4:00 p.m.** (Time in Palestine) just before the start of the Jewish Sabbath, on **Friday, May 14, 1948** Gregorian (May 1, 1948 Julian) (Rajab 5, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 5**, 5708 on Jewish Calendar) (2432,685.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). The attack by Palestinian irregular fighters on the **Jewish Quarter** of Jerusalem began on **May 16, 1948**. By the following day, **May 17**, the Palestinian fighters had captured a third of the Jewish Quarter. On **May 19, 1948** (Rajab 10, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 10**, 5708 Jewish), Jordanian army forces led by Major AbdAllah Al-Tal started entering the Old City of Jerusalem and took up positions around Zion Gate, closing access to Jewish Quarter. The Jordanian forces captured the Police Station in Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood, as Jewish gang fighters fled without a fight. As days went by, the area under Jewish control was constantly shrinking. On **May 25, 1948**, during the battle for the Old City, Major AbdAllah Al-Tal, wrote to Otto Lehner of the International Red Cross to warn that unless the Jewish terrorist group, Haganah, abandoned its positions in Hurva Synagogue and its adjoining courtyard, he would be forced to attack it. Commander of the Haganah in the Old City ignored the warning, knowing that if the Hurva fell, the battle for the Jewish Quarter would soon be lost. On **May 26, 1948**, the Jordanian forces delivered an ultimatum to the Jews to surrender within 12 hours, otherwise Hurva Synagogue would be blown up. On **May 27, 1948**, Al-Tal, after receiving no answer to his proposal, told his men to "Get the Hurva Synagogue by Noon." The Jordanian army placed a 200-litre barrel filled with explosives against Hurva synagogue's wall. The explosion resulted in a gaping hole. Jewish Haganah fighters spent 45 minutes fighting in vain to prevent the Jordanian troops from entering. When the Jordanian troops finally burst through, they tried to reach the top of its dome to plant an Arab flag. Three of

the Jordanian troops were shot by snipers, but the fourth succeeded. The Arab flag flying over Hurva Synagogue signaled the triumph of the Jordanian army. In the evening on **May 27, 1948**, **Hurva Synagogue**, including the Etz Chaim Yeshiva attached to it, was blown up and completely rendered into rubble. The demolition of Hurva Synagogue was timed to coincide with Jordan's **King Abdullah's visit to the Old City of Jerusalem** on **May 27** during which he visited Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, where he prayed for the welfare of his army. He also visited the Tomb of Christ in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher (Tomb), which is also called Church of the Qiyama (Resurrection), knelt inside and offered a prayer. On **Friday, May 28, 1948** (Rajab 19, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5708 Jewish), after the rabbis of the Jewish Quarter negotiated a surrender agreement with King Abdullah of Jordan, the Jewish fighters finally surrendered **in the afternoon** and the Jordanian army liberated the Old City of Jerusalem. After the surrender agreement had been signed, the **evacuation and departure (exodus) of the Jews**, combatants and civilians, from the Old City of Jerusalem began and lasted till 2 a.m. on **Sunday, May 30, 1948**. One by one Jews came out of their cellars to be rushed off quickly. The wounded people were sent to hospitals. The women, children and old men were handed over to the Red Cross, and the fighters were taken as Prisoners-of-War (P.O.W). Jewish POW were assembled before being led away to captivity, marching through the narrow alleys of the Old City. In his memoirs, Jordanian Major AbdAllah Al-Tal reported that he took measures to prevent Arab civilians seeking revenge from attacking the Jewish Quarter. He expressed pride in how his troops followed his orders and acted "according to the legacy of Arab tolerance". He proudly reported that the Jews were astonished by the conduct of the Jordanian troops who handed over water and cigarettes to the women, children, and elderly. The photos taken by journalists clearly show the success of Al-Tal's effort to secure an undisturbed and peaceful evacuation of all Jews from the Old City. The photos of Jewish refugees document old Jewish men, women, and many children, ultra-orthodox Ashkenazim and Sephardim walking to the assembly place and then to Zion Gate, the exit point from the Old City. A day after the surrender, a Jewish Agency spokesman commended the Jordanian troops who "conducted themselves admirably". However, in defiance of the curfew imposed by the Jordanian Army, some Arab civilians raided the abandoned buildings in the Jewish Quarter, looting and setting fire to them on their way. A Jewish source claims that soon after the Jordanian army captured the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem, 57 synagogues, libraries and centers of religious study were ransacked and 12 were totally and deliberately destroyed. Those that remained standing were **defaced**, used for housing of people or animals. Jordan's victory by gaining control of Old City of Jerusalem is arguably Israel's worst and most humiliating defeat during the War of Independence. In his memoirs, Major AbdAllah Al-Tal explained the ramifications of the victory: "Al Quds (Jerusalem) was purged of Jews and for the first time in 1000 years, no Jew remained there." After Israel captured the Old City of Jerusalem from Jordan during the Six-Day War on June 7, 1967 (Safar 28, 1387 Hijri) (**Iyar 28**, 5727 Jewish), a number of plans were submitted for re-building Hurva Synagogue. After years of deliberation and indecision, a **commemorative Arch** (reaching to the height of the last destroyed Hurva Synagogue) was erected instead in 1977 at the location of the ruined Hurva Synagogue. The Ark itself became a prominent landmark in the Jewish Quarter. The plan to rebuild Hurva Synagogue, as an exact replica of the last destroyed one, received approval by the Israeli Government in year 2000. After the construction of the new Hurva synagogue finished, it was dedicated on **March 15** and **March 16, 2010**. **March 16, 2010** (Rabi Thani 1, 1431 Hijri) (**Nisan 1**, 5770 Jewish) was Rosh Chodesh (Head of the Month) of Nisan, meaning the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the month of Nisan. **Nisan 1** is the first day of the **Jewish religious**

**year. Nisan 1** is historically significant because it is the **day on which the construction** of the **Biblical Wilderness Tabernacle** was completed. For the Jews, construction of Hurva Synagogue symbolized end of exile and return of the Jews to the historical Land of Israel in preparation for the coming of the Messiah of the End Times. On **March 20, 2010**, Sabbath services were held in Hurva Synagogue for the first time since 1948.

- In the afternoon on **May 29, 1948** (Rajab 20, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 20**, 5708 Jewish), an Egyptian army column, including tanks, armored fighting vehicles and artillery was spotted, by the Israeli army, moving northwards up the coastal road, possibly headed towards Tel Aviv. Israel used aircrafts, recently imported from Czechoslovakia and assembled on the previous day, **May 28**, to stop the Egyptian army's advance. The Egyptian army's advance was stopped by **June 3, 1948**.

- The U.N. declared the first truce in the war between the Arabs and Jews on **May 29, 1948** (Rajab 20, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 20**, 5708 Jewish), which began on **June 11, 1948** and lasted till **July 8, 1948** (Ramadan 1, 1367 Hijri).

- The 1964 **Arab League summit** held in Cairo, Egypt, on **January 13–16, 1964** discussed the Palestinian cause and decided to **establish an organizational body** that will organize and unite the Palestinian people to liberate their homeland and enable self-determination. **Ahmad Al-Shuqairi**, a Palestinian lawyer from Haifa, a diplomat and a former assistant secretary-general of the Arab League from 1950 till 1956, was given a mandate to initiate contacts with member states and Palestinian people aimed at establishing this Palestinian organization. The first **Palestinian National Council** (P.N.C.) was convened **from May 28, 1964** (**Muharram 16**, 1384 Hijri) **till June 2, 1964**, at the Intercontinental Hotel in the **Old City of Jerusalem** which was ruled by Jordan, in the presence of **King Hussein of Jordan**, and participation of foreign affairs ministries of the Arab World, except for Saudi Arabia. The Council adopted **Palestinian National Charter**, along with the Fundamental Law of the **Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO)** regarding its structure and procedures. The **P.N.C.** elected **Ahmad Al-Shuqairi** as the first chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. **Al-Shuqairi's vision** of the PLO's creation was based on representing all the Palestinian parties, organizations and factions in one revolutionary umbrella organization, therefore all the political, military, informative and financial energies will be united to best serve the Palestinian people. **Palestine Liberation Army** was formed. The **Executive Committee** of the P.L.O. held its first meeting in **Jerusalem** on **August 25, 1964**. **Palestine** was admitted into the **Arab League**, represented by the **PLO**. Today, **State of Palestine** is a full member of the Arab League. In December 1967, **Ahmad Al-Shuqairi** resigned his position as PLO Chairman. **Yahya Hammuda** was elected as chairman. When the Palestinian National Council (PNC) convened in Cairo on February 3, 1969, **Yahya Hammuda** stepped down from his chairmanship of the PLO. **Yasir Arafat** was elected chairman of the Executive Committee of the P.L.O on **February 4, 1969** and held this position till his death.

- **Pope John Paul II's** visited Britain from **May 28, 1982** to **June 2, 1982**.

- **Bashar Asad** was born on **September 11, 1965**. Based on result of a nationwide referendum held on **July 10, 2000** (**Tammuz 7**, 5760 Jewish) (2451,735.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), Bashar Asad was elected as President of Syria. He was officially sworn as **President of Syria** in a ceremony on

**July 17, 2000** (Rabi Thani 14, 1421 Hijri) (**Tammuz 14**, 5760 Jewish) (2451,742.5 Julian Day). According to Syria 's Constitution, the president's term of office is seven years. On **May 29, 2007** (Jumada Ula 12, 1428 Hijri) (2454,**249.5<sup>th</sup>** Julian Day), based on result of a nationwide referendum, Bashar Assad was re-elected as President of Syria.

- On **May 29, 2016** (**Shaban 20**, 1437 Hijri) (**Iyar 21**, 5776 Jewish), in the municipal and mayoral elections in **Tripoli, Lebanon**, the list of candidates backed by **Ashraf Rifi** won, unexpectedly, the majority of the seats in the municipal council of Tripoli. This list was competing against the list backed most of the other influential politicians in the city.

#### 4. **May 31**

**May 31** is the **151<sup>st</sup>** day of the year in the Gregorian calendar. There are **214 days** remaining until the end of the year.

The following events happened on this day:

- On **May 31, 1279 BC**, Ramesses II (The Great) (19th dynasty) became pharaoh of Ancient Egypt.
- On **May 31, 70 AD**, the Romans captured the outer wall of the city of Jerusalem
- The **Sack of Rome** which started on **June 2, 455 Julian** (**June 3, 455 Gregorian**) lasted for **14 days**. It was conducted by the Vandals (Germanic tribes) coming in a fleet from Carthage (in today's Tunis). After Western Roman Emperor **Petronius Maximus** at that time started his reign on **March 17, 455**, he married Licinia Eudoxia, the widow of the previous Emperor Valentinian III, and later infuriated the King of Vandals **Genserik** when he cancelled the betrothal of Licinia's daughter to the son of the **Genserik**. The Vandals' fleet landed in Italy on **May 31, 455**. As Maximus was attempting to flee from Rome on **May 31, 455**, he was captured and stoned to death by an angry group of people. At that time, **Rome** was no longer the capital of the Western Roman Empire, having been replaced in that position by **Ravenna** (near Venice) in **402 AD**. The Vandal tribes had moved through Gaul, settled for a time in Iberia, and were finally forced to move to the Roman province of North Africa in 430 AD. In addition, the Vandals allied themselves with the indigenous **Berber tribes** which had opposed the Roman occupation of North Africa for 500 years. **Pope Leo** begged **King Genserik of the Vandals** not to destroy the Rome or to murder its people and King Genserik agreed. All of Rome's gates were opened, and an army of 10,000 to 20,000 Vandals and Berbers was allowed to enter and take away what they wanted. Gold, silver, jewels, statuary, and anything perceived as valuable were taken. The Vandals even stripped the **Temple of Jupiter Capitolinus** (the greatest temple in the Roman World) of its treasures. Every church in the city was emptied of its treasures. In an interesting twist to history, the Vandals took back to North Africa the loot of **Jerusalem** and the **Second Jewish Temple** that had been taken by **Emperor Titus** to Rome in the year 70 AD when the Second Jewish Temple was destroyed by the Romans.

- On **May 31, 1665**, **Sabbatai Zevi** proclaimed himself **Jewish Messiah**.
- On Tuesday, **May 31, 1859** (Shawwal 27, 1275 Hijri) (Iyar 27, 5619 Jewish) (240,0195.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Big Ben Clock**, in London, England, started operating and keeping time. The clock is perched on a 96-meter (315-foot) elegant tower called the **Clock Tower**, overlooking **River Thames**, adjacent to **Westminster Bridge**, at the northern end of the **Palace of Westminster** (the meeting place of the House of Commons and the House of Lords, the two houses of the Parliament of the U. K.) in **Westminster**, in central **London**. The **Clock Tower** also houses **Big Ben Bell** (also called the Great Bell) and **4 smaller Quarter bells** which chime every quarter of an hour (meaning 15 minutes). **Big Ben Bell** first rang across **London** for the first time on **May 31, 1859**. The **Clock Tower** is one of the most distinctive architectural symbols of London.

## 5. June 1

**June 1** is the **152<sup>nd</sup> day** of the year in the Gregorian calendar. There are **213 days** remaining until the end of the year.

**June 1** in Gregorian Calendar is **May 19** in Julian Calendar.

The following events happened on this day:

- On **June 1, 1657**, the first Quakers arrived to **New Amsterdam** (New York)
- On **June 1, 1796**, last of British troops withdrew from U.S.
- On **June 1, 1812**, during War of 1812, **U.S. President James Madison** asked the Congress to **declare war on the United Kingdom**.
- On **June 1, 1889**, Europe's **Orient Express** completed arrangements for **travel between Paris and Constantinople**.
- On **June 1, 1926**, American actress, **Marilyn Monroe** was born.
- On the night of **May 31 - June 1, 1962**, at midnight, **Adolf Eichmann** was hanged in **Israel**.
- In 1929, **Moshe Dayan** joined the **Haganah**, a powerful underground Jewish militia in Palestine. He became involved in launching raids against the British rule of Palestine and against Arab Palestinians. In 1939, he was captured and imprisoned in Acre (Akka), Palestine, but he was **released in 1941**, with an offer to join the British forces in Palestine, as a Haganah scout, in fighting the pro-Nazi Vichy French ruling Lebanon. On **June 1, 1941** Gregorian (**May 19, 1941** Julian) (**Jumada Ula 6, 1360 Hijri**), he was called by his immediate superior in Haganah and he was ordered to join a Haganah unit slated to operate in support of the **Australian 7<sup>th</sup> Division** of the British forces, as an Officer of the unit, leading a group of 30 fighters who were to operate in



the area of Bint-Jbeil in Southern Lebanon. On **June 7, 1941**, Dayan's unit crossed the Palestine-Lebanon border and secured two bridges over the Litani River in Southern Lebanon. When Dayan's unit was not relieved as expected, at 4:00 AM on **June 8, 1941 (Jumada Ula 13, 1360 Hijri)**, the unit perceived that it was exposed to possible attack and, on its own initiative, attacked a nearby Vichy French police station and was able to capture it. A few hours later, while he was on the roof of the building of the Police Station using **binoculars** to scan Vichy French positions on the other side of the Litani River, his binoculars was struck by a bullet fired by a French sniper, propelling metal and glass fragments into his **left eye**. Six hours passed before he could be evacuated. Not only Moshe Dayan lost the eye, but in addition, the damage to the extra-ocular muscles was so severe to the extent that Dayan could not even be fitted with a glass eye. So, he was compelled to wear the black eye-patch for the rest of his life and that this eye-patch on became his distinguished feature. So, he was an **Awar** (a person who has a defective eye) like the **Dajjal**, as described by **Prophet Mohammad (p)**. Dayan wrote in his autobiography that he was *"ready to make any effort and stand any suffering, if only I could get rid of my black eye patch. The attention it drew was intolerable to me. I preferred to shut myself up at home, doing anything, rather than encounter the reactions of people wherever I went."* De Gaulle's Free France troops and British troops liberated Syria from Vichy France on **June 14, 1941**. When Arab armies marched into Palestine in 1948, Moshe Dayan fought the Syrians in Galilee, led a commando battalion on raids against Lod and Ramallah, and **commanded the Jerusalem front**. In his capacity as **Commander of the Jerusalem front**, Moshe Dayan met **King Abdullah of Jordan** a number of times and engaged in informal negotiations with him. He was involved in reaching the informal agreement concerning the border of "no man's land" of Jerusalem which became operative on December 1, 1948. Dayan became **Chief of Staff of the Israeli Armed Forces** in **1953** and in this position, he drew up and executed the plan for the Sinai invasion in **1956**. On **June 1, 1967** Gregorian (**May 19, 1967** Julian) (**Safar 22, 1387 Hijri**) (Iyar 22, 5727 Jewish), when war with Israel's Arab neighbors was imminent, **Moshe Dayan** was appointed **Minister of Defense of Israel**. He personally oversaw Israel's **capture of East Jerusalem** on **June 7, 1967**. On **June 8, 1967**, Dayan bypassed both the Prime Minister and the Chief of Staff, ordering the Israeli army to attack and capture the **Golan Heights in Syria**. On Saturday **June 17, 1967** (Rabi Awwal 9, 1387 Hijri), shortly after the end of the Six Day War, Defense minister **Moshe Dayan** entered the Al-Aqsa Mosque for a historic meeting. In a gesture of good will, Dayan sat down on the prayer carpet with five leaders of the Supreme Muslim Council (the Waqf) of what had been Jordanian-controlled Jerusalem. That discussion fixed Israel's policy regarding the Temple Mount, a policy that remains unchanged to this day. The administrative control over the Temple Mount was to be the sole responsibility of the Supreme Muslim Council - the (Jordanian) Waqf. For the next six years following Israel's victory in 1967 war and until the 1973 war, Moshe Dayan was like a **king of Israel**, like no man before him and no man after him. Together with Israel's next Prime Minister, **Golda Meir**, he led a firm state policy, which opposed receding any territories, approved the first Jewish settlements and delayed peace efforts. Israeli Military historian Yossi Argaman said about Moshe Dayan: *"In all the years of Israel's history, there has not existed a military hero or dominant figure like him. Moshe Dayan symbolized the national and military rebirth and the revitalization of Jewish strength, the myth of the Jewish fighter. He climbed so high, that he became a kind of god."* However, after being criticized for the Israeli's army unreadiness for the **Yom Kipper War** of October 6 - 24, 1973, Moshe Dayan **resigned as Minister of Defense** on **June 3, 1974**. From 1977 to 1979, he **served**

**as the Foreign Minister** of Israel and in that capacity, he helped negotiate the final peace treaty between Israel and Egypt.

- The Rashid Ali Al-Gaylani 1941 coup in Iraq, was a nationalist and pro-Nazi Coup d'état in Iraq that happened on **April 1, 1941**. The coup overthrew the pro-British regime of Regent Abd Al-Ilah and his Prime Minister Nuri al-Said and installed Rashid Ali Al-Gaylani as Prime Minister. Leader of the failed Arab revolt in Palestine, Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, Haj Amin al-Husseini, was living in Iraq after fleeing from Palestine. He was one of the orchestrators of Rashid Ali's coup d'état. On **April 18, 1941**, **Britain** reacted by invading **Iraq**. On **May 29, 1941**, fearing a British onslaught on Baghdad, **Gaylani** fled from Baghdad to the Kingdom of Iran. On **May 31, 1941**, an armistice between the British and the Iraqis was signed. On **June 1, 1948**, the Regent **Abd al-Ilah** returned to Baghdad. Immediately afterwards, a violent pogrom against Jews took place in Baghdad by the hands of former Gaylani supporters. **Farhud** refers to the **pogrom** or "violent dispossession" carried out against the Jewish population of Baghdad, Iraq, on **June 1 – 2, 1941**. The riots occurred in a power vacuum following the collapse of the pro-Nazi government of Rashid Ali, while the city was in a state of instability. Allegations were raised that Iraqi Jews had aided the British. Over 180 Jews in Baghdad were killed and 1,000 injured. Looting of Jewish property took place and 900 Jewish homes were destroyed.

- On **June 1, 1987**, Lebanon's Prime Minister **Rashid Karami**, who held the office of Prime Minister of Lebanon 10 times, was assassinated.

- On **June 1, 1991**, **Warsaw Pact** was officially **dissolved**.

## 6. June 5 - 8

**June 5** is the **156<sup>th</sup>** day of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **209 days** remaining until the end of the year.

**June 6** is the **157<sup>th</sup>** day of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **208 days** remaining until the end of the year.

**June 7** is the **158<sup>th</sup>** day of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **207 days** remaining until the end of the year.

The following events happened during this period:

- The **U.N.** has designated **June 6** as **Russian Language Day** to be celebrated annually.

- **June 7** is the first day of an annual feast called **Vestalia** for a pagan goddess called **Vesta**. The feast used to last from **June 7** to **June 15**. **Vesta** is the **virgin goddess** of the hearth (brick or stone fireplace), home, and family in pagan Roman religion. Vesta's presence is symbolized by the sacred fire that burned at her hearth and temples that used to be guarded by **priestesses**,

called **Vestales or Vestal virgins**, who were required to observe chastity for 30 years.

- **Prophet Mohammad (p)** died on **June 7 (or 6), 632 AD (Rabi Awwal 12, 11 Hijri)**.

- As the **first Crusade** was approaching Jerusalem, an eclipse of the moon on **June 5, 1099** was regarded by the Crusaders as a favorable sign from God. The Crusade reached Jerusalem, the main destination of their **pilgrimage journey**, in the morning, on **Tuesday, June 7, 1099** Julian (Rajab 15, 492 Hijri) (Sivan 15, 4859 Jewish). Faced with a seemingly impossible task, the low morale of the Crusaders was raised when a priest, by the name of **Peter Desiderius**, claimed to have had a divine vision instructing them to fast and then march in a barefoot procession around the city walls, after which the city would fall in nine days, following the Biblical example of Joshua at the siege of Jericho. After fasting for 3 days, on Friday, **July 8, 1099**, the Crusaders performed the procession, sounding trumpets and chanting as instructed by Desiderius, ending on the Mount of Olives where Peter the Hermit preached to them, while the city's Muslim defenders mocked them. More practical help for the Crusaders had already arrived in the form of six ships that anchored at Jaffa, which had been abandoned by the Muslims. The ships were carrying food, armaments, and supplies needed to build siege engines. Using their newly acquired supplies, the Crusaders, with the aid of Genoese engineers, began building **two huge siege towers**, catapults and a battering ram. On **July 10, 1099 (Shaban 18, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 18, 4859 Jewish)**, the two siege towers built by the Crusaders were completed and wheeled into position. For the first time, the Muslim ruler of Jerusalem became concerned, issuing strict orders that he be notified if either tower moved closer to the city. The Crusaders started their assault on Jerusalem on the night of **July 13, 1099** Julian (**July 19, 1099** Gregorian) at night. The Crusaders fought all day on **July 14, 1099** Julian (July 20, 1099 Gregorian) (**Shaban 22, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 22, 4859 Jewish)** (2122,661.5<sup>th</sup> or 2122,662<sup>nd</sup> Julian Day) without establishing a foothold. The Crusaders (about 1300 knights and 12,000 soldiers) breached the walls of Jerusalem and conquered Jerusalem on **Friday, July 15, 1099 AD** Julian (July 21, 1099 Gregorian) (**Shaban 23, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 4859 Jewish)** (2122,662.5<sup>th</sup> or 2122,663<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). The next day, on **July 16, 1099** Julian (**July 22, 1099** Gregorian), the Crusaders forced Jews of Jerusalem to gather in the main synagogue and then, the Crusaders set this synagogue on fire. Most of the **inhabitants of Jerusalem (mostly Muslims) were slaughtered** by the Crusaders within **July 15 - 16**. On **July 22, 1099 (Ramadan 1, 492 Hijri) (Av 1, 4859 Jewish)**, a council was held in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and **Godfrey de Bouillon** (descendant of Charlemagne) was chosen as ruler of Kingdom of Jerusalem, but he refused the title of "King", instead he adopted the title "Advocate of the Holy Sepulchre". **Pope Urban II** died on **July 29, 1099**, without knowing that Jerusalem was conquered.

- On **Friday, May 18, 1291** (Jumada Ula 17, 690 Hijri) (Sivan 18, 5051 Jewish), **Mamluk Sultan of Egypt Al-Ashraf Khalil** conquered Acre (Akka) the **capital of the remnant of the Kingdom of Jerusalem** after a siege that started from **April 5, 1291**. His father, **Sultan Qalawun**, conquered the **Tripoli** in 1289, and in 1290 marched on Acre, but he died in **November** before launching the attack. He was succeeded by his son **Al-Ashraf Khalil** who decided to continue the attack. **Early in the morning** of May 18, 1291, the Sultan gave his order to launch an all-out attack on all points. After being in the hands of the Franks of the Third Crusade for the last time since **July 11, 1191 Julian** (July 18, 1191 Gregorian) (2156,261.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day) after a long siege and confrontation with Salah Eddeen Al-Ayyubi, by sunset on

May 18, 1291, Acre, Al-Ashraf Khalil's army re-captured Acre, with the exception of a fortress that served as headquarters of the Templars which stood on the west side of the city seashore. Under the cover of darkness, **Thibaud Gaudin**, the new Master of the Temple, left the fortress for **Sidon** with a few followers and the fortune of the Templars. On **May 28 (or 29), 1291 Julian (June 4 (or 5), 1291** Gregorian), the Sultan's forces captured the remaining fortress. With the fall of Acre, the Crusaders lost their last major stronghold of the **Crusaders' Kingdom in the Middle East**. The capture of the Acre by the Mamluks marked the end of further crusades to the Levant. The **Crusaders' Kingdom** continued to exist, theoretically, on the **Island of Cyprus**, where the Crusaders schemed and planned to recapture the mainland, but in vain.

- After a 7-week siege that started on **April 6, 1453** (Rabi Awwal 26, 857 Hijri), an Ottoman army, under the command of the 21-year-old Sultan Mehmed II (whose is also called "Al-Fatih", meaning "the Conqueror" ) conquered Constantinople (the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire), on Tuesday, **May 29, 1453 Julian (June 7, 1453** Gregorian) (Jumada Al-Ula 20, 857 Hijri) (Sivan 21, 5213 Jewish) (2251,914.5<sup>th</sup> 2251,915<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). Constantine XI Palaiologos (the last Byzantine Emperor) is believed to have died during the conquest, but his body was not found. At the beginning of the siege, less than 50,000 people were living in Constantinople. The invading Ottoman army consisted of about 70,000 men. Constantinople was defended by about 7,000 men, 2,000 of whom were foreigners, primarily from Venice and Genoa. Constantinople had about 20 km of walls (Theodosian Walls: 5.5 km, Sea walls along the Golden Horn: 7 km, and Sea walls along the Sea of Marmara: 7.5 km), some of the strongest fortified walls in the World at the time. The walls had recently been repaired and thus were in fairly good shape. The Ottomans were equipped with state-of-the-art siege equipment including powerful cannons to destroy walls of the city. Preparations of the Ottomans for the final assault started in the evening of **May 26, 1453**. Prayer and resting periods were granted to the Ottoman soldiers on **May 28**. On **May 28, 1453**, large-scale religious processions were held in the streets of Constantinople. In the evening of May 28, a last solemn ceremony was held in the **Hagia Sophia**, in which the Emperor Constantine XI and representatives of both the Latin and Greek churches participated. Several ominous portents were noticed before the fall of Constantinople. A total lunar eclipse (the color of the Moon was red like Blood during the eclipse) on **May 22, 1453**, representing a fulfillment of a prophecy of the city's demise, crushed the morale of defenders of Constantinople. Four days later, unusual thick fog covered Constantinople. When the fog was lifted that evening, a strange light was seen hovering around the dome of the Hagia Sophia, which some people interpreted as the Holy Spirit departing the city. Further ominous portents included an icon of the Virgin Mary that slipped from its platform as it was carried in a procession through the streets of the city. Then, a thunder-storm halted the procession. Shortly after midnight, in the early hours of **May 29, 1453**, the attack of the Ottomans started, accompanied by a deafening noise of **trumpets, drums** and war-cries. Taking booties and looting happened, but Mehmed II attempted to protect key buildings such as Churches. On **May 29, 1453**, the Ottoman forces entered **Hagia Sophia** during the morning religious service in the church. Later, **Sultan Mehmet II** entered the **Hagia Sophia** and ordered an Imam to claim it for the Muslim faith. **Mehmet II** attended the first Friday prayer in the mosque on **June 1, 1453** (Jumada Al-Ula 23, 857 Hijri) (Sivan 24, 5213 Jewish) (2251,917.5<sup>th</sup> 2251,918<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). **Sultan Mehmet II** handed over, to the Greek Orthodox patriarch, the city's second most important church, **Church of the Holy Apostles**. During the Ottoman rule, the Greek Orthodox patriarchate survived as an institution for administering the Greek and other Orthodox Christian

communities in the new multinational Ottoman empire. As a strange side-effect of the Ottoman conquest of Constantinople, the doctrinal integrity of eastern Christianity was preserved. This conquest ended the Byzantine Empire which had lasted for about one thousand years. The political capital of eastern Orthodoxy moved northwards to Russia, where patriots proclaimed that Moscow as “the third Rome” after the conquest of Constantinople, which used to be known as “the New Rome”. After the fall of Constantinople, Sultan Mehmed II changed the capital of the Ottoman Empire from **Edirne (Adrianople)** to Constantinople and declared himself Kayser-i Rum (Caesar of the Romans). On **January 5, 1454**, Gennadios (Georgios Scholarios), a staunch enemy of the West, was chosen as the Orthodox Patriarch of Constantinople by Mehmed II himself acting as Roman Emperor and in turn Gennadios recognized Mehmed II as an Emperor. Mehmed II had a blood lineage to the Byzantine Imperial family. Mehmed II was planning on conquering Rome itself when the Italian campaign was cut short by his sudden death. However, after Mehmed II death, the title “Caesar of the Romans” was not adopted by his successors. Following the fall of Constantinople, many Byzantine Greek scholars fled westward to Europe, taking with them valuable ancient manuscripts, where they helped to stimulate the Renaissance.

- On **June 7, 1494**, **Treaty of Tordesillas** was signed in Tordesillas, Spain. It was an agreement between Spain and Portugal aimed at settling conflicts over dividing the lands newly discovered or explored by Christopher Columbus and other late 15th-century voyagers.

- On **June 6, 1752**, a **third great fire** in 2 weeks in **Moscow, Russia**, left 1/3 of the city destroyed.

- On **June 8, 1794**, following the French Revolution, the **Feast of the Supreme Being** was celebrated in **Notre Dame**.

- On **June 6, 1795**, a **major fire destroyed 1/3 of Copenhagen**, Denmark, 18,000 people were injured.

- On **May 17, 1809** (Rabi Thani 2, 1224 Hijri) (Sivan 2, 5569 Jewish) (2381,919.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Napoleon annexed the Italian Papal States** to the French Empire. On **June 10, 1809**, **Pope Pius VII** made public a bull of excommunication of those involved in the annexation, including Napoleon. Around 3:00 AM on Thursday, **July 6, 1809** (Jumada Ula 22, 1224 Hijri) (**Tammuz 22**, 5569 Jewish) (2381,969.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Pope Pius VII was arrested** and remained imprisoned. After Napoleon's army was defeated in the **Battle of Paris** on **March 31, 1814** and Napoleon abdicated on **April 11, 1814**, **Pope Pius VII** returned to Rome in **May 24, 1814** (Jumada Thania 5, 1229 Hijri). **Pope Pius VII** left Rome to Genoa during the “**100 Days**” when Napoleon escaped from Elba. **Pope Pius VII** returned finally to Rome on **June 7, 1815** (Jumada Thania 28, 1230 Hijri) (**Iyar 28**, 5575 Jewish). Napoleon was defeated in the **Battle of Waterloo** on **June 18, 1815** (Rajab 10, 1230 Hijri) (Sivan 10, 5575 Jewish). Napoleon abdicated, in favor of his son Napoleon II, 4 days later on **June 22, 1815**. In the meantime, the Provisional Government deposed his son and tried to negotiate a conditional surrender with the Coalition powers. They failed to obtain any significant concessions from the Coalition who insisted on a military surrender. On the **July 7, 1815** (Rajab 29, 1230 Hijri) (Sivan 29, 5575 Jewish), coalition forces entered **Paris**. **Napoleon** was notified of his exile to **St. Helena** on **July 31, 1815** (**Shaban 23**, 1230 Hijri) (**Tammuz 23**, 5575 Jewish). On **August 8, 1815** (**Ramadan 1** (or 2), 1230 Hijri) (Av 2, 5575 Jewish) , early in the morning, a British ship called

*“The Northumberland”*, carrying **Napoleon Bonaparte**, set sail to **Island of Saint Helena** for his last **exile**.

- Following **Treaty of Chaumont** in 1814 and the **Treaty of Paris** (signed on **May 30, 1814**), the **Congress of Vienna**, a conference of representatives of European states, including Russia, was held in **Vienna** from September 1814 to June 1815 to re-organize Europe after the French Revolution and the Napoleonic Wars. The immediate background was Napoleonic France's defeat and surrender in May 1814, which brought an end to 25 years of nearly continuous war. Negotiations continued despite the outbreak of fighting triggered by Napoleon's dramatic return from exile and resumption of power in France during the Hundred Days of March–July 1815. **Congress of Vienna** ended on **June 8, 1815** (Jumada Thania 29, 1230 Hijri) (**Iyar 29, 5575 Jewish**). The **General Treaty of the Final Act of the Congress of Vienna** embodying all the separate treaties, was signed on **June 9, 1815** (Rajab 1, 1230 Hijri) (Sivan 1, 5575 Jewish), just 9 days before **Napoleon's final defeat at the Battle of Waterloo** on **June 18, 1815** (Rajab 10, 1230 Hijri) (Sivan 10, 5575 Jewish). The objective of the Congress was to provide a long-term peace plan for Europe by settling critical issues arising from the French Revolutionary Wars and the Napoleonic Wars. The goal was not simply to restore old boundaries between European countries, but to resize the main powers so they could balance each other off and remain at peace. The **Congress of Vienna** was the first of a series of international meetings which attempted to forge a peaceful balance of power in Europe. The **Congress of Vienna** was the first occasion in history where, on a continental scale, national representatives came together to formulate treaties, instead of relying mostly on messages between the several capitals. **Congress of Vienna** was the first genuine attempt to create an **international order** based upon **consensus** rather than **conflict**. It served as a model for later organizations such as the **League of Nations** in 1919 and the **United Nations** in 1945. **Congress of Vienna** prevented another widespread European war for nearly a hundred years from 1815 **till the outbreak of World War I in 1914**. The treaty that resulted from Congress of Vienna was the most-comprehensive treaty Europe had ever seen. The **Congress of Vienna** resulted in the consolidation of Germany from the nearly 300 states of the Holy Roman Empire (dissolved in 1806) into a much less complex system of 39 states (4 of which were free cities). These states formed a loose German Confederation under the leadership of **Prussia** and **Austria**. The **Papal States** were restored to the **Pope**. As Austrian troops withdrew from Rome, the temporal power of the Pope was restored. **Pope Pius VII** entered Rome, coming back from Genoa, on **June 7, 1815** (Jumada Thania 28, 1230 Hijri) (**Iyar 28, 5575 Jewish**), where he was staying as a refuge from Napoleon.

- On **June 6, 1870**, a **fire** broke out in **Constantinople**, in the richest districts of the City, resulting in the death of 900 people and the destruction of about 7000 houses.

- On **June 6, 1882**, more than 100,000 people were killed in **Bombay**, India, when a **cyclone** in the Arabian Sea pushed huge waves into the harbor.

- In the 1870s, while **Sudan** was part of **Egypt** which was ruled by the Albanian dynasty of **Muhammad Ali Pasha** as an autonomous province of the Ottoman Empire, a Muslim scholar in **Sudan** named **Muhammad Ahmad bin AbdAllah** preached renewal of the faith and liberation of the land, and began attracting followers. On **June 29, 1881** (Shaban 1, 1298 Hijri) (Tammuz 2, 5641 Jewish), he proclaimed himself **the Mahdi**, the promised redeemer of the

Islamic world. He changed the Shahada, or profession of faith, to include the phrase, "Muhammad Al-Mahdi is the Khalifa of the Prophet of God," and revised the five pillars of Islam by replacing the Hajj or pilgrimage to Mecca with the obligation to undertake jihad, and adding a sixth pillar, which was belief in the Mahdiyya. An Egyptian expedition, dispatched to attack the Mahdi, was ambushed and slaughtered the Mahdi's men on the night of **December 9, 1881 (Muharram 17, 1299 Hijri)** (Kislev 17, 5642 Jewish). Egypt sent a larger expedition to attack Mahdi's men who were poorly clothed, half starving, and armed only with sticks and stones, so the Mahdi led a successful assault against the Egyptian forces, defeating them decisively **at dawn, on June 7, 1882** (Rajab 20, 1299 Hijri) (Sivan 20, 5642 Jewish). By the end of 1882, the Mahdi controlled most of Sudan. In 1882, Egypt (including Sudan), while remaining as an autonomous province of the Ottoman Empire, became an official protectorate of Britain. On **January 26, 1885** (Rabi Thani 9, 1302 Hijri) (Shevat 10, 5645 Jewish), after a ten-month siege that started on March 13, 1884, the Mahdi's fighters captured **Khartoum** (the capital of Sudan) and killed Charles Gordon, the British Governor. The British public reacted to his death by acclaiming 'Gordon of Khartoum', who had had a strong Christian faith, a martyred warrior-saint. **Muhammad Ahmad bin AbdAllah** was born on **August 12, 1844** (Rajab 27, 1260 Hijri) and died due to typhus on **June 22, 1885** (Ramadan 9, 1302 Hijri). His great-grandson, **Al-Sadiq Al-Mahdi** became Prime Minister of Sudan starting from 1966.

- On **June 6, 1889**, a **great fire in Seattle**, Washington State, U.S., destroyed 25 downtown blocks.

- On **June 6, 1912**, the eruption of Novarupta in Alaska began. It is the second largest volcanic eruption of the 20th century.

- **Hussein bin Ali** was appointed by the Ottoman Sultan as the Sharif and Amir of Mecca on **November 1, 1908** (Shawwal 7, 1326 Hijri). As a result of the **McMahon–Hussein Correspondence** (exchange of 10 letters) from **July 14, 1915 (Ramadan 1 (or 2), 1333 Hijri)** (2420,692.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day) to January 30, **1916** (Rabi Awwal 24, 1334 Hijri) between **Sir Henry McMahon**, British High Commissioner in Egypt and the Sharif of Mecca, **Hussein bin Ali**, the Arab revolution against the Ottoman Sultanate in alliance with Britain started when **Hussein bin Ali's** forces attacked **the Ottoman garrison in Medina** on **June 5, 1916** (Shaban 3, 1334 Hijri). The revolution became formal on **June 10, 1916** when he also declared the establishment of an independent **Kingdom of Hijaz** with himself as its **king**. The forces of **Hussein bin Ali** captured **Jeddah** from the Ottoman forces on **June 12, 1916**. He was deposed of as Sharif of Mecca and Prince of Hijaz by the Ottoman Sultan on **July 1, 1916 (Shaban 29, 1334 Hijri)**. On **July 9, 1916**, the Ottoman forces in **Mecca** surrendered to the Sharif **Hussein bin Ali**, after several weeks of stubborn resistance. After a siege for 3 months, the Ottoman forces in the **citadel of Taif** finally **surrendered** on **September 23, 1916 (Zu Al-Qada 25, 1334 Hijri) (Elul 25, 5676 Jewish)**. He proclaimed the independence of the Arabs on **October 29, 1916 (Muharram 1, 1335 Hijri)**. He proclaimed at the Al-Haram Mosque in Mecca to be *Malik Al-Bilad Al-'Arabiyya* (King of the Arab Countries/ Territories/ Lands) and *Amir Al-Mumineen* (Prince of the Believers) on Thursday, **November 2, 1916** (Muharram 5, 1335 Hijri). He was recognized by the allied powers (Britain, France, and Russia) only as King of the Hijaz, Prince of the Believers, Sheriff and Prince of Mecca on **November 6, 1916** (confirmed in public on **January 3, 1917**).

- During **World War I**, the **Battle of Belleau Wood** in **France** between U.S. and German

forces lasted from June 6 till June 26, 1918. **Belleau Wood** is just an hour drive from **Paris**. On **June 6, 1918** (Shaban 26, 1336 Hijri), U.S. forces started an offensive to drive the Germans out of Belleau Wood. By the end of the first day, U.S. forces suffered more than 1,000 casualties. Finally, on **June 26, 1918**, the Americans prevailed, but at the cost of nearly 10,000 dead, wounded, or missing in action, in the whole battle.

- **Lateran Treaty** between the **Pope** and the **Kingdom of Italy** was signed in Lateran Palace, by Benito Mussolini, Prime Minister of Italy, representing the Italian government, on **February 11, 1929 (Ramadan 1** (or Shaban 29), 1347 Hijri) (Adar 1, 5689 Jewish) (2425,653.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), was ratified by the Parliament of Italy, and became effective on **June 7 1929 (Zu Al-Hijja 28**, 1347 Hijri) (**Iyar 28**, 5689 Jewish) (2425,769.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), establishing **City of the Vatican** as an independent State. In this treaty, Italy recognized papal sovereignty over the Vatican, and in return, the papacy recognized the Kingdom of Italy, with Rome as its capital. Since **September 20 – 21, 1870**, when the **Italian army** entered Rome and the Vatican and **ended the Papal State**, the Pope was a virtual prisoner in the Vatican, never leaving it, **for 59 years** until **Lateran Treaty** was signed. On **February 18, 1984** (Jumada Ula 15, 1404 Hijri) (Adar I 15, 5744 Jewish), the Vatican and Italy signed a new treaty (Concordat) to replace Lateran Treaty. This new treaty became effective on **June 3, 1985 (Ramadan 14**, 1405 Hijri) (**Sivan 14**, 5745 Jewish). In the new treaty, for the sake of establishing freedom of religion in Italy, Roman Catholicism no longer remained as the state religion of Italy. The Vatican became more independent without legal ties to Italy which opened the door for the Vatican to become a full-fledged member of the United Nations (U.N.). Furthermore, **Rome** ceased to be considered as a “Holy City”.

- On **June 6, 1941**, **Hitler** issues an order that all **Soviet Commissars** (Soviet political commissars who were attached to all military units as secondary commanders) when captured are to be not treated as prisoners, but rather killed.

- **Moshe Dayan**, Minister of Defense of Israel during 1967 war between Israel and its neighboring Arab countries, is known for being an **Awar**, meaning having a **defective eye**, covered with a patch, that resulted from being shot at by Vichy French soldier in a battle in Southern Lebanon at **4:00 AM** on **June 8, 1941** (Jumada Ula 13, 1360 Hijri) (Sivan 13, 5701 Jewish). Six hours passed before he was evacuated. The damage to the extraocular muscles of his eye was so severe that Dayan could not be fitted with a glass eye, so he was compelled to adopt the black eye-patch that became his distinguished feature. Dayan wrote in his autobiography that he was *"ready to make any effort and stand any suffering, if only I could get rid of my black eye patch. The attention it drew was intolerable to me. I preferred to shut myself up at home, doing anything, rather than encounter the reactions of people wherever I went."* De Gaulle's Free France troops and British troops liberated Syria from Vichy France on **June 14, 1941**. He served as **commander of the Jerusalem front** in the 1948 Arab–Israeli War. On **June 1, 1967** (Safar 22, 1387 Hijri) (**Iyar 22**, 5727 Jewish), when war with Israel's Arab neighbors was imminent, **Moshe Dayan** was appointed **Minister of Defense of Israel**. He personally oversaw the **capture of East Jerusalem** during the **June 7, 1967** (Safar 28, 1387 Hijri) (**Iyar 28**, 5727 Jewish). On **June 8, 1967**, Dayan bypassed both the Prime Minister and the Chief of Staff in ordering the Israeli army to attack and capture the **Golan Heights in Syria**.

- On **June 6, 1942**, Japanese forces retreated, ending **Battle of Midway**.



- On **June 4, 1944**, the American forces took possession of **Rome**. Rome had been declared an open city by the German Army so no resistance was encountered. On **June 5, 1944**, Italy's King Victor Emmanuel turned over his remaining powers to his son Umberto and named him Lieutenant General of the Realm.

- On **June 6, 1944** (Jumada Thania 14, 1363 Hijri) (Sivan 15, 5704 Jewish), more than **160,000 Allied troops landed** along a 50-mile stretch of heavily-fortified French coastline, **on the beaches of Normandy**, France, to fight Nazi Germany which was ruling France. The **Atlantic Wall** (German: Atlantik wall) was an extensive system of coastal defence and fortifications built by Nazi Germany between 1942 and 1944 along the coast of continental Europe and Scandinavia as a defence against an anticipated Allied invasion of Nazi-occupied Europe from Great Britain during World War II. The defence system of this Wall included colossal coastal guns, batteries, mortars, and artillery, and thousands of German troops stationed to defend the wall. Almost one million French workers were drafted to build this Wall. However, on **June 6**, most of these Nazi defences were stormed by the invading Allies within hours after the beginning of the invasion. The Allies allocated to this Operation more than **5,000 ships and 13,000 aircrafts**. This is considered the largest amphibious military operation in history. U.S. Army General, Dwight Eisenhower called the operation a **Crusade** in which, "we will accept nothing less than full victory." This day of landing on the Normandy is called **D-Day**. By the end of this day, the Allies gained a foot-hold in Continental Europe. The cost in lives on **D-Day** was high. More than 9,000 Allied soldiers were killed or wounded, but their sacrifice allowed the Allied forces to begin the slow, hard march across Europe, to defeat the Nazi forces. D-Day not only divided Hitler's armies on two fronts, but it also kept the Soviets out of Western Europe. D-Day was a strategic maneuver against the Soviet Union. The British and American forces wanted to reach Germany before the Soviets. The D-Day for the invasion of Normandy by the Allies was originally set for **June 5, 1944**, but bad weather and heavy seas caused General Eisenhower to delay it until the next day, **June 6, 1944**. The Allies conducted a substantial military deception to mislead the Germans as to the date and location of the main Allied landings. On **June 6, 1944**, in the U.S., Philadelphia's historical Liberty Bell was rung to celebrate Landing on Normandy and the ringing was broadcast by radio across the U.S. The Allies managed to completely **encircle the German army in Normandy** around the French town of **Falaise** by **August 20, 1944** (**Ramadan 1**, 1363 Hijri) (**Elul 1**, 5704 Jewish). This encirclement, that came to be called the "Falaise Pocket", resulted in 10,000 dead German soldiers and the Allies' capture of about 50,000 German soldiers. This led to **Battle of Liberation of Paris** from **August 19, 1944** till the German garrison surrender in Paris on **August 25, 1944**.

- On **June 5, 1945** (**Jumada Thania 23 (or 24)**, 1364 Hijri) (Sivan 24, 5705 Jewish), the Soviet Union, the U.S., the U.K., and France acting on behalf of the Allies of World War II, signed **Berlin Declaration**, in which they jointly assumed "supreme authority" over German territory. The preamble of the declaration confirmed the complete legal extinction of the German State of the Third Reich, but the continued subsequent existence of a German national territory which for the purpose of the Declaration was taken to be as defined on December 31, 1937, subject to the four signatory powers also asserting their authority to determine the future boundaries of Germany. These four Allies would exercise supreme civil and military authority within German territory and over former German forces. **The Treaty on the Final Settlement**

**with respect to Germany** was signed in Moscow on **September 12, 1990 (Safar 22, 1411 Hijri) (Elul 22, 5750 Hijri)** between on one side, West Germany and East Germany, and on the other side, the Four Powers which occupied Germany at the end of World War II in Europe: the Soviet Union, the U.S., the U.K., and France. This Treaty paved the way for **unification** of East and West Germany on **October 3, 1990 (Rabi Awwal 14, 1411 Hijri) (Tishri 14, 5751 Jewish)**. In this Treaty, the Four Powers renounced all rights they held in Germany, allowing a united Germany to become fully sovereign when this Treaty became effective on **March 15, 1991 (Shaban 29, 1411 Hijri) (Adar 29, 5751 Jewish)**.

- On **June 6, 1948 (Rajab 28, 1367 Hijri) (Iyar 28, 5708 Jewish)**, nearly two brigades of the **Arab Liberation Army** and the **Lebanese Army** captured two Arab towns **Al-Malkiyya** and **Qadas in Northern Palestine** in what became the only intervention of the **Lebanese army** during the war.

- On **June 6, 1948 (Rajab 28, 1367 Hijri) (Iyar 28, 5708 Jewish)**, **Syrian forces** attacked **Mishmar HaYarden (Jewish Settlement)** in **Northern Palestine**, but they were repulsed. On **June 10, 1948**, the Syrians captured **Mishmar HaYarden** and advanced to the main road, where they were stopped by the Israeli troops. Subsequently, the Syrians reverted to a defensive posture, conducting only a few minor attacks on small, vulnerable Israeli settlements.

- The **Battle of Nitzanim** was fought in the **kibbutz of Nitzanim**, in Southern Palestine, between the Israeli army and the Egyptian Army in the 1948 Arab–Israeli War, on **June 7 - 10, 1948**. The kibbutz of Nitzanim is located on the coast between Gaza and Yafa and it was surrounded by the Arab towns: Isdud to the North, Majdal to the South, and Julis and Beit Daras to the East. The battle started around midnight of **June 6 – 7, 1948 (Rajab 28 – 29, 1367 Hijri) (Iyar 28 - 29, 5708 Jewish)**, with an Egyptian artillery bombardment of Nitzanim, followed by an Egyptian aerial bombardment and armored and infantry attacks. The main Egyptian attack broke through the Israeli defenses at around 11:00 a.m. on **June 7, 1948**. The Israelis started retreating. At 4:00 p.m. on **June 7, 1948**, 105 Israeli fighters, 26 of them injured, surrendered to the Egyptian Army. The Israeli survivors were later displayed in a victory parade in the nearby Arab town, Majdal, after which they were transferred to Cairo. **Battle of Nitzanim** was the first major Egyptian victory of the war, and one of the few cases of Israeli surrender. On the night of **June 7 - 8, 1948**, the Israeli forces captured the strategic **Hill 69** (located between **Nitzanim** and **Isdud**) and carried out an unsuccessful attack against the Arab town of **Isdud**. On the night of **June 9 – 10, 1948**, the Israeli forces attempted to re-capture **Nitzanim**. At dawn, an Israeli platoon managed to break into **Nitzanim** from the South and capture the "Palace" (an abandoned Arab Palace/ Mansion, located at a hill overlooking **Nitzanim**), but withdrew from **Nitzanim** after being hit by heavy Egyptian fire. The Egyptian artillery pursued the withdrawing Israelis until the Israelis reached **Hill 69**. The **Egyptians** attacked **Hill 69**. The Israelis suffered heavy casualties, so they withdrew from the Hill, but their withdrawal was disorganized and cost more casualties. The total **Israeli death toll** in the **Battle of Hill 69** was 20 soldiers. So, the Egyptians managed to capture **Hill 69** on **June 10, 1948**. The Egyptians attempted to continue towards **Beit Daras** and **Be'er Tuvia**, but met with strong Israel defense, so at nightfall, the Egyptians withdrew.

- A series of powerful earthquakes hit **Chile** between **May 21, 1960** and **June 6, 1960** (**Zu Al-Hijja 10**, 1379 Hijri). The strongest one was the **Valdivia earthquake**. On **May 22, 1960** (**Zu Al-Qada 25**, 1379 Hijri), in the afternoon at 3:11 p.m. local time, the **most powerful earthquake in the World** (measuring 9.5), ever recorded and measured by seismographs, happened in **Valdivia, Chile**. The last of the series of earthquakes that hit Chile happened at 5:55 a.m. on **June 6, 1960**, had a magnitude of **7.2**. The epicenter of this last earthquake was 70.95 km from **Aysén, Chile**.

- **Pope John XXIII** (John 23<sup>rd</sup>) was born on **November 25, 1881**. He was elected pope on **October 28, 1958**. He died of peritonitis caused by a perforated stomach at 19:49 local time on **June 3, 1963** at the age of 81, ending a historic pontificate of four years and seven months. He was buried on **June 6, 1963** (Muharram 14, 1383 Hijri) in the Vatican grottos beneath Saint Peter's Basilica.

- On Monday, **June 5, 1967** (Safar 26, 1387 Hijri) (Iyar 26, 5727 Jewish) (2439,646.5<sup>th</sup> or 2439,647<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), Israel launched its **6-day war** against the Arabs. Israel captured **Gaza** on **June 6, 1967**. Israel captured East Jerusalem including the **Old City of Jerusalem and the Aqsa Mosque** and therefore, all of Jerusalem became under its control on Wednesday, **June 7, 1967** (Safar 28, **1387 Hijri**) (Iyar 28, 5727 Jewish) (2439,648.5<sup>th</sup> or 2439,649<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). Today, **Iyar 28** is celebrated annually in Israel as **Jerusalem Day**. The leader of the brigade, Lt. General Mordechai (Motta) Gur [who was born on **May 6, 1930** (Zu Hijja 7, 1348 Hijri) (Iyar 8, 5690 Jewish) and died by committing suicide on **July 16, 1995** (Safar 18, 1416 Hijri) (Tammuz 18, 5755 Jewish)] communicated the unfolding events to his company commanders by radio: *"Shortly we're going to go in to the Old City of Jerusalem, that all generations have dreamed about. We will be the first to enter the Old City."* Then, after an intense battle, he uttered his now-famous words: *"The Temple Mount is in our hands!"* Then, the Chief Rabbi of Israel's army, **Shlomo Goren** (who was born on February 3, **1917** and died on October 29, 1994), while dressed in military uniform and carrying a Torah scroll, **blew a Trumpet** (ram's horn) at the Western Wall to announce the re-unification of East Jerusalem (which was ruled by Jordan) with West Jerusalem (which was ruled by Israel), and held the first Jewish prayer session at the Western Wall since 1948. Until then, during the Ottoman and the British occupation of Jerusalem, Jews were not allowed to sound the Trumpet at the Western Wall. Israeli soldiers were singing a popular Israeli song titled "Jerusalem of Gold" written by Israeli poetess and song-writer, Naomi Shemer. This event was broadcast live on Voice of Israel radio station. This war resulted in Israel capturing East Jerusalem, Gaza, and Golan Heights from the Arabs.

- On **June 5, 1968**, U.S. presidential candidate **Robert F. Kennedy** was shot at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, California. Sirhan Sirhan, a Palestinian man, was arrested and accused of assassinating him. Robert Kennedy died the next day, on **June 6, 1968** (**Rabi Awwal 10**, 1388 Hijri).

- On **June 6, 1972**, an explosion, at the **World's largest coal mine** in Wankie, Rhodesia, killed 427 miners.

- On **June 5, 1975**, the Suez Canal **opened for the first time** since the **Six-Day War of 1967**.

- On **June 6, 1976** (Jumada Thania 8, 1396 Hijri) (Sivan 8, 5736 Jewish), "**The Omen**", a British-American movie was released in the U.K. It is about a child, called Damien, who is going to be the **Anti-Christ**. In Rome, Italy, American diplomat Robert Thorn (Gregory Peck) was in a hospital where his wife Katherine (Lee Remick) gave birth to a boy. He was told that his baby died moments after being born. Then, he was convinced by the hospital chaplain to secretly adopt an orphan baby boy whose mother died at the same time that his baby died. He agreed, but did not reveal to his wife that the baby was not theirs. Soon after, Robert was appointed as U.S. Ambassador to the U.K. The final scene of the movie showed the double funeral of Katherine and Robert was attended by the President of the United States, who apparently took custody of the boy, Damien.
  
- On **June 7, 1979**, during **Pope John Paul II** 's first papal journey to **Poland**, he visited Auschwitz concentration camp.
  
- While **Pope John Paul II** was still recovering from his wounds of the assassination attempt on **May 13, 1981** (Rajab 9, 1401 Hijri) (**Iyar 9**, 5741 Jewish), a special prayer session was held for which representatives of **Catholic and Orthodox Churches** attended, and in the presence of **Pope John Paul II**, in the morning, on Sunday, **June 7, 1981**, in the **Basilica of Saint Peter** in the **Vatican**. Later, in the afternoon, on Sunday, **June 7, 1981**, **Pope John Paul II** consecrated the World to the Immaculate Heart of Mary in **Basilica of Saint Mary Major** (chief Marian Basilica) in **Rome**, through a prayer that he wrote as an Act of Entrustment. Because the Pope was unable to be present, his recorded speech was broadcast. **June 7, 1981** (Shaban 5, 1401 Hijri) (Sivan 5, 5741 Jewish) was Christian Sunday Pentecost (50<sup>th</sup> day after Sunday Easter which was on April 19, 1981. In the New Testament, Pentecost was the occasion of the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ, as described in the Acts of the Apostles 2:1–31. ) and the Eve of Jewish Pentecost (50<sup>th</sup> day after Passover, on Sivan 6, the day on which God gave the Ten Commandments of the Torah to Moses). There is a Jewish tradition that **King David** was born and died at **Pentecost**. **June 7, 1981** was also chosen to commemorate: (a) the 1600<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the **First Council of Constantinople** (from May – July 381 AD), and (b) the 1550<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the **Council of Ephesus** (in Ephesus, near present-day Selçuk in Turkey, in 431 AD) which was set by the Emperor **Theodosius II** to open on **Pentecost, June 7, 431 AD**, but was postponed to **June 22, 431 AD**; however, the bishops started to arrive on **June 7, 431 AD**.
  
- On **June 7, 1981**, Israel destroyed **Iraqi nuclear reactor** in a surprise air attack.
  
- **Israel** started its invasion of **Lebanon** on Sunday, **June 6, 1982** (**Shaban 14 (or 15)**, 1402 Hijri) (Sivan 15, 5742 Jewish), using 30,000 Israeli soldiers.
  
- U.S. President **Ronald Reagan** met with **Pope John Paul II** in the Vatican on **June 7, 1982** (**Shaban 15 (or 16)**, 1402 Hijri) (Sivan 16, 5742 Jewish). Five years later, **June 6, 1987** (**Shawwal 8 (or 9)**, 1407 Hijri) (Sivan 9, 5747 Jewish), U.S. President **Ronald Reagan** met again with **Pope John Paul II** in the Vatican.
  
- On **June 6, 1994**, a 6.0 earthquake/avalanche destroyed Toez, Colombia, killing about 1000 people.

- On **June 6, 2002**, a **near-Earth asteroid** estimated at ten meters in diameter exploded over the Mediterranean Sea between Greece and Libya. The resulting explosion was estimated to have a force of 26 kilotons, slightly more powerful than the Nagasaki atomic bomb.

- At 7:15 a.m. on Wednesday, **June 5, 2002**, a Palestinian man rammed a car rigged with explosives into a public bus in northern Israeli town of **Megiddo**, killing 17 passengers, including at least 13 Israeli soldiers. Megiddo is the location of the great battle in the End Times referred to **in the Bible as Battle of ArMageddon**. Megiddo is the site of a prison where Israel imprisons thousands of Palestinian activists and militants. The bomber was from the West Bank town of **Jenin** and belonged to **Islamic Jihad** which claimed responsibility for the attack. **Islamic Jihad** announced that it planned the attack to coincide with on the 35th anniversary of the beginning of **1967 war** in which Israel captured the West Bank (including the Old City of Jerusalem), Gaza Strip and Golan Heights. In retaliation for the bus attack, **Israel** launched a tank and helicopter assault on the town of **Jenin**. Then, Israel attacked the **Headquarters of the Palestinian Authority** in Ramallah (10 miles north of Jerusalem) on **June 6, 2002** (Rabi Awwal 25, 1423 Hijri) (Sivan 26, 5762 Jewish). The **Headquarters** was already damaged due to an Israeli military offensive that began **March 29, 2002 (Muharram 16, 1423 Hijri)** (Nisan 16, 5762 Jewish) [during which Israeli tanks and troops besieged the Headquarters, prohibiting **Yasir Arafat** from leaving, from **March 29, 2002** till **May 2, 2002** (Safar 20, 1423 Hijri) (Iyar 20, 5762 Jewish)]. Around **2:00 a.m. on June 6, 2002**, when 50 Israeli tanks, armored vehicles and bulldozers started their attack on the Headquarters. The sound of shelling of the **Headquarters** could be heard as far away as Bethlehem, about 20 miles south of Ramallah. The attack **lasted 6 hours**. By **8:00 a.m.**, after blowing up with explosives some buildings, shelling others, and putting a big hole in a wall of the **bedroom of Yasir Arafat**, the Israelis started withdrawing. In all, **several buildings** belonging to Palestinian national security forces and intelligence, in addition to a jail were destroyed, or severely damaged. A little while after the withdrawal of the Israelis, **Yasir Arafat**, who remained in the Headquarters during the Israeli attack, emerged from the Headquarters surrounded by security guards, flashing the victory sign in defiance.

- U.S. President **George W. Bush** met **Pope John Paul II** in the Vatican on **June 4, 2004**.

- U.S. President **Ronald Reagan** died on **June 5, 2004**.

- **Israel's withdrawal from Gaza** proposed by Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon was adopted by the Israeli government on **June 6, 2004** (Rabi Thani 17, 1425 Hijri) (Sivan 17, 5764 Jewish). On **February 16, 2005**, the Israeli Knesset (Parliament) finalized and approved the plan. The implementation of the plan started on after midnight of **August 14, 2005 (Av 9, 5765 Jewish)** (**Rajab 9, 1426 Hijri**). On **September 12, 2005** (Shaban 8, 1426 Hijri) (**Elul 8, 5765 Jewish**), the withdrawal from Gaza was complete.

- On **June 6, 2012**, the **Solar Impulse** completed the **World's first inter-continental flight** powered by the Sun.

- On **June 6, 2012**, **Transit of Venus** (between Earth & Sun) happened.

- **Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS)** started its attack on **Mosul** (Iraq's second largest city) on Friday, **June 6, 2014** (Shaban 7, 1435 Hijri) (Sivan 8, 5774 Jewish). By **June 10, 2014**, Mosul became fully under the control of ISIS. **Mosul** is the capital of **Nineveh**, one of the provinces of Iraq. The operational commander of province of Nineveh, appointed in **March 2014**, was a Shia **Lieutenant General**, whose name was **Mahdi Gharawi** (named after **the Mahdi**). The original city of Mosul is located on the west bank of the Tigris River, opposite the site of **Nineveh**, the ancient capital of Kingdom of Assyria on the east bank of the Tigris River. However, today, Mosul metropolitan area encompasses both banks of the Tigris River. **Mosul** is a historic center and an episcopal seat of the **Assyrian Church of the East** since the 6th century. The Iraqi Assyrians still refer to the entire city of Mosul as **Nineveh**. The site of ancient Nineveh is called today, town of **Nebi Yunus (Prophet Jonah)** where the tomb of Prophet Yunus (Jonah) used to be located until the tomb was destroyed by ISIS on **July 24, 2014** (Ramadan 26, 1435 Hijri). Prophet Yunus (Jonah) lived and died there, in the then capital of ancient Assyria. **Mosul** was promoted to the status of capital of Mesopotamia under the Umayyads in the 8th century, during which it reached a peak of prosperity.

- For the first time in history, Islamic prayers and **readings from the Quran** were heard at the **Vatican** on Sunday, **June 8, 2014 (Shaban 9, 1435 Hijri)**, in a move by **Pope Francis** to usher in peace between Israelis and Palestinians. Pope Francis issued the invitation to Israeli President Shimon Peres and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas during his visit to Jordan, Israel, and the Palestinian Authority. Abbas, Peres, and Francis were joined by Jewish, Christian and Islamic religious leaders.

The month of **June (Huzairan** as known today in Greater Syria & Iraq) corresponds **Sivan (in Jewish Calendar)**. The Jewish holiday of **Shavuot (or Pentecost)** which commemorates God's giving the Torah to Moses on Mount Sinai is celebrated by Jews on **Sivan 6 – 7** which corresponds to **Huzairan (June) 6 – 7**. **Shavuot (or Pentecost)** is one of the 3 **Pilgrimage Festivals of the Jews**, during which the ancient Israelites used to make a pilgrimage to the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem. **Shavuot** is called **Pentecost** because it occurs **50 days** after Passover (Nisan 14) or **49 days** from the second day of Passover (Nisan 15).

## 7. **June 13 – 14**

**June 13** is the **164<sup>th</sup>** day of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **201 days** remaining until the end of the year.

**June 14** is the **165<sup>th</sup>** day of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **200 days** remaining until the end of the year.

The following events happened during this period:

- In 1917, three Catholic children (**Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco**), in a town called **Fatima in Portugal**, experienced 6 apparitions (visions) of the Virgin Mary on: May 13 (Rajab 21 (or 20), 1335 Hijri) (**Iyar 21**, 5677 Jewish) (472,924<sup>th</sup> or 472,923<sup>rd</sup> Hijri day), June 13, July 13, August 19, September 13, and October 13, 1917. The 2<sup>nd</sup> apparition happened on **June 13, 1917 (Shaban 23, 1335 Hijri) (Sivan 23, 5677 Jewish)**. On **July 13, 1917 (Ramadan 23, 1335 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 5677 Jewish) (2421,422.5<sup>th</sup> or 2421,423<sup>rd</sup> Julian Day) (472,985<sup>th</sup> Hijri day)**, the Virgin Mary told them **three secrets** about future events. **Lucia** was the only child to fully experience the apparitions and as prophesied in the apparitions, she outlived the other 2 children, both of whom died a young age. When Lucia grew up, she became a **nun**. At St. Dorothy convent in **Tuy, Spain**, the last apparition experienced by **Lucia** happened, **around midnight**, on Thursday, **June 13, 1929 (Muharram 5, 1348 Hijri) (Sivan 5, 5689 Jewish)**, meaning on the eve of Friday, **June 14, 1929 (Muharram 6, 1348 Hijri) (Sivan 6, 5689 Jewish)**. **Lucia** mentioned the following in her diary: "I had sought and obtained permission from my superiors and confessor to make a **Holy Hour** from eleven o'clock until midnight, **every Thursday to Friday night.**" The **Virgin Mary's Promise** contained in the secrets revealed in the apparition of **July 13, 1917**: "I shall come to ask for the consecration of Russia..." was **fulfilled** on **June 13, 1929**, when Mary appeared to Lucia and told her: "**The moment has come** in which God asks the Holy Father (the Pope) to make, in union with all the bishops of the World, the consecration of Russia to My Immaculate Heart, promising to save it by this means."

- In 1878, an Egyptian army officer, **Ahmad Urabi Al-Husseini** [a descendant of Al-Hussein, grandson of Prophet Mohammad (p)] started a rebellion against **Tewfik Pasha**, the Khedive of Egypt and Sudan, against the corrupted government of Egypt. On **May 20, 1882**, a combined Anglo-French fleet arrived at Alexandria to support Tewfik Pasha. On **June 13, 1882**, Khedive Tewfik fled from Cairo to Alexandria which was protected by the British fleet. On **July 11, 1882 (Shaban 24 (or 23), 1299 Hijri) (Tammuz 24, 5642 Jewish)**, the British fleet started bombarding Alexandria. Finally, a large British naval force finally managed to land in Alexandria by **July 13, 1882**. On **September 13, 1882 (Shawwal 29, 1299 Hijri) (Elul 29, 5642 Jewish)**, Britain's decisively defeated the Egyptian forces loyal to Ahmad Urabi in the Battle of Tal El-Kabir, near Cairo. In the evening of **September 14, 1882 (Zu Al-Qada 1, 1299 Hijri) (Tishri 1, 5642 Jewish)**, the British advancing forces reached Cairo and Ahmad Urabi surrendered to the British. On **September 24, 1882**, Khedive Tewfik and his "ministers" returned to Cairo. Ahmad Urabi was sentenced to death in December 1882, but was later exiled to the British colony of Ceylon (Sri Lanka).

- De Gaulle's Free France troops and British troops liberated Syria from Vichy France on **June 14, 1941**.

- On **June 13, 1946**, the day before the birth of Donald Trump, after a **reigning for only 34 days** since **May 9, 1946**, the **last King of Italy, Umberto II**, chose not to further contest the results of the **June 2** referendum that **abolished the monarchy**, and he **flew into exile**. Earlier in the day, Parliament had granted Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi power to serve as the acting head of state until the election results could be certified. **Umberto II** held other titles such as: King of Sardinia, King of Cyprus, **King of Jerusalem**, King of Armenia, Duke of Savoy, Prince of Carignano, Prince of Piedmont, and **Prince and Perpetual Vicar of the Holy Roman Empire**. This meant the end of the reign of the **Savoy Dynasty in Italy** since

**September 20 - 21, 1870, when Rome and the Vatican** were conquered by the Kingdom of Italy, **ending the State of the Pope** which was not revived until **Lateran Treaty** (between **Pope Pius XI** and **Benito Mussolini**, Prime Minister of Kingdom of Italy). **Lateran Treaty** established the **City of the Vatican** as an **independent state** and in return the Pope recognized the Kingdom of Italy. **Lateran Treaty** was signed on **February 11, 1929** and became effective on **June 7, 1929**. **Umberto II died in exile** unable to achieve his dream of returning to Italy on Friday **March 18, 1983** and he was buried the next Tuesday in the Benedictine abbey of Hautecombe in the southeastern Savoy region of France.

- **Donald Trump** was born on **Friday, June 14, 1946** (Rajab 15, 1365 Hijri) (Sivan 15, 5706 Jewish) (2431,**985.5<sup>th</sup>** Julian Day), a day on which there was a **Total Lunar Eclipse**.

- While Israel's Prime Minister was Menachem Begin, and Israel's Minister of Defense was Ariel Sharon, Israel started an invasion of Lebanon on **June 6, 1982** (Shaban 15 (or 14), 1402 Hijri) (Sivan 15, 5742 Jewish). On **June 8, 1982** Israeli forces occupied Sidon, except Palestinian refugee camp of Ain El-Hilweh near Sidon which Israeli forces did not manage to take control of it till **June 15, 1982**. **Israeli forces entered East Beirut** which was ruled Christian militias, particularly the Lebanese Forces which were allied with Israel and started their **siege of West Beirut** (where Palestinian fighters were located) on **June 14, 1982 (Shaban 23** (or 22), 1402 Hijri) (Sivan 23, 5742 Jewish). Israel managed to seal off the air, sea and land routes to West Beirut. The blockade imposed by Israel included constant heavy shelling targeting West Beirut, and cutting off water and food supplies from residents of West Beirut until **August 28, 1982** when the US envoy to Lebanon, Philip Habib, brokered a compromise suggesting the relocation of the Palestinian fighters to Tunisia and other Arab countries under the supervision of a multinational force.

- The construction of Berlin Wall started on **August 12 - 13, 1961** (Rabi Awwal 1, **1381 Hijri**) (Elul 1, 5721 Jewish Calendar). After several weeks of civil unrest, the East German government announced on **November 9, 1989** (Rabi Thani 10, 1410 Hijri) (Heshvan 11, 5750 Jewish) that all East Germany's citizens could visit West Germany and West Berlin. Crowds of East Germans crossed and climbed onto **Berlin Wall**, joined by West Germans on the other side in a celebratory atmosphere. Over the next few weeks, euphoric people and souvenir hunters chipped away parts of Berlin Wall. Contrary to popular belief, the wall's actual demolition did not begin until **June 13, 1990 (Zu Al-Qada 20**, 1410 Hijri) and was not completed until 1992. The end of the **re-unification process** of East and West Germany was **October 3, 1990** (Rabi Awwal 14, 1411 Hijri) (Tishri 14, 5751 Jewish) (2448,**167.5<sup>th</sup>** Julian Day). Today, Germany celebrates annually the **German Unity Day** on **October 3**.

- On **June 13, 2000** (Rabi Awwal 10, 1421 Hijri) (Sivan 10, 5760 Jewish), **President of Italy Carlo Ciampi** pardoned **Mehmet Ali Agca**, the Turkish man who fired four shots at Pope John Paul II, attempting to assassinate him on **May 13, 1981**. During the trial, **Agca** described himself as **Jesus Christ** and predicted the imminent end of the World. The Pope publicly forgave **Mehmet Ali Agca** and even visited him for 20 minutes in his prison in Rome on **December 27, 1983**.

- The **Third Secret of Fatima** was not revealed to the public by the Catholic Church until



**June 26, 2000** Gregorian (**June 13, 2000** Julian) (Rabi Awwal **23**, 1421 Hijri) (**Sivan 23**, 5760 Jewish) (2451,721.5<sup>th</sup> or 2451,722<sup>nd</sup> Julian day). This date is strongly connected to the day of the second apparition on **June 13, 1917** (**Shaban 23** (or 22), 1335 Hijri) (**Sivan 23**, 5760 Jewish).

## 8. June 27 - 29

**June 28** is the **179<sup>th</sup>** day of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **186 days** remaining until the end of the year. **June 29** is the **187<sup>th</sup>** day from the end of the year.

The following events happened during this period:

- In the 1870s, while **Sudan** was part of **Egypt** which was ruled by the Albanian dynasty of **Muhammad Ali Pasha** as an autonomous province of the Ottoman Empire, a Muslim scholar in **Sudan** named **Muhammad Ahmad bin AbdAllah** preached renewal of the faith and liberation of the land, and began attracting followers. On **June 29, 1881** (Shaban 1, 1298 Hijri) (Tammuz 2, 5641 Jewish), he proclaimed himself **the Mahdi**, the promised redeemer of the Islamic world. He changed the Shahada, or profession of faith, to include the phrase, "Muhammad Al-Mahdi is the Khalifa of the Prophet of God," and revised the five pillars of Islam by replacing the Hajj or pilgrimage to Mecca with the obligation to undertake jihad, and adding a sixth pillar, which was belief in the Mahdiyya. An Egyptian expedition, dispatched to attack the Mahdi, was ambushed and slaughtered the Mahdi's men on the night of **December 9, 1881** (**Muharram 17, 1299 Hijri**) (Kislev 17, 5642 Jewish). Egypt sent a larger expedition to attack Mahdi's men who were poorly clothed, half starving, and armed only with sticks and stones, so the Mahdi led a successful assault against the Egyptian forces, defeating them decisively **at dawn**, on **June 7, 1882** (Rajab 20, 1299 Hijri) (**Sivan 20**, 5642 Jewish). By the end of 1882, the Mahdi controlled most of Sudan. In 1882, Egypt (including Sudan), while remaining as an autonomous province of the Ottoman Empire, became an official protectorate of Britain. On **January 26, 1885** (Rabi Thani 9, 1302 Hijri) (Shevat 10, 5645 Jewish), after a ten-month siege that started on March 13, 1884, the Mahdi's fighters captured **Khartoum** (the capital of Sudan) and killed Charles Gordon, the British Governor. The British public reacted to his death by acclaiming 'Gordon of Khartoum', who had had a strong Christian faith, a martyred warrior-saint. **Muhammad Ahmad bin AbdAllah** was born on **August 12, 1844** (Rajab 27, 1260 Hijri) and died due to typhus on **June 22, 1885** (Ramadan 9, 1302 Hijri). His great-grandson, **Al-Sadiq Al-Mahdi** became Prime Minister of Sudan starting from 1966.

- Following the assassination of **Arch-Duke Franz Ferdinand** of Austria, heir presumptive to the Austro-Hungarian throne, and his wife, in Sarajevo by a Bosnian Serb on **June 28, 1914** (Shaban 4, 1332 Hijri), an ultimatum was sent by the Austro-Hungarian Empire and delivered to the Serbian foreign ministry by the ambassador of the Austro-Hungarian Empire to Serbia at **6:00 pm** on **July 23, 1914** (**Shaban 29** (or 28), 1332 Hijri). On **July 25, 1914** (**Ramadan 2**, 1332 Hijri), ten minutes **before the 24-hour 6 p.m.** deadline, Serbian Prime Minister Nicola Pasic delivered the Serbian answer to the ultimatum to the Austrian embassy.

Serbia's response effectively accepted all terms of the ultimatum except one: Serbia would not accept the Austro-Hungarian Empire's participation in any internal inquiry. The Austro-Hungarian Empire considered that Serbia did not accept all the conditions of the ultimatum, so it declared war against Serbia and attempted to invade Serbia on **July 28, 1914 (Ramadan 5, 1332 Hijri)**. This is the official beginning of **World War I**.

- The **Treaty of Versailles** was one of the peace treaties at the end of **World War I**. It ended the state of war between Germany and the Allied Powers. It was signed on **June 28, 1919 (Ramadan 29, 1337 Hijri)** (Sivan 30, 5679 Jewish), exactly five years after the assassination of Arch-Duke Franz Ferdinand.

- On **June 7, 1967, Israel** captured **East Jerusalem** from Jordan during the 1967 war with its Arab neighbors. On **June 27 – 28, 1967**, Israel annexed **Eastern Jerusalem** to West Jerusalem by extension of its municipal borders. East Jerusalem was incorporated into one administrative and municipal area, Jerusalem. It was placed under the law, jurisdiction and administration of the State of Israel. In a unanimous General Assembly resolution, the UN declared the measures invalid.

- On **June 27, 1976**, Israeli raid on Entebbe, Uganda happened.

- On **June 28, 2013**, in England, a man is arrested for charges related to the attack on “The Hay Wain” painting, completed by artist John Constable in 1821. This art work is considered one of England's greatest and most popular paintings. A protester, reported to be connected with Fathers4Justice, glued a photograph of a young boy to the painting while it was on display at the National Gallery. Fortunately, it was not permanently damaged.

- On **June 29, 2014 (Ramadan 1, 1435 Hijri)** (Tammuz 1, 5774 Jewish) (2456,837.5<sup>th</sup> or 2456,838<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), the **Islamic State in Iraq & Syria (I.S.I.S.)** announced the establishment of an **Islamic Caliphate** of all Muslims around the World and changed its name to “**The Islamic State**” by removing “**in Iraq & Syria**” from its name. The head of I.S.I.S., **Abu Bakr Al-Baghdadi**, became the **Caliph**, to be known as the **Caliph Ibrahim**. The real name **Abu Bakr Al-Baghdadi** is **Ibrahim (Abraham)**.

## 9. July 15

**July 15** is the **196<sup>th</sup>** day of the year in the Gregorian calendar.

The following events happened on this day:

- As the **first Crusade** was approaching Jerusalem, an eclipse of the moon on **June 5, 1099** was regarded by the Crusaders as a favorable sign from God. The Crusade reached Jerusalem, the main destination of their **pilgrimage journey**, in the morning, on **Tuesday, June 7, 1099** Julian

(Rajab 15, 492 Hijri) (Sivan 15, 4859 Jewish). Faced with a seemingly impossible task, the low morale of the Crusaders was raised when a priest, by the name of **Peter Desiderius**, claimed to have had a divine vision instructing them to fast and then march in a barefoot procession around the city walls, after which the city would fall in nine days, following the Biblical example of Joshua at the siege of Jericho. After fasting for 3 days, on Friday, **July 8, 1099**, the Crusaders performed the procession, sounding trumpets and chanting as instructed by Desiderius, ending on the Mount of Olives where Peter the Hermit preached to them, while the city's Muslim defenders mocked them. More practical help for the Crusaders had already arrived in the form of six ships that anchored at Jaffa, which had been abandoned by the Muslims. The ships were carrying food, armaments, and supplies needed to build siege engines. Using their newly acquired supplies, the Crusaders, with the aid of Genoese engineers, began building **two huge siege towers**, catapults and a battering ram. On **July 10, 1099 (Shaban 18, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 18, 4859 Jewish)**, the two siege towers built by the Crusaders were completed and wheeled into position. For the first time, the Muslim ruler of Jerusalem became concerned, issuing strict orders that he be notified if either tower moved closer to the city. The Crusaders started their assault on Jerusalem on the night of **July 13, 1099 Julian (July 19, 1099 Gregorian)** at night. The Crusaders fought all day on **July 14, 1099 Julian (July 20, 1099 Gregorian) (Shaban 22, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 22, 4859 Jewish)** (2122,661.5<sup>th</sup> or 2122,662<sup>nd</sup> Julian Day) without establishing a foothold. The Crusaders (about 1300 knights and 12,000 soldiers) breached the walls of Jerusalem and conquered Jerusalem on **Friday, July 15, 1099 AD Julian (July 21, 1099 Gregorian) (Shaban 23, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 4859 Jewish)** (2122,662.5<sup>th</sup> or 2122,663<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). The next day, on **July 16, 1099 Julian (July 22, 1099 Gregorian)**, the Crusaders forced Jews of Jerusalem to gather in the main synagogue and then, the Crusaders set this synagogue on fire. Most of the **inhabitants of Jerusalem (mostly Muslims) were slaughtered** by the Crusaders within **July 15 - 16**. On **July 22, 1099 (Ramadan 1, 492 Hijri) (Av 1, 4859 Jewish)**, a council was held in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and **Godfrey de Bouillon** (descendant of Charlemagne) was chosen as ruler of Kingdom of Jerusalem, but he refused the title of "King", instead he adopted the title "Advocate of the Holy Sepulchre". **Pope Urban II** died on **July 29, 1099**, without knowing that Jerusalem was conquered.

- On **July 15, 2016**, a military coup happened in Turkey to topple the government, but it failed.

## 10. **July 18 - 20**

**July 19** is the **200<sup>th</sup> day** of the year in the Gregorian calendar. There are **165 days** remaining until the end of the year.

The following events happened during **July 18 - 20**:

- On **July 20, 356 B.C.**, **Alexander the Great**, Macedonian/Greek king, was born.

- On the eve of **July 19, 64 A.D.**, a fire broke out in Rome among the shops lining the Circus Maximus, Rome's mammoth chariot stadium. The **flames raged for six days** before coming under control. Later, the fire reignited and burned for another three. When the smoke cleared, ten of Rome's 14 districts were in ruin. The 800-year-old **Temple of Jupiter Stator** and the Atrium Vestae, the hearth of the Vestal Virgins, were gone. **Two thirds of Rome** had been destroyed. According to a popular, but historically unverified legend, **Emperor Nero** was playing the fiddle (violin) while the city was burning.

- On **July 19, 484 A.D.**, **Leontius, Roman usurper**, was crowned **Eastern emperor** at Tarsus (modern Turkey). He was recognized in Antioch and made it his capital.

- On **July 19, 514 A.D.**, **Pope Symmachus** died. He is **the 51<sup>st</sup> Pope**. He served as a Pope from November 22, 498 to his death in 514 AD. His tenure was marked by a serious schism over who was legitimately elected pope by the citizens of Rome. The Arch-Priest of Santa Prassede, Laurentius, was elected pope that same day at the church of St. Mary's by a dissenting minority faction with Byzantine sympathies, who were supported by Emperor Anastasius. Both factions agreed to allow the Gothic King Theodoric the Great to arbitrate. He ruled that the one who was elected first and whose supporters were the most numerous should be recognized as pope. An investigation found the facts favored Symmachus and his election was recognized as proper.

- **Battle of Guadalete** between the Christian Visigoths of Hispania led by their king, **Roderic**, and an invading force of Muslims led by **Tariq bin Ziyad** took place near **Medina Sidonia** (city founded by the Phoenicians in today's Cadiz province, in Southern Spain), around **July 19 – 25, 711 AD (July 19 was Ramadan 27, 92 Hijri)**. The Muslims defeated the army of the Visigoths. **King Roderic** died in the Battle. It was the **beginning of Muslims' rule of Al-Andalus, Spain** that lasted till the fall of Granada on **January 2, 1492**. A Christian Visigothic nobleman named Julian helped the Muslims. Julian wished the fall of the Visigothic kingdom because his daughter had been raped by Roderic. According to legends surrounding the battle, Roderic arrived to the field in a chariot drawn by eight white mules. Abd Al-Hakam, a Muslim historian, mentioned that the Carpet of Solomon and a gold table covered with gems and other precious stones that once also belonged to Solomon were discovered in Toledo after it was conquered.

- On **July 16, 1054 AD**, the **Schism in Christianity**, into Roman Catholic Church versus Eastern Orthodox Churches, started when the Pope's delegates placed a decree of excommunication against Patriarch of Constantinople on the altar of Church of Hagia Sophia. **Patriarch of Constantinople** retaliated by convening a council on **July 20, 1054**, which excommunicated the Pope's delegates and those who follow them and accused them and the Pope of heresy. The date, **July 16, 1054 AD**, is considered the official beginning of the schism in Christianity between the Western and Eastern Churches.

- As the **first Crusade** was approaching Jerusalem, an eclipse of the moon on **June 5, 1099** was regarded by the Crusaders as a favorable sign from God. The Crusade reached Jerusalem, the main destination of their **pilgrimage journey**, in the morning, on **Tuesday, June 7, 1099** Julian (Rajab 15, 492 Hijri) (Sivan 15, 4859 Jewish). Faced with a seemingly impossible task, the low morale of the Crusaders was raised when a priest, by the name of **Peter Desiderius**, claimed to

have had a divine vision instructing them to fast and then march in a barefoot procession around the city walls, after which the city would fall in nine days, following the Biblical example of Joshua at the siege of Jericho. After fasting for 3 days, on Friday, **July 8, 1099**, the Crusaders performed the procession, sounding trumpets and chanting as instructed by Desiderius, ending on the Mount of Olives where Peter the Hermit preached to them, while the city's Muslim defenders mocked them. More practical help for the Crusaders had already arrived in the form of six ships that anchored at Jaffa, which had been abandoned by the Muslims. The ships were carrying food, armaments, and supplies needed to build siege engines. Using their newly acquired supplies, the Crusaders, with the aid of Genoese engineers, began building **two huge siege towers**, catapults and a battering ram. On **July 10, 1099 (Shaban 18, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 18, 4859 Jewish)**, the two siege towers built by the Crusaders were completed and wheeled into position. For the first time, the Muslim ruler of Jerusalem became concerned, issuing strict orders that he be notified if either tower moved closer to the city. The Crusaders started their assault on Jerusalem on the night of **July 13, 1099 Julian (July 19, 1099 Gregorian)** at night. The Crusaders fought all day on **July 14, 1099 Julian (July 20, 1099 Gregorian) (Shaban 22, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 22, 4859 Jewish) (2122,661.5<sup>th</sup> or 2122,662<sup>nd</sup> Julian Day)** without establishing a foothold. The Crusaders (about 1300 knights and 12,000 soldiers) breached the walls of Jerusalem and conquered Jerusalem on **Friday, July 15, 1099 AD Julian (July 21, 1099 Gregorian) (Shaban 23, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 4859 Jewish) (2122,662.5<sup>th</sup> or 2122,663<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**. The next day, on **July 16, 1099 Julian (July 22, 1099 Gregorian)**, the Crusaders forced Jews of Jerusalem to gather in the main synagogue and then, the Crusaders set this synagogue on fire. Most of the **inhabitants of Jerusalem (mostly Muslims) were slaughtered** by the Crusaders within **July 15 - 16**. On **July 22, 1099 (Ramadan 1, 492 Hijri) (Av 1, 4859 Jewish)**, a council was held in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and **Godfrey de Bouillon** (descendant of Charlemagne) was chosen as ruler of Kingdom of Jerusalem, but he refused the title of "King", instead he adopted the title "Advocate of the Holy Sepulchre". **Pope Urban II** died on **July 29, 1099**, without knowing that Jerusalem was conquered.

- **Godfrey de Bouillon** was the first elected ruler of Crusaders' Kingdom in Jerusalem that was established after the Crusaders' conquest of Jerusalem for the first time. He was born on **September 18, 1060 (Shaban 19 (or 20), 452 Hijri) (Tishri 21, 4821 Jewish)**. He died on **July 18, 1100 (Ramadan 9, 493 Hijri) (Av 10, 4860 Jewish)**.

- Following a siege, Husam Eddeen Baraka Khan, leader of the Khawarizm, on behalf of Ayubi Sultan of Egypt Al-Salih, Najm-Eddeen Ayub, conquered Jerusalem from the Crusaders on **July 11, 1244 AD Julian (July 18, 1244 AD Gregorian) (Safar 4, 642 AD) (Av 4, 5004 Jewish) (2175,620.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**, but the citadel "Tower of David" held out against them until **August 23, 1244 AD (Rabi Awwal 10, 642 Hijri) (Elul 10, 5004 Jewish)**, ending the second and last Kingdom of the Crusaders in Jerusalem. Jerusalem remained under the rule of Muslims until **December 9, 1917** when Britain captured Jerusalem from the Ottomans.

- On **July 8, 1290**, King **Edward I** of England ordered **expulsion of Jews**.

- On **July 18, 1536**, the English Parliament passed an act declaring the **authority of the pope is void** in England.

- On **July 19, 1553**, Lady Jane Grey was replaced by **Mary I** as **Queen of England** after only **nine days** on the throne.

- On **July 19, 1558** Julian (July 29, 1588 Gregorian) (Ramadan 5, 996 Hijri) (2301,274.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), the **Spanish Armada fleet** was sighted in the English Channel coming to invade England. The Armada fleet was a crescent-shaped defensive formation of ships, convex towards the East. The Commander in chief of the Spanish Armada was **Alonso Pérez de Guzmán, Duke of Medina Sidonia**. The coming of the Armada led to the Battle of Gravelines in the **Anglo-Spanish War**.

- The **first apparition** of the Virgin Mary by **Saint Catherine Labouré** happened in **France** on the eve of the feast of St. Vincent, **July 19, 1830**.

- On **July 18, 1870**, the First Vatican Ecumenical Council issued a proclamation, declaring the **Pope's primacy and infallibility** in deciding faith and moral matters.

- During the **Second Italian War of Independence**, much of the **Papal States** had been conquered by the Piedmontese Army. The Italian Parliament declared the creation of the **Kingdom of Italy** on **February 18, 1861** (Shaban 7 (or 8), 1277 Hijri) (officially proclaiming it on **March 17, 1861** (Ramadan 5 (or 6) 1277 Hijri) ]. On **March 27, 1861** (Ramadan 15 (or 16), 1277 Hijri), the Parliament declared **Rome** the Capital of the **Kingdom of Italy**. However, the Italian government could not take its seat in Rome because it did not control the territory. In addition, a French garrison was maintained in the city by **Napoleon III of France in support of Pope Pius IX**. The Franco-Prussian War started on **July 19, 1870**. After the Battle of Sedan fought between France and Prussia on **September 1, 1870**, the situation changed radically. It resulted in the surrender and capture of **Emperor Napoleon III** and large numbers of his troops on **September 2, 1870**. The French lost over 17,000 men killed and wounded with 21,000 captured. On **September 4, 1870**, with disgraced emperor in captivity, the French Emperor was deposed. The French proclaimed end of Monarch and establishment of a Republic. The new French government was clearly in no position to retaliate against Italy, nor did it possess the political will to protect the Pope's position. **King of Italy, Victor Emmanuel II** sent **Conte Gustavo Ponza di San Martino** as a delegate to **Pope Pius IX** with a personal letter, offering a face-saving proposal that would have allowed the peaceful entry of the Italian Army into Rome. The Pope would retain the inviolability and prerogatives attaching to him **as a sovereign**. The **Leonine city** would remain under the full jurisdiction and sovereignty of the Pope. The envoy of King Victor Emmanuel II headed to Rome on **September 9, 1870** and met with Cardinal Antonelli (Secretary of State) that same evening. The negotiations lasted till **September 10, 1870**. The Pope's reception of the envoy of King Victor Emmanuel II on **September 10, 1870** was unfriendly. The Pope said: "you will never enter Rome". The Italian army of 60,000 soldiers, commanded by General Raffaele Cadorna, **crossed the papal frontier** on **September 11** and advanced toward Rome. By **September 19, 1870 (Elul 23, 5630 Jewish)**, Italian army was just outside Rome ready for entry. On **September 20, 1870 (Jumada Thania 23, 1287 Hijri) (Elul 24, 5630 Jewish)**, after a limited battle, the Italian army of the **Kingdom of Italy** entered Rome. The next day, on **September 21, 1870 (Jumada Thania 24, 1287 Hijri) (Elul 25, 5630 Jewish) (2404,326.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**, the Italian army entered **Leonine City**, including the **Vatican**, seat of the Pope. **Leonine City** is the part of the city of Rome surrounded by the

Leonine Wall from 3 sides and by the Tiber River on the 4<sup>th</sup> side. The Vatican is within the enclosed area. This is the end of the Papal State which was later revived on **June 7, 1929** when the **City of the Vatican** became an independent state.

- On **July 20, 1903**, Giuseppe Sarto was elected as **Pope Pius X**.
- On **July 19, 1904**, construction began on the **Liverpool Cathedral** in England. The cathedral was consecrated on this same date in 1924, and fully completed in 1978. It is the **largest cathedral in the United Kingdom** and the fifth largest in the world.
- On **July 19, 1912**, after the appearance of a smoke trail in the sky, a **meteorite** with an estimated mass of **190 kilograms (419 pounds)** exploded over the town of **Holbrook, Arizona, U.S.**, causing a shower of stones to fall down from the sky, estimated to number more than 16,000 and varying in weight from 6.6 kilograms to less than 0.1 grams.
- The beginning of **World War 1** could be considered August 1, 1914 Gregorian (**July 19, 1914 Julian**), the day on which: (a) **Germany** declared war on **Russia**, (b) Germany and the Ottoman Empire signed a secret alliance treaty. The first act of military intervention in **World War I** happened when Germany invaded Luxembourg on August 2, 1914 Gregorian (**July 20, 1914 Julian**). The end of **World War 1** could be considered on **July 19, 1919 Gregorian**, the day on which Britain celebrated victory of the Allies and called it "**Peace Day**".
- On Saturday, **July 19, 1919**, **Peace Day celebrations** marked the end of World War I. **World War I armistice** came into effect at 11 a.m. on **November 11, 1918**, the eleventh hour, of the eleventh day, of the eleventh month. The Allies' **formal peace treaty** with Germany, the **Treaty of Versailles**, was not officially signed until **June 28, 1919**. The British government planned, as a public celebration of the victory of the Allies in World War I, a single day of festivities on **July 19, 1919** and called it "**Peace Day**". Thousands of people gathered across London, they had flowed in overnight by train and bus. Numerous representatives of the allied nations were in attendance. In London, the principal event that day was the **Victory Parade** of 15, 000 troops. This event was one of the most impressive spectacles ever witnessed by Londoners and the World. However, following **Peace Day celebrations**, ex-servicemen rioted and burned down Luton Town Hall.
- On **November 18, 1919**, **French forces** commanded by **General Henri Gouraud** landed in Beirut, Lebanon, with the ultimate goal of bringing Lebanon and Syria under French control, in accordance with the secret Sykes-Picot Agreement between Britain and France. On **March 8, 1920**, the Syrian National Congress proclaimed the establishment of the **Arab Kingdom of Syria**, with **Faisal** (son of Sharif of Mecca, Hussein son of Ali) **as king**. On **July 14, 1920**, General Gouraud issued an ultimatum to the **Syrian Arab Kingdom**, demanding that the Arab Army be disbanded and submit to French authority by **July 20** or face a French military invasion. On **July 18**, King Faisal and the entire government cabinet of Ministers, with the exception of War Minister Yusuf Al-Azma, agreed to the ultimatum and issued disbandment orders for the Arab Army units at Anjar, the Beirut–Damascus road and the hills of the Anti-Lebanon Mountains overlooking the Beqaa Valley. On **July 20, 1920**, **King Faisal** informed the French liaison in Damascus of his acceptance of the ultimatum, but for unclear reasons, Faisal's

notification did not reach Gouraud in Lebanon until **July 21**. However, a series of escalating events led to French forces' march toward Damascus. In the early in the morning of **July 24, 1920** (Zu Al-Qada 9, 1338 Hijri) (**Av 9, 5680 Jewish**) (2422,529.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **French forces** attacked and defeated the Arab forces of led by Yusuf Al-Azma, Minister of War, in the **Battle of Maysalun** (a strategic hilly location about 12 miles west of Damascus, overlooking a valley used as a passage to Damascus). French forces had captured **Aleppo** without a fight, on **July 23, 1920**, and after their victory at Maysalun, the French troops besieged and captured **Damascus** on **July 25, 1920**. Then, General Gouraud reportedly went to the tomb of Salah Eddin Al-Ayyubi (who defeated the Crusaders and liberated Jerusalem in 1187 AD), adjacent to the Umawi Mosque in Damascus, kicked it, and said: *"Wake up, Salah Eddin. We have returned. My presence here consecrates victory of the Cross over the Crescent."* General **Henri Gouraud** was born on **November 17, 1867 (Rajab 19, 1284 Hijri) (Heshvan 19, 5628 Jewish)** and died on **September 16, 1946 (Shawwal 19, 1365 Hijri) (Elul 20, 5706 Jewish)**.

- On **July 20, 1920**, Sultan Pasja Al-Atrash calls **Druz for holy war against France**.
- On **July 20, 1927**, **Lindbergh** began NY flight (Spirit of St Louis).
- On **July 20, 1933**, the **Vatican**, at the time of Pope Pius XII, represented by state secretary Pacelli, signed an agreement with **Hitler**.
- On **July 20, 1936**, the **Montreux Convention** was signed in Switzerland, authorizing Turkey to fortify the Dardanelles and Bosphorus, but guaranteeing free passage to ships of all nations in peacetime.
- On **July 19, 1940**, **Germany's Hitler** ordered Britain to surrender.
- On **July 19, 1941**, British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, launched his **"V for Victory" campaign**.
- On **July 19, 1942**, senior Nazi German Commander, Himmler, sent a secret directive to SS Lieutenant General F.W. Kinger ordering the **"resettlement" of the entire Jewish population** to be completed by December 31, 1942.
- On **Monday, July 19, 1943**, 11:13 a.m. local time in Italy, 500 **Allied war-planes** raided **Rome** and dropped bombs, three days after **July 15**, the day on which an ultimatum delivered by dropping around 120,000 leaflets above Rome warning the people of Rome about an imminent bomb attack. Allied pilots and Air Force servicemen of Catholic faith were allowed to ask for an exoneration from the mission, and the officials ordered to exonerate by order Protestants because they were clearly anti-Roman and against the Vatican. Approximately 7000 Allied soldiers were ready to board and fly from the Northern Africa and Middle East airports and Allies bases. American movie star Clark Gable was a machine gunner in one of the B-17 bomber airplanes. Allied briefing said "The today attack against Rome is one of those events which will be remembered for the next one hundred years". A military chaplain was motivating a bomber crew "soldiers, unleash hell above them ! ". In less than two hours, the 4,000 bombs (about 1,060 tons) dropped on the city, caused about 3,000 deaths and 11,000 wounded, including 1,500 deaths and



4,000 injured in one neighborhood, San Lorenzo. A big portion of this densely populated residential district was flattened by the barrage from above; entire apartment blocks, shops, hospitals, and even an orphanage crumbled to dust in the ensuing inferno. At the end of the bombing, **Pope Pius XII** went to visit the affected areas, blessing the victims on the Piazzale del Verano. The bomb attack against Rome and the prospect of the conquest and destruction of Italy led to the fall of the government of Italy just six days later. The Allies invaded Sicily on **July 24, 1943**. That same day, Italy's Prime Minister Benito Mussolini was deposed by the Grand Council of Fascism, who gave Mussolini a vote of no confidence. Then, the King of Italy dismissed him as Prime Minister and he was arrested on **July 25, 1943**.

- On **July 19, 1944**, during World War II, allied airplanes bombed targets in South West Germany (included Munich).

- On **July 20, 1944**, an assassination attempt on Hitler by a group of Nazi officers failed.

- On **July 11, 1947 (Shaban 23, 1366 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 1366 Jewish), Exodus 1947 ship**, carrying illegal Jewish migrants, left the port of Sète near Marseilles, France, heading to Palestine. **Exodus 1947 ship** was the largest **Aliyah Bet** ship. **Aliyah Bet**, meaning "**Migration B**", refers to the Second Wave or Series of Jewish Migration attempts by European Jews to immigrate illegally to Palestine **before and after World War II**. The ship was carrying **4500 Jews**, the largest-ever number of illegal Jewish immigrants to Palestine. The story of this ship received a lot of international attention. On **July 18, 1947, (Ramadan 1, 1366 Hijri) (Av 1, 5707 Jewish)**, the British navy intercepted, boarded the **Exodus ship**, and refused its entry into Palestine at the port of Haifa. The Jewish migrants resisted violently, and the interception ended with two Jewish migrants and one crewman dead. British Foreign Secretary, Ernest Bevin, said that the migrants on board the Exodus ship would be returned to the ship's port of origin in France to deter future illegal immigrants. However, the French government announced that it would not permit the disembarkation of passengers unless it was voluntary on their part. The passengers refused to disembark, spending weeks in difficult conditions. The ship was then taken to Germany, where the passengers were forcibly removed in Hamburg and returned to DP camps.

- Prophet Mohammad (p) mentioned that there will be 4 truces (or armistices) between Muslims and Bani Asfar (Western Romans), then they break the **4<sup>th</sup> truce** and attack Muslims. In 1949, Israel signed an Armistice (Truce) agreement with each of its neighbouring **Arab countries** to end 1948 war. The **fourth** and last of these **Armistice** agreements was signed between **Israel** and **Syria** on **July 20, 1949 (Ramadan 23, 1368 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 5709 Jewish Calendar)** (2433,117.5 or 2433,118<sup>th</sup> Julian day). Thus, Israel's 1948 war with the Arabs ended on this day.

- **AbdAllah I** (King of Jordan), son of **Hussein bin Ali** (Sharif of Mecca who started the Arab Revolution against the Ottoman Sultanate in 1916), was assassinated, at the **age 69**, by a 21 years old Palestinian young man named Mustafa Ashu, while entering the Aqsa Mosque for Friday noon prayer on **July 20, 1951 (Shawwal 15, 1370 Hijri) (Tammuz 16, 5711 Jewish)** (2433,847.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). His grandson, the 16 years old Prince Hussein (who few years later became King) was at his side and he was also shot. However, fortunately, a medal, that had been pinned to Hussein's chest just a few hours earlier, deflected the bullet and saved his life. The

assassin was killed on the spot. On **July 20, 1951**, **King Abdullah** was visiting Jerusalem for two main reasons: (a) The public reason was to deliver a eulogy at the funeral of **Riad Al-Solh**, the Prime Minister of Lebanon, who four days earlier had been assassinated in Amman, Jordan on **July 16, 1951**, where rumors were circulating that Lebanon and Jordan were discussing a peace arrangement with Israel; (b) The secret reason was that after the prayer, King Abdullah was scheduled to meet secretly to discuss possible terms for a peace agreement between Jordan and Israel with Reuven Shiloah and Moshe Sasson of the Israeli Foreign Ministry on Saturday **July 21, 1951**. The American ambassador had begged the King to drop his plan of praying at Jerusalem's great Al-Aqsa mosque. American ambassador said to him : "I have heard there may be an attempt on your life. King Abdullah knew his visit to Jerusalem was risky. His grandson Hussein, later revealed that King Abdullah told him: "I have asked many people to come with me to Jerusalem tomorrow. It is very strange. Some of them do not want to come. They seem afraid of something. I have never heard so many feeble excuses in my life." Before leaving Amman, King Abdullah was chatting with some acquaintances about life and death. King Abdullah told them: "When I have to die, I would like to be shot in the head by a nobody. That's the simplest way of dying." In the assassination trial, prosecution identified Colonel Abdullah Al-Tal (born on **July 17, 1918**), commander of the Jordanian forces that liberated Old City of Jerusalem on **May 28, 1948**, and Musa Al-Husseini as the chief plotters. The prosecution believed that Al-Tal had been in close contact with the former Mufti of Jerusalem, Amin Al-Husseini, head of the All-Palestine government (established in September 1948) that was based in Cairo, that opposed the partition of Palestine and was calling for liberation of all Palestine. All-Palestine government was recognized by most Arab countries. While King Abdullah opposed the All-Palestine government. King Abdullah accepted the partitioning of Palestine between the Jews and the Arabs, but was interested in ruling the West Bank and Old City of Jerusalem. That is why there was perception among Palestinians and many Arabs that King Abdullah was a traitor. Al-Tal and Musa Al-Husseini, and three co-conspirators from Jerusalem, were sentenced to death. On **September 6, 1951**, Musa Al-Husseini, Abid Ukah, Zakariya Ukah, and Abd El-Qadir Farhat were executed by hanging. Abdullah Al-Tal was in Egypt, so he could not be captured. In 1967, Abdullah Al-Tal received a full pardon from King Hussein and returned to Jordan.

- On **July 20, 1953**, the **Soviet Union (Russia)** resumed its diplomatic relations with **Israel**.
- At the end of **Geneva Conference** on **July 20, 1954**, France, Britain, the U.S., the Soviet Union, and China reached an accord on IndoChina that included **dividing Vietnam into two countries**, North and South, along the 17<sup>th</sup> parallel.
- On **July 20, 1956**, **Great Britain** refused to lend **Egypt** money to build **Aswan Dam**.
- On **July 20, 1958**, **King Hussein of Jordan** broke off diplomatic relations with **United Arab Republic** (Union of Egypt & Syria).
- On **July 20, 1960**, USS George Washington (the first U.S. missile-launching submarine) successfully launched the first **Polaris missile** (nuclear-armed ballistic missile) from a submerged submarine.

- On **July 19, 1963**, Joe Walker flies a North American X-15 to a record altitude of 106,010 meters (347,800 feet). Exceeding an altitude of 100 km, this flight qualifies as a **human spaceflight** under international convention.
  
- On **July 16, 1969** (Jumada Al-Ula 1, **1389 Hijri**) (Av 1, 5729 Hebrew), **Apollo 11** was launched. On **July 19, 1969**, **Apollo 11** entered an orbit around the Moon for 24 hours and began the decent toward the lunar surface. At 8:18 p.m. UTC, on **July 20, 1969** (Jumada Al-Ula 5, **1389 Hijri**) (Av 5, 5729 Hebrew) (2440,422.5<sup>th</sup> or 2440,423<sup>th</sup> **Julian day**), **Apollo 11** landed on the moon, on a site called **Sea of Tranquility**, becoming the first space voyage with a human crew to land on the Moon. **Apollo 11's** commander, **Neil Armstrong** stepped out of Apollo's Space Craft into the surface of Moon at 2:56 a.m. UTC, on **July 21, 1969** (Jumada Al-Ula 5, **1389 Hijri**), becoming the first man to set foot on the Moon and on a planetary body, other than the Earth, in general. **Apollo 11** began its journey back to Earth at 4:56 pm local time on **July 22, 1969** (4:56 a.m. UTC, 12:56 a.m. EDT on July 22). Apollo 11's crew returned to Earth and landed in the Pacific Ocean, **just before dawn** at 4:51 a.m. local time on **July 25, 1969** (4:51 p.m. UTC, 12:51 p.m. EDT, on **July 24, 1969** (Jumada Al-Ula 9, **1389 Hijri**) (Av 9, 5729 Jewish Calendar).
  
- On **July 20, 1971**, the **Soviet Union** announced that it would support the **People's Republic of China's** admission to the **United Nations**.
  
- On **July 19, 1972**, during the Dhofar Rebellion, British SAS units helped the Omani government against Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman rebels in the Battle of Mirbat.
  
- On **July 15, 1974**, a "coup d' etat" in Cyprus, orchestrated by the military rulers of Greece, ousted the President of Cyprus, Archbishop Makarios, and installed Nikos Sampson in his place, to unite Cyprus with Greece. Sampson was a Greek ultra nationalist, pro-union with Greece, who was known to be fanatically anti-Turks. Greece had been ruled by military governments since the military coup on April 21, 1967, but an even more extremist one came to power on November 17, 1973. Makarios narrowly escaped death in the coup. He fled the presidential palace and was rescued by a British Westland **Whirlwind** helicopter that flew him to Malta in the afternoon of **July 16, 1974** and from there to London, the next morning. Sampson's regime took over radio stations and declared that Makarios had been killed, but Makarios, safe in London, was soon able to counteract these false reports. On **July 20, 1974**, Turkey started an invasion of Cyprus to protect the Turkish Cypriots. The Turkish air force began bombing Greek positions on Cyprus, hundreds of paratroops were dropped. The Greek military junta in Athens collapsed on **July 23, 1974**, mainly because of the events in Cyprus. On **24 July 1974**, former Prime Minister Constantine Karamanlis returned from Paris to Greece and was sworn in as Prime Minister of Greece. Consequently, in Cyprus, Nikos Sampson resigned on **July 23, 1974** and the interim presidency passed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Glafkos Klerides. Makarios remained in London for five months before returning to Cyprus to serve as President.
  
- On **July 19, 1975**, **Apollo & Soyuz 19** separated from each other, after being linked in orbit for 2 days since July 17, 1975. The two spacecraft undocked July 19 at 8:02 a.m. As the Apollo capsule backed away, it blocked the sun from the Soyuz vehicle, creating the **first human-made eclipse** and enabling the cosmonauts to photograph the sun's corona. The two spacecraft then

docked once more, with final undocking at 11:26 a.m. **Soyuz's** mission ended **July 21, 1975** at 6:51 a.m. with a successful landing on Earth. Apollo splashed down in the Pacific Ocean west of Hawaii at 5:18 p.m. EDT on **July 24, 1975**.

- On **July 20, 1976**, **Viking 1**, sent by the U.S., was the **first spacecraft to successfully land on Mars**. The Lander separated from the Orbiter at 08:51 UTC and landed at 11:53:06 UTC on **July 20, 1976**. **Viking 1** was launched on August 20, 1975.

- On **July 19, 1979**, the **Sandinista rebels overthrew the government** of the Somoza family in **Nicaragua**.

- On **July 20, 1983**, the Israeli cabinet voted in favor of **withdrawing their troops from Beirut**, but to **remain in southern Lebanon**, following Israel's invasion of Lebanon which had started on **June 6, 1982**.

- On **July 19, 1985**, the Val di Stava **dam collapsed** killing 268 people in Val di Stava, Italy.

- On **July 20, 1988** (Zu Hijja 5, 1408 Hijri) (Av 6, 5748 Jewish), the beginning of the **end of the Iran-Iraq war** (which had started on September 22, 1980) came with UN's adoption of Resolution 598 calling for an immediate cease-fire (or truce). Both Iran and Iraq had accepted Resolution 598 on **July 20, 1988**. However, Iraq decided to make a final push and attempted to invade Iran, once again. The Iraqi army attacked Khuzestan province, beginning with chemical and air strikes, and once again pushed towards Khorramshahr. However, Iran had anticipated the attack, and used its air force in conjunction with surface-to-air missiles to defeat the larger Iraqi air force. The Iranian forces then took the offensive on **July 25, 1988 (Zu Al-Hijja 10, 1408 Hijri)** (Av 11, 5748 Jewish) and captured 600 sq km (230 sq mi) of Iraqi territory. Both sides eventually withdrew to the international border in the coming weeks, with Resolution 598 becoming effective on **August 8, 1988**, ending all combat operations between the two countries. U.N. Peacekeepers were placed on Iraq-Iran borders till 1991.

- On **July 20, 1994**, Israel's **Shimon Peres** visited **Jordan**. He was the highest ranking Israeli official to visit Jordan.

- On **July 19, 1997**, the **Provisional Irish Republican Army** resumed a ceasefire to **end their 25-year campaign to end British rule** in Northern Ireland.

- On **July 19, 2007**, **Russia expelled four British embassy staff**, and imposed a visa ban on British officials and said that it would cease cooperation with London in the war on terrorism, in a tit-for-tat response over **Britain's expulsion of four of Russia's diplomats on July 16, 2007**, in response to Moscow's refusal to hand over the **ex-KGB agent Lugovoy** accused of poisoning **Alexander Litvinenko** on November 1, 2006 and died on November 23, 2006. Alexander Litvinenko was a former Russian security agent who had been granted asylum and had been living in Britain. Mr. Litvinenko died in London, 22 days after drinking tea, poisoned with extremely rare radioactive substance, at a meeting with Lugovoy. **Alexander Litvinenko** was a fierce critic of the Russian regime and had close links with a network of expatriate dissidents, both in the UK and New York. **Alexander Litvinenko** announced his **conversion to Islam** few

days **before he died**. Litvinenko alleged that agents from the FSB coordinated the 1999 Russian apartment bombings that killed more than 300 people, whereas Russian officials blamed the explosions on Islamic terrorists.

- **Helen Thomas**, a renowned **Lebanese American** journalist and **White House correspondent**, was born on **August 4, 1920** and died on **July 20, 2013** (Ramadan 12, 1434 Hijri) (Av 13, 5773 Jewish) at the age of **92**. She covered the administrations of eleven U.S. presidents.

- **Donald Trump** was born on Friday, **June 14, 1946** (Rajab 15, 1365 Hijri) (Sivan 15, 5706 Jewish) (2431, **985.5<sup>th</sup>** Julian Day), a day on which there was a **Total Lunar Eclipse**. **Donald Trump** formally **announced** his candidacy for presidency of the U.S. on **June 16, 2015** (**Shaban 29**, 1436 Hijri) (Sivan 29, 5775 Jewish), with a **campaign** rally and speech at Trump Tower in New York City. **Donald Trump** won the nomination of the Republican Party for U.S. presidency at the **Republican** National Convention on **July 19, 2016** (Shawwal 13, 1437 Hijri) (**Tammuz 13**, 5776 Jewish). **Donald Trump** won the presidential election in the U.S. on **November 8, 2016** (Safar 7, 1438 Hijri) (Heshvan 7, 5777 Jewish).

## 11. July 22 - 24

**July 23** is the **204<sup>th</sup>** day of the year in the Gregorian calendar. There are **161 days** remaining until the end of the year.

The following events happened during this period:

- **Yazid son of Muawiya** (against whom Al-Hussein, Prophet Mohammad's grandson, rebelled and was killed) was born on **July 23, 647 AD** (Shawwal 11, 26 AD).

- The Abbasi Caliph Al-Mutasim forces led by General Afshin defeated the Byzantine forces of Emperor Theophilos on **July 22, 838 AD Julian** (**Shaban 25, 223 Hijri**) (Tammuz 26, 4598 Jewish) in the Battle of **Anzen** (or Dazman in today's Turkey).

- On **July 22, 1099 Julian** (**July 28, 1099 Gregorian**) (Ramadan 1, 492 Hijri) (Av 1, 4859 Jewish), **Godfrey of Bouillon** became the first king (taking the title "**Defender of the Holy Sepulchre**") of the Crusaders' **Kingdom of Jerusalem**, after Jerusalem was conquered by the Crusaders on **July 15, 1099** (Shaban 23, 492 Hijri) (**Tammuz 23**, 4859 Jewish).

- On **July 23, 1148 AD Julian** (July 30, 1148 Gregorian) (Rabi Awwal 4, 543 Hijri) (Av 5, 4908 Jewish), the **Second Crusade**, aiming to conquer **Damascus**, reached Damascus outskirts and laid a siege on Damascus. The city was ruled by a Muslim named Mu'in Ad-Din Unur. The siege lasted from **July 23** till **July 28, 1148 AD** (**Av 10**, 4908 Jewish). **Nur Ad-Din Zangi**, Muslim ruler of Aleppo, arrived with Muslim reinforcements and cut off the Crusaders. The Crusaders' siege ended in a decisive crusader defeat. The entire crusader army retreated back to Jerusalem

by **July 28, 1148 AD**. Mu'in Ad-Din was forced to acknowledge Nur Ad-Din as his overlord.

- In **January 1306**, **King Philip IV** (Philip, the Fair) of **France** devised a **secret plan** to strip the Jews of their belongings and expel them from France. If any Jews were to be found after a particular date, then they would be killed. **King Philip IV** ordered the arrest and expulsion from France on **July 22, 1306 (Muharram 10, 706 Hijri) (Av 10, 5066 Jewish)**. More than **100,000 Jews** were arrested. It was possible to complete the arrests in **one day** because the orders had been kept secret and the authorities knew the whereabouts of the Jews. When in prison, the Jews were told that they were sentenced to exile. They had to leave behind their belongings and debts and were to be allowed to leave the country only with the clothes they were wearing and a small sum of money. All the Jews' belongings were auctioned. The King took the proceeds. All debts to the Jews were transferred to the King and he received the payments from their Christian debtors. Most Jews went to the next Duchy. Gradually, they were allowed to drift back. After the expulsion of the Jews from England in 1290, many of these Jews had moved to France.

- On **July 23, 1319 AD**, the **Battle of Chios** happened. It was a naval battle fought off the shore of the eastern Aegean island of Chios between a **Latin Christian** (mainly Knights Hospitaller) **fleet** and a **Muslim Turkish fleet** from the Aydinid emirate. The battle ended in a decisive Christian victory.

- On **July 22, 1648 (Rajab 12, 1059 Hijri) (Av 13, 5409 Jewish)**, 10,000 Jews were murdered in Chmielnick, Poland.

- On **July 12, 1691 Julian Calendar (July 22, 1691 Gregorian Calendar) (Shawwal 25, 1102 Hijri) (Tammuz 25, 5451 Jewish)**, **Battle of Aughrim** took place in Ireland in which Protestants defeated the Catholics. It is known as "Aughrim of the Slaughter". About 4,000 Catholics were killed and 3000 - 4,000 were captured or missing. It is celebrated by Protestants annually on July 12 as part of a celebration called the Twelfth or Orangmen's Day]

- On **July 22, 1706**, the details of the **Treaty of Union** were agreed upon, and separate **Acts of Union** were later passed by the parliaments of England and Scotland to ratify the Treaty. This treaty was for the union of **Kingdom of England** and **Kingdom of Scotland** and it led to the creation of the **Kingdom of Great Britain**, which took effect on **May 1, 1707**. They had been in informal union under the House of Stuart since the death of **Queen Elizabeth I** on **March 14, 1603** when James of Scotland became **King of England and Scotland**. He also held the title of **King of France**, as had all his predecessors in the English throne since October 21, **1422**. James became King of Scotland on **July 24, 1567**, at the age of 13 months, and was formally crowned on **July 29, 1567**. On **January 1, 1801**, Great Britain merged with the Kingdom of Ireland to form the **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland**. After most of Ireland left the union on **December 6, 1922**, its name was amended on **April 12, 1927** to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

- On **July 23, 1840**, the British Parliament **passed Act of Union** formally titled *The British North America Act*. This act merged Upper & Lower Canada into a new single political entity called the **Province of Canada**. On **July 1, 1867**, the British North America Act, 1867, was enacted. It united three colonies into a single country called **Canada** within the **British Empire**.

- On **July 23, 1908** (Jumada Thania 23, 1326 Hijri) (**Tammuz 24**, 5668 Jewish), upon learning that the troops of **Young Turk movement** in Salonica were marching towards Istanbul, **Ottoman Caliph & Sultan Abdul Hamid II** announced the restoration of the suspended constitution of 1876.

- In response to the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria, heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, and his wife by a Bosnian Serb on **June 28, 1914**, **Austria** delivered an ultimatum to the Serbian foreign ministry by the ambassador of the Austro-Hungarian Empire to Serbia at **6 pm** on **July 23, 1914** (Shaban 29, 1332 Hijri). On **July 25, 1914**, just **before the 6 p.m. deadline**, Serbian Prime Minister delivered the Serbian answer to the ultimatum to the Austrian embassy. Serbia's response effectively accepted all terms of the ultimatum but one: it would not accept Austria-Hungary's participation in any internal inquiry. Since Serbia did not accept all the conditions of the ultimatum, the Austro-Hungarian Empire declared war against Serbia and attempted to invade Serbia on **July 28, 1914** (Ramadan 5, 1332 Hijri). This is considered the beginning of **World War I**.

- An ultimatum was issued, on **July 14, 1920**, by Commander of the French Forces, General Henri Gouraud, to King Faisal bin Hussein's Kingdom of Syria (which was established by King Faisal on March 8, 1920) to surrender or fight which was accepted on **July 20, 1920** by the Syrian government. However, early in the morning of **July 24, 1920** (Zu Qa'da 8, 1338 Hijri) (**Av 9, 5680 Jewish**) (2422,529.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **French forces** broke a **truce**, attacked and defeated the Arab forces of led by Yusuf Al-Azma, Minister of War, in the **Battle of Maysalun** (a strategic hilly location about 12 miles west of Damascus, overlooking a valley used as a passage to Damascus), captured Damascus the next day on **July 25, 1920**, and took control of Syria. Then, General Gouraud reportedly went to the tomb of Salah Eddin Al-Ayyubi (who defeated the Crusaders and liberated Jerusalem in 1187 AD), adjacent to the Umayyad Mosque in Damascus, kicked it, and said: *"Wake up, Salah Eddin. We have returned. My presence here consecrates victory of the Cross over the Crescent."*

- **Malachi Martin** (born on **July 23, 1921** and died on **July 27, 1999**), was an Irish Catholic priest and writer on the Catholic Church. His 17 novels and non-fiction books were frequently critical of the Catholic Church, which he believed had failed to act on the third prophecy revealed by the Virgin Mary at Fátima.

- On **July 23, 1921**, **Chinese Communist Party** was founded. Twelve individuals, 10 Chinese and two Soviet organizers, attended the party's founding congress in Shanghai.

- The draft of the **British Mandate over Palestine** was confirmed by the **League of Nations** on **July 24, 1922** (Zu Al-Qa'da 29, 1340 Hijri).

- On **July 23, 1923** (Zu Al-Hijja 9, 1341 Hijri), **Treaty of Lausanne** was signed. It was a peace treaty between Turkey and the Allies, which was less harsh on Turkey than **Treaty of Sevres**. It replaced **Treaty of Sevres in France** that was signed on **August 10, 1920** (Zu Al-Qada 25, 1338 Hijri). **Treaty of Lausanne** came into force on **August 6, 1924** (Muharram 5, 1343 Hijri).

- On **July 22, 1933**, Wiley Post became the **first person to fly solo around the world** traveling 15,596 miles (25,099 km) in 7 days, 18 hours and 45 minutes (= **186 hours** + 45 minutes). Number **186** is the numerical value of:

القيمه The Qiyama (Resurrection, Upheaval or End Times): **186**

يوم أجل الدنيا Day of Ajal (End Date) of the Dunya (this World) :  $56 + (34 + 96) = 56 + 130 = \mathbf{186}$

ليلة الوعد Night (Eve) of the Promise:  $75 + 111 = \mathbf{186}$

- On **July 23, 1942**, Rostov-on-Don, nicknamed "The Gates of Caucasus," was captured by the Germans. On the same day, Hitler authorized **Operation Edelweiss**. It was a German plan to gain control over the Caucasus and capture the oil fields of Baku during the Soviet-German War.

- On **July 22, 1942** (Rajab 8, 1361 Hijri) (**Av 8**, 5702 Jewish), the systematic deportation of **Jews** by Nazi Germany from the Warsaw Ghetto for the **Holocaust** at **Treblinka extermination camp** started. Treblinka is a small town 80 Km northeast of Warsaw, **Poland**. The first shipment consisted of 6,500 victims. The gas chambers became operational the following day on **July 23, 1942** (Rajab 9, 1361 Hijri) (**Av 9**, 5702 Jewish) (2430,563.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). The Zionists claim that more than **800,000 Jews** died there.

- The **Battle of Hamburg**, code-named **Operation Gomorrah**, was a **campaign of air raids** by **Britain** against **Hamburg, Germany**, during **World War II**, beginning **July 23 - 24, 1943** (Rajab 20 – 21, 1362 Hijri) (**Tammuz 20 – 21**, 5703 Jewish) and lasting for 8 days and 7 nights. In the night of **July 23 - 24, 1943**, at approximately 00:57 a.m., after midnight, the first bombing started by the British Royal Air Force (RAF) and lasted almost an hour. Britain used a new device which was preventing the anti-aircraft guns to find your bombers. The confusion caused to German radars kept losses of British aircrafts low. Fires caused by this air raid were still burning three days later. On the night of **July 27 - 28, 1943**, shortly before midnight, 787 British Royal Air Force (RAF) aircrafts bombed Hamburg. The unusually dry and warm weather, in addition to the concentration of the bombing in one area and firefighting limitations due to blockbuster bombs used in the early part of the raid, resulted in a phenomenon called **FireStorm**. The tornadic fire created a huge inferno, with wind speed of up to 240 kilometers per hour (150 mph), reaching temperatures of 800 °C (1,470 °F), and reaching altitudes in excess of 300 meters (1,000 ft), incinerating more than 21 square kilometers (8 sq mi) of the city. Asphalt streets burst into flame, and fuel oil from damaged and destroyed ships, barges and storage tanks spilled into the water of the canals and the harbor, causing them to ignite as well. The majority of deaths attributed to Operation Gomorrah occurred on this night. In just over half an hour, it is estimated that 550–600 bomb loads fell into an area measuring only 2 miles by 1 mile and this gradually spread the fire eastwards. The **firestorm** lasted for about three hours, destroying approximately 16,000 multi-floor apartment buildings and killing an estimated 30,000 people, most of them while staying in basement shelters where they were poisoned by carbon monoxide after the firestorm consumed most of the oxygen in the burning city above. The furious winds created by the firestorm had the power to sweep people up off the streets like dry leaves. Fearing further raids, two-thirds of Hamburg's population, approximately 1,200,000 people, fled the city in the



aftermath. **Battle of Hamburg (Operation Gomorrah)** was at the time the heaviest assault in the history of aerial warfare and was later called the **Hiroshima and Nagasaki of Germany** by British officials. In January 1946, Major Cortez F. Enloe, a surgeon in the USAAF who worked on the United States Strategic Bombing Survey (USSBS), said that the fire effects of the atomic bomb dropped on **Nagasaki** were not nearly as bad as the effects of the R.A.F. raids on Hamburg on July 27th 1943". **Operation Gomorrah** killed 42,600 people, left 37,000 wounded and caused some one million German civilians to flee the city. Hamburg's labor force was reduced by ten percent. Approximately 3,000 aircraft were deployed, 9,000 tons of bombs were dropped and over 250,000 homes and houses were destroyed. No subsequent city raid shook Germany as did that on Hamburg. Figures given by German sources indicate that 183 large factories were destroyed out of 524 in the city and 4,118 smaller factories out of 9,068 were destroyed. Dwellings destroyed amounted to 214,350 out of 414,500. Local transport systems were completely disrupted and did not return to normal for some time.

- On **July 22, 1946** (**Shaban 23**, 1365 Hijri) (**Tammuz 23**, 5706 Jewish) (2432,023.5<sup>th</sup> Julian day), the western part of the southern wing of **King David Hotel** in Jerusalem, which was serving as headquarters of the British Mandate, collapsed due to explosives set off by **Irgun**, a Zionist terrorist group led by **Menahim Begin**, who later became Prime Minister of Israel.

- On **July 23, 1952** (Zu Al-Qada 1, 1371 Hijri) (Av 1, 5712 Jewish), a military coup in Egypt by the Free Officers Movement, led by Muhammad Nageeb and Gamal Abd-Nasir, forced **King of Egypt, Farouk**, to abdicate the throne in favor of his infant son Ahmed Fuad. He was exiled on **July 26, 1952**. The monarchy in Egypt ended when Egypt became a republic on **June 18, 1953** (Shawwal 5, 1372 Hijri).

- On **July 23, 1959**, **Richard Nixon**, as Vice President of the United States, began his visit to the **U.S.S.R.**

- **Barack Obama** was born on **Friday, August 4, 1961** Gregorian (**July 22**, 1961 Julian) (Safar 22, 1381 Hijri) (Av 22, 5721 Jewish) (2437,515.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day) in Honolulu, Hawaii at 7:24 p.m. local time. Based on Jerusalem Time, it was 8:24 a.m. on **Saturday, August 5, 1961** Gregorian (**July 23**, 1961 Julian) (Safar 23, 1381 Hijri) (Av 23, 5721 Jewish) (2437,516.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).

- **Apollo 11** (the 1<sup>st</sup> Space voyage with a human crew to land on the Moon) landed on the moon at 8:18 p.m. UTC, on **July 20, 1969** based on Gregorian Calendar (**July 7, 1969** based on Julian Calendar) (**Jumada Al-Ula 5, 1389 Hijri**) (Av 5, 5729 Hebrew) (**2440,422.5<sup>th</sup>** or **2440,423<sup>th</sup> Julian day**). **Apollo 11's** commander, **Neil Armstrong**, stepped out of Apollo's Space Craft into the surface of Moon at 2:56 a.m. UTC, on **July 21, 1969** (**2440,423.5<sup>th</sup>** or **2440,424<sup>th</sup> Julian day**), becoming the first man to set foot on the Moon and on a planetary body, other than the Earth, in general. Apollo 11 began its journey back to Earth at 4:56 pm local time on **July 22, 1969** (4:56 a.m. UTC, 12:56 a.m. EDT on July 22). Apollo 11's crew returned to Earth and landed in the Pacific Ocean, **just before dawn** at 4:51 a.m. local time on **July 25, 1969** (4:51 p.m. UTC, 12:51 p.m. EDT, on **July 24, 1969**) (**Jumada Al-Ula 9, 1389 Hijri**) (Av 9, 5729 Jewish).

- On **July 23, 1970**, **Qaboos** became **Sultan of Oman** by overthrowing his father, Said bin Taimur, initiating massive reforms and modernization programs and ending a decade long civil war.
- On **July 23, 1974**, the series of **military juntas**, that had ruled **Greece** starting from April 21, 1967, **ended**. Consequently, former Prime Minister **Konstantinos Karamanlis** was invited to lead a new government.
- Around 10:00 pm, on Monday night, **July 21, 1986**, (Zu Al-Qada 14, 1406 Hijri) (Tammuz 14, 5746 Jewish) (2446,**632.5<sup>th</sup>** Julian Day), Israeli Prime Minister, **Shimon Peres**, arrived to Morocco to meet **King Al-Hassan II**. The visit was supposed to end on **July 23**, but was extended till **July 24**, 1986 (Zu Al-Qada 17, 1406 Hijri) (Tammuz 17, 5746 Jewish). In response to this visit, Syria cut all of its diplomatic ties with Morocco.
- On **July 23, 1995**, (Safar 24, 1416 Hijri) (Tammuz 25, 5755 Hebrew) (2449,**922<sup>nd</sup>** Julian day), **Comet Hale-Bopp** was discovered. It remained visible to the naked eye **for a record 18 months**, twice as long as the previous record holder, the Great Comet of 1811. The comet likely made its last perihelion **4,200 years ago**. Astronomers believe the previous visit of Comet Hale-Bopp was probably in **July 2215 BC**.
- On **July 23, 1999** (Rabi Thani 9, 1420 Hijri) (**Av 10**, 5759 Jewish) (2451,**382.5<sup>th</sup>** Julian Day), around **4:30 pm**, **King Al-Hassan II**, the **22<sup>nd</sup> King** of Morocco, died. On the same day, his son **Mohammad** was offered bay'a (pledge of allegiance) as Prince of the Believers and he was officially crowned as **King Mohammad VI**, the **23<sup>rd</sup> king** of the Alawite dynasty, on **July 30, 1999**.
- On **July 22, 2003**, Saddam Hussein's sons, **Uday and Qusay**, were killed in a gun-battle with Coalition forces in **Mosul**.
- In his first international tour as a **presidential candidate**, that included 7 countries, **Barack Obama** visited Israel and the occupied territories. Obama arrived in Israel **at night on Tuesday, July 22, 2008** (Rajab 19 (or 18), 1429 Hijri) (**Tammuz 19**, 5768 Jewish) (2454,669.5<sup>th</sup> or 2454,670<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). He met Israeli and Palestinian officials on **Wednesday, July 23, 2008** (Rajab 20 (or 19), **1429 Hijri**) (**Tammuz 20**, 5768 Jewish). Finally, Obama made **a surprise visit** around **Dawn** (shortly after **5:00 AM**, before sunrise, while a clear moon helped illuminate a still-dark sky) to the Western Wall of the Aqsa Mosque (also known as Wall of Wailing for the Jews) on **Thursday, July 24, 2008** (Rajab 21 (or 20), **1429 Hijri**) (Tammuz 21, 5768 Jewish) shortly before **leaving Israel to Germany**. While wearing a white Yarmulke (Jewish skullcap), Obama visited the Western Wall for about 10 minutes and placed a prayer note addressed to God, in the cracks in between the stones of the Western Wall, that he had written earlier on stationery of King David Hotel where he was staying in his visit, and he bowed his head towards the Wall in quiet contemplation. An orthodox Jew yelled over and over: "Obama, Jerusalem is not for sale !"
- On **July 22, 2011** (Shaban 20 (or 19), 1432 Hijri) (**Tammuz 20**, 5771 Jewish), **Norway** was the victim of **twin terror attacks**, by a **white, Christian extremist Norwegian**, the first being a

car bomb blast which targeted government buildings in central Oslo, killing about **8 people**, the second being a massacre at a youth camp on the island of Utøya, in which **69 people** were killed.

- On **July 22, 2013** (Ramadan 14, 1434 Hijri) (Av 15, 5773 Jewish), at 4:24 p.m. local time in Britain, **Prince William's** wife gave birth to a boy, whom they named **George**.

- A rare planetary formation of 5 planets and the Moon that looked like **Star of David** started on **July 22, 2013** and reached its zenith on **July 29, 2013**.

- **Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS)** started its attack on **Mosul** (Iraq's second largest city) on Friday, **June 6, 2014** (Shaban 7 (or 8), 1435 Hijri) (Sivan 8, 5774 Jewish). By **June 10, 2014** (Shaban 11 (or 12), 1435 Hijri), Mosul became fully under the control of ISIS. **Mosul** is the capital of **Nineveh**, one of the provinces of Iraq. The operational commander of province of Nineveh, appointed in **March 2014**, was a Shia **Lieutenant General**, whose name was **Mahdi Gharawi** (named after the **Mahdi**). The original city of Mosul is located on the west bank of the Tigris River, opposite the site of **Nineveh**, the ancient capital of Kingdom of Assyria on the east bank of the Tigris River. However, today, Mosul metropolitan area encompasses both banks of the Tigris River. **Mosul** is a historic center and an episcopal seat of the **Assyrian Church of the East** since the 6th century. The Iraqi Assyrians still refer to the entire city of Mosul as **Nineveh**. The site of ancient Nineveh is called today, town of **Nebi Yunus (Prophet Jonah)** where the tomb of Prophet Yunus (Jonah) used to be located until the tomb was destroyed by ISIS on **July 24, 2014** (Ramadan 26, 1435 Hijri). Prophet Yunus (Jonah) lived and died there, in the then capital of ancient Assyria. **Mosul** was promoted to the status of capital of Mesopotamia under the Umayyads in the 8th century, during which it reached a peak of prosperity.

## 12. August 2

**August 2** is the **214<sup>th</sup>** day of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **151 days** remaining until the end of the year.

The following events happened on this day:

- On March 31, 1492 AD (Jumada Thania 2, 897 Hijri), during the Spanish Inquisition period when Spain was ruled by King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, the **Al-Hambra Decree for the expulsion of all the Jews from Spain** was issued. The Jews were permitted to take their belongings with them, except gold or silver or minted money. The punishment for any Jew who did not convert to Catholicism or leave by the deadline was death without trial. It resulted in about 130,000 – 800,000 Jews leaving Spain for refuge in Portugal, North Africa and the Balkan region (ruled by the Ottomans), etc. More than half of the Jews went to Portugal, where they eluded persecution for only a few years. The deadline of the expulsion was originally July 31, 1492, but it was later postponed to **August 2, 1492** (Shawwal 8, 897 Hijri) (Av 9, 5252 Jewish). The next day, on **August 3, 1492**, **Christopher Columbus** set sailed on his first voyage that led

him to discover the Americas. Thus, the first words Columbus wrote in his diary were: “After you expelled the Jews, your majesties sent me with a fleet.”

- The first act of war of **World War I** was Germany’s invasion of Luxembourg on **August 2, 1914** (Ramadan 10, 1332 Hijri) (**Av 10, 5674 Jewish**).
- The **9<sup>th</sup>** President of Israel **Shimon Peres** was born, as **Szymon Perski**, on **August 2, 1923** (Zu Al-Hijja 19, 1341 Hijri) (**Av 20, 5683 Jewish**).
- In Germany, upon death of its President, on **August 2, 1934** (Rabi Thani 20, 1353 Hijri), the office of **President** was abolished and its powers were merged with those of **Chancellor**, and thus **Adolf Hitler** became head of state as well as head of government, and was formally referred to as Führer und Reichskanzler (Leader and Chancellor).
- Around the end of World War II, on **August 2 1945**, the Potsdam Agreement was issued at the end of the Potsdam Conference, in which the Allies confirmed earlier agreements about Germany, and reiterated the demand for unconditional surrender of all Japanese forces by Japan, specifically stating that "the alternative for Japan is prompt and utter destruction”.
- Iraq started its invasion of Kuwait on **August 2, 1990** (Muharram10, 1411 Hijri) (**Av 11, 5750 Jewish**).

### 13. **August 23 - 24**

**August 23** is the **235<sup>th</sup>** day of the year in the Gregorian calendar. There are **130 days** remaining until the end of the year.

The following events happened during this period:

- Following a siege, Husam Eddeen Baraka Khan, leader of the Khawarizm, on behalf of Ayubi Sultan of Egypt Al-Salih, Najm-Eddeen Ayub, conquered Jerusalem from the Crusaders on **July 11, 1244 AD** Julian (July 18, 1244 AD Gregorian) (**Safar 4, 642 AD**) (**Av 4, 5004 Jewish**) (2175,620.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), but the citadel “Tower of David” held out against them until **August 23, 1244 AD** (**Rabi Awwal 10, 642 Hijri**) (**Elul 10, 5004 Jewish**), ending the second and last Kingdom of the Crusaders in Jerusalem. Jerusalem remained under the rule of Muslims until **December 9, 1917** when Britain captured Jerusalem from the Ottomans.
- **Ottoman Sultan Selim I** launched a major campaign against **Isma'il** (founder of the Safavi dynasty of Persia). The Ottomans severely defeated the Safavis in the **Battle of Chaldiran**, on the eastern side of the Euphrates River on **August 23, 1514** (Rajab 1, 920 Hijri) (**Elul 1, 5274 Jewish**).
- The **Ottomans** decisively defeated the **Mamluks** in **Battle of Marj Dabiq**, about 40 km north

of Aleppo, Syria on **August 24 (or 23), 1516 AD (Rajab 26 (or 25), 922 Hijri)** (Elul 26, 5276 Jewish). **Damascus** surrendered to the Ottomans on **September 27, 1516 (Ramadan 1, 922 Hijri)**. The Ottomans entered Jerusalem on **December 28, 1516 AD Julian (Zu Al-Hijja 4, 922 Hijri)** (Tevet 4, 5277 Jewish). The Ottoman **Sultan Salim I** entered **Jerusalem** on **December 30, 1516 (Zu Al-Hijja 6, 922 Hijri)**. After a battle near Gaza in which the Mamluks were defeated, he entered **Gaza** on **January 2 (or 3), 1517 (Zu Al-Hijja 9 (or 10), 922 Hijri)**. The Ottomans defeated the Mamluks in the **Battle of Ridaniya**, near Cairo, on **January 23, 1517 (Zu Al-Hijja 29, 922 Hijri)** and **entered Cairo** few days later and put an end to the Mamluk Sutanate.

- The **last Ottoman Caliph** was **Abdul Majeed II** served from **November 19, 1922** (Rabi Awwal 29, 1341 Hijri) till Monday, **March 3, 1924** (Eve of the Israa & Miraj, **Rajab 26, 1342 Hijri**) (Adar 27, 5684 Jewish) (2423,847.5 or 2423,848<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), the day on which the **Ottoman Caliphate** was abolished. On the next day, **March 4, 1924**, he and his family had to leave Turkey. He chose to go to Paris, France and he died there on **August 23, 1944** (Ramadan 4, 1363 Hijri) which coincided with liberation of France from Nazi occupation.

- The **Liberation of Paris** (also known as the Battle for Paris) was a military action that took place during World War II from **August 19, 1944** until the German garrison surrendered the French capital on **August 25, 1944**.

- On **July 5, 1950** (Ramadan 19, 1369 Hijri) (**Tammuz 20, 5710 Jewish**), the **Law of Return**, granting every Jew in the World the right to settle in Israel, was passed by the Israeli Knesset. Two amendments were later added on to the Law of Return - one passed **August 23, 1954**, and the other passed **March 10, 1970 (Muharram 2, 1390 Hijri)**.

- During the invasion of Israel to Lebanon, Bashir Gemayel (Head of a Christian militia called the Lebanese forces) was elected as **President of Lebanon** on **August 23, 1982**. Then, on **September 14, 1982** (Zu Al-Qada 25 (or 26), 1402 Hijri) (Elul 26, 5742 Jewish), he was assassinated in a massive explosion.

- President of Israel, **Shimon Peres**, visited **Mosque of the Jazzar (Slaughterer)** in **Akka, Israel**, on **Tuesday, August 23, 2011 (Ramadan 23, 1432 Hijri)** (**Av 23, 5771 Jewish**) (2455,796.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).

#### 14. September 11 - 13

**September 11** is the **254<sup>th</sup> day** of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **111 days** remaining until the end of the year.

The following events happened during this period:

**September 11** is usually the first day of the New Year in the **Egyptian/Coptic calendar** and **Ethiopian calendar** (in the period AD 1900 to AD 2099). The **Feast of Neyrouz** marks the first day of the Egyptian/Coptic year. Ignorant of the Egyptian language, after the Arab Muslims conquered Egypt, the Arabs confused the pronunciation of the name of this Feast which the Egyptians used to call the **Feast of Ni-Yarouou** (Feast of the Rivers), with the Persian **Feast of Nowruz** (means "New Year") which is the first day of the **Persian New Year** and which coincides with Spring Equinox, beginning of the Spring, in Northern Hemisphere, around **March 21**. So, in Egypt, this feast is still called today incorrectly Feast of the Neyrouz, even though it should be called Feast of Ni-Yarouou. Its celebration falls on the 1st day of the month of Thout, the first month of the Egyptian/ Coptic year, which from year 1901 to 2098 usually coincides with **September 11** Gregorian (August 29 Julian), except before a Gregorian leap year when it is **September 12**. Similarly, the New Year in the Ethiopian Calendar also starts on September 11.

- On **September 13, 509 BC**, the **Temple of Jupiter** Optimus Maximus on Rome's Capitoline Hill is dedicated on the ides of September.

- Many biblical scholars, theologians, historians, and astronomers say that the Star of Bethlehem, signifying the birth of Jesus Christ, can be calculated to within a few hours of **September 11, 3 B.C.**, based on celestial charts and alignments for that time. Historian Dr. Ernest L. Martin first article on the subject appeared in 1976, and in 1981 he published his research in "The Birth of Christ Re-calculated". In 1991, the book was re-released as "The Star that Astonished the World." Dr. Martin revealed in his book, that the signs in the sky on the night of Jesus' birth occurred on only one day in 3 B.C., and they occurred exactly on September 11, 3 B.C. between 6:15 pm and 7:49 pm EST. Author Ernest L. Martin says Jesus Christ was born on Sept. 11, 3 B.C.

- On **September 13, 335 AD**, **Emperor Constantine** the Great consecrated the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre** (Tomb of Jesus) in Jerusalem. Today, Christian Arabs call it **Church of the Qiyama** (Resurrection or Beginning of End Times). The Eastern Orthodox Church **celebrates the anniversary of this event on September 13** annually. According to Eusebius of Caesarea, the Roman emperor Hadrian in the 2nd century AD built a temple dedicated to the Roman pagan goddess Venus to cover the cave in which Jesus had been buried. Around 325 AD (or 326 AD), **the first Christian emperor**, Constantine the Great, ordered that the temple be replaced by a church. During the building of the Church, Constantine's mother, Helena, is believed to have re-discovered the True Cross and the tomb of Jesus. After her arrival to Jerusalem, empress Helen destroyed all the pagan temples and reconsecrated the places desecrated by the pagans. She was interested in finding the Cross on which Jesus Christ was crucified based on Christians' beliefs. So, she ordered the excavation of the place where the temple of Venus stood. There, they discovered the Sepulchre (Tomb / Grave) of Jesus and Golgotha (place of the crucifixion), and they also found three crosses and some nails. In order to determine upon which of the three crosses Jesus was crucified, Patriarch Macarius gave orders to place a dead person, who was being carried to a place of burial, upon each cross in turn. When the dead person was placed on the Cross of Christ, he immediately came alive. With the greatest of joy the empress Helen and Patriarch Macarius raised up the Life-Creating Cross and displayed it to all the people standing about. This Cross is today called "The True Cross". The empress Helen began the construction

of **Church of the Qiyama** which enclosed within its walls, the Golgotha (place of the Crucifixion), and the Sepulchre (Tomb / Grave) of Jesus, located near each other. The consecration of the Church was attended by hierarchs of Christian Churches from around the World: Bythnia, Thrace, Cilicia, Cappadocia, Syria, Mesopotamia, Phoenicia, Arabia, Palestine, and Egypt.

- The **Hijra (Migration) of Prophet Mohammad (p) from Mecca to Medina** started after he learned from the Angel Gabriel, on Thursday, **Safar 26, 1 Hijri (September 9, 622 Julian) (September 12, 622 Gregorian) (Elul 28, 4382 Jewish)**, about a plot to kill him at **Dawn on Friday, Safar 27, 1 Hijri**. **Angel Gabriel** told Prophet Mohammad (p) not to sleep in his bed that night and that he should migrate to Medina. The decision to kill him was made in a meeting of his enemies on **Safar 26, 1 Hijri**. Prophet Mohammad (p) went to Abu Bakr and told him that a permission was given to him (meaning from God) for the **Khuruj** (Coming out, Exodus, or Departure). Then, he went back to his house and asked his cousin **Ali bin Abi Talib** to sleep in Prophet Mohammad (p)'s bed that night, after Prophet Mohammad (p) leaves to Medina, so that Prophet Mohammad's enemies would think that the Prophet was sleeping in his house and asked him to start delivering items that were entrusted to Prophet Mohammad (p) to the individuals entitled to them in the next morning. **At night on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> of Safar, 1 Hijri**, the enemies of Prophet Mohammad (p) were surrounding his house, but **Angel Gabriel** came and told Prophet Mohammad (p) to leave his house and pass by the enemies waiting outside his house and God will ensure that they will not be able to see him. Prophet Mohammad (p) left his house as was told by Angel Gabriel while reciting **the first verses of Sura 36** till he reached **verse 9** of this Sura which can be translated as: *"And We have put, in front of them, a barrier and, behind them, a barrier, so We have blocked their vision such that they do not see."* Then, he went to Abu Bakr's house and stayed there till midnight and left with Abu Bakr from a back exit and started their migration journey. On that night, his cousin **Ali bin Abi Talib** risked his life and was willing to sacrifice himself by sleeping in Prophet Muhammad's bed, instead of Prophet Muhammad (p) to thwart the assassination plot against Prophet Muhammad (p). That is why it is called *Laylat (Night) of Al-Mabeet (the Staying)*. Prophet Mohammad (p) and Abu Bakr reached a cave in Mount of Thawr where they stayed till Monday, **1<sup>st</sup> of Rabi' Al-Awwal, 1 Hijri, (September 13, 622 AD Julian)**. They arrived to Quba, near Medina, on Monday, **8<sup>th</sup> of Rabi Al-Awwal, 1 Hijri (September 20, 622 AD Julian)** where Prophet Mohammad (p) established of Mosque of Quba, the first mosque in Islam. On Friday, **12<sup>th</sup> of Rabi Al-Awwal, 1 Hijri (September 24, 622 AD Julian)**, they left Quba, heading to Medina. Around noon time, they passed by the locality of Banu Salim bin Auf in a valley about **one kilometer away from Quba**, The people of Banu Salim implored: *"O Prophet of Allah, you stayed at the homes of our cousins for a number of days, reward us too with something, for they will pride themselves over us till the Day of Judgement that you stayed with them"*. So, in that locality, the Prophet (p) led the first Friday Prayer in the history of Islam and delivered the first Friday sermon, in a spot where a mosque was later built. Because of this event, the Mosque is referred to as the Friday Mosque, but it is also known as Mosque of Bani Salim, Mosque of Al-Wadi, Mosque of Ghubaib or Mosque of Aatikah. Approximately 100 Muslims participated in this first Friday Prayer. After the prayer, Prophet Mohammad (p) continued his journey to Medina. When he reached Medina, his camel stopped at a specific location and Prophet Mohammad (p) declared that it is the location where he will establish a mosque, which is known today as the **Nabawi Mosque (Mosque of the Prophet)** which is about **2.5 km** away from the **Friday Mosque**.

- **Al-Hussein son of Ali** [Al-Hussein's father is **Ali**, cousin of Prophet Mohammad (p), and his mother is **Fatima** daughter of Prophet Mohammad (p)] left Mecca heading to Kufa, Iraq, to accept the offers of allegiance for the **Caliphate** on **Zu Al-Hijja 8**, 60 Hijri (**September 8 (or 9)**, 680 Julian) (**September 11 (or 12)**, 680 Gregorian) (Tishri 8 (or 9), 4441 Jewish), thus challenging **Yazid son of Muawiya** for the Caliphate of all Muslims. **Al-Hussein** had sent to Kufa his cousin, **Muslim son of Aqeel**, to check whether these offers were true. **Al-Hussein** left Mecca after he received a letter from **Muslim son of Aqeel** confirming that there were thousands of people supporting Al-Hussein, but soon this support vanished after the Governor of Iraq, **Ubad-Allah Ibn Ziad** (who was loyal to Yazid son of Muawiya) threatened supporters of Al-Hussein. **Muslim son of Aqeel** was killed in Kufa on the **Zu Al-Hijja 9**. The news of the killing of **Muslim son of Aqeel** did not reach **Al-Hussein** until much later. On his way to Kufa, Al-Hussein sent a letter to Kufa (which included the date in which he departed from Mecca) with a messenger named **Qays bin Mishir bin Khalid Al-Asadi Al-Saidawi** who was later captured and ordered to be thrown down to the ground from the roof of the palace of the Governor of Iraq, **Ubad-Allah Ibn Ziad**. About a month after departing Mecca, before reaching Kufa, Al-Hussein was killed in Karbala, Iraq, on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of Muharram, 61 Hijri.

- On **September 12, 1185**, Emperor Andronikos I Komnenos was brutally put to death in **Constantinople**.

- On Friday, **September 3, 1260 AD Julian (September 10, 1260 AD Gregorian)** (Ramadan 26, 658 Hijri) (Elul 26, 5020 Jewish), in the **Battle of Ain Jalut** (Spring of Goliath) in Galilee, Northern Palestine, the Muslim Mamaleek (Mamluks) achieved a decisive victory over the Maghool (Mongols or Tatar).

- On **September 12, 1309**, the first Siege of Gibraltar took place in the context of the Spanish Reconquista pitting the forces of the Kingdom of Castile against the **Emirate of Granada** resulting in a Castilian victory.

- **King Philip III** of Spain signed the **Edict of Expulsion** on **April 9, 1609** (Muharram 5, 1018 Hijri) (Nisan 5, 5369 Jewish) which decreed that all **Moriscos (Spanish Muslims)** who were forced to become Christians, but still secretly practiced Islam) were to be expelled from Spain to North Africa. The expulsion campaign lasted from 1609 till 1614. On **September 11, 1609 (Jumada Thania 11 (or 12), 1018) (Elul 12, 5369 Jewish)**, the expulsion order was announced by town announcers, starting in Valencia and later across Spain. According to some sources, the date of the announcement of expulsion was **September 22 (Jumada Thania 22 (or 23), 1018 Hijri) (Elul 23, 5369 Jewish)**, instead of **September 11**. On **September 30, 1609**, the first of the expelled Moriscos were taken to the ports, where, as a last insult, they were forced to pay their own fare for the trip. The Moriscos were transported to North Africa.

- On **September 11, 1609 Julian (Jumada Thania 11, 1018 Hijri) (Elul 12, 5369 Jewish)**, Henry Hudson (English explorer who worked for the Dutch East India Company) during his mission to find an easterly passage to Asia, sailed into the New York bay, and discovered **Manhattan Island**. On the next day, he began a 10- day journey up what became later known as the Hudson River, sailing 150 miles to what is now Albany, before realizing that it would not



lead to his destination. This eventually led to establishment of Dutch settlements in North America and the establishment the **city of New Amsterdam** on Manhattan Island to become the **capital of New Netherland** (Dutch colony of North America) in 1625. Later, after Britain captured the city of **New Amsterdam**, they changed its name to **New York**.

- On **September 2, 1666** Julian (**September 12, 1666** Gregorian) (Rabi Awwal 12, 1077 Hijri) (**Elul 12**, 5426 Jewish), the **Great Fire of London**, England, broke out and burned for three days, destroying 80% of London (more than 10,000 buildings), including St Paul's Cathedral.
- On **September 11 – 12, 1683** Julian (September 21 – 22, 1683 Gregorian) (Ramadan 29, 1094 Hijri) (Tishri 1, 5444 Hijri), the **Battle of Vienna** happened, after a siege for 2 months, in which the invading Ottoman Empire was defeated by an alliance between the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation and the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth (Holy League). It is often seen as a turning point in history. It was the last time, the Ottomans reached besieged Vienna, or posed a danger to Western Europe.
- On **September 11, 1697**, in the **Battle of Zenta**, Prince Eugen of Savoye defeated the Ottomans, ending Ottoman control of large parts of Central Europe.
- On **September 2, 1752** Julian (**September 13, 1752** Gregorian), **Great Britain** (including its colonies in North America) adopted the **Gregorian calendar**, nearly two centuries later than most of Western Europe.
- On **September 13, 1788**, the Philadelphia Convention set the date for the first presidential election in the United States, and **New York City** was chosen to serve as the country's **temporary capital**.
- On **September 13, 1821**, Pope Pius VII issued a bull condemning the **Carbonari** as a **Freemason secret society** and ex-communicating its members. The Carbonari (charcoal burners) were groups of secret revolutionary societies founded in early 19th-century Italy. The Italian Carbonari may have further influenced other revolutionary groups in Spain, France, Portugal and possibly Russia.
- On **September 12, 1826**, **William Morgan**, who had published an exposé of Masonic secrets, was taken from the jail in Canandaigua, New York, kidnapped, and possibly later murdered. This was the trigger for the Morgan Affair and the Anti-Masonic movement and **Anti-Masonic Party** in the United States from the 1820s through the 1840s.
- On **September 13, 1847**, during Mexican–American War, American troops under General Winfield Scott captured **Mexico City**.
- On **September 13, 1850**, first ascent of Piz Bernina, the highest summit of the eastern **Alps**, happened.

- On **September 12, 1857**, the ship called “SS Central America” sank about 160 miles east of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, drowning a total of 426 passengers and the crew. The ship was **carrying 13–15 tons of gold** from the **California Gold Rush**.

- During the Second Italian War of Independence, much of the Papal States had been conquered by the Piedmontese Army. The Italian Parliament declared the creation of the **Kingdom of Italy** on **February 18, 1861** (Shaban 7, 1277 Hijri), officially proclaiming it on **March 17, 1861** (**Ramadan 6**, 1277 Hijri). On **March 27, 1861** (Ramadan 16, 1277 Hijri) (Nisan 16, 5621 Jewish), the Parliament declared Rome the Capital of the Kingdom of Italy. However, the Italian government could not take its seat in Rome because it did not control the territory. In addition, a French garrison was maintained in the city by Napoleon III of France in support of Pope Pius IX, who was determined not to hand over temporal power in the States of the Church. After the **Battle of Sedan** fought against Prussia on **September 1, 1870**, the situation changed radically. It resulted in the surrender and capture of Emperor Napoleon III and large numbers of his troops on September 2. The French lost over 17,000 men killed and wounded with 21,000 captured. On **September 4, 1870** (Jumada Thania 8, 1287 Hijri) (**Elul 8, 5630 Jewish**), with disgraced emperor in captivity, the French Emperor was deposed. The French proclaimed end of Monarch and establishment of a Republic. The new French government was clearly in no position to retaliate against Italy, nor did it possess the political will to protect the Pope's position. King Victor Emmanuel II sent Conte Gustavo Ponza di San Martino as a delegate to Pius IX with a personal letter, offering a face-saving proposal that would have allowed the peaceful entry of the Italian Army into Rome. The Pope would retain the inviolability and prerogatives attaching to him as a sovereign. The Leonine city would remain "under the full jurisdiction and sovereignty of the Pontiff". The Pope's reception of the delegate sent King Victor Emmanuel II on **September 10, 1870** was unfriendly. The Pope said: “you will never enter Rome”. The Italian army, commanded by General Raffaele Cadorna, crossed the papal frontier on **September 11, 1870** (Jumada Thania 15, 1287 Hijri) (Elul 15, 5630 Jewish) and advanced toward Rome. On **September 20, 1870** (Jumada Thania 24, 1287 Hijri) (Elul 24, 5630 Jewish, after a limited battle, the Italian army of the Kingdom of Italy entered Rome. The next day, on **September 21, 1870** (Jumada Thania 25, 1287 Hijri) (Elul 25, 5630 Jewish) (2404,326.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), the Italian army entered Leonine City, including the Vatican, seat of the Pope. Leonine City is the part of the city of Rome surrounded by the Leonine Wall from 3 sides and by the Tiber River on the 4th side. The Vatican is within the enclosed area. This is the end of the Papal State which was later revived on **February 11, 1929** when the City of the Vatican became an independent state. Subsequently, to honor the date of the capture of Rome by the Italian Kingdom, September 20, in numerous Italian cities the name Venti Settembre (Twenty September) was given to the main road leading to the local Cathedral.

- On **September 12, 1878**, **Cleopatra Needle** was installed in London.

- On **September 13, 1882** (Shawwal 29, 1299 Hijri) (Elul 29, 5642 Jewish), Britain's decisively defeated the Egyptian forces loyal to **Ahmad Urabi** [descendant of Al-Hussein son of Ali and Fatima, daughter of Prophet Mohammad (p)] in the **Battle of Tal El-Kabir**, near Cairo. In the evening of **September 14, 1882** (Zu Al-Qada 1, 1299 Hijri) (**Tishri 1**, 5642 Jewish), the advancing British forces reached Cairo and **Ahmad Urabi** surrendered to the British forces.

- **Alfred A. Knopf**, the publisher of Gibran Khalil Gibran's book "The Prophet", was born on **September 12, 1892** in New York, and died on **August 11, 1984**. He was the founder and longtime chairman of the prestigious publishing house Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. He was a Jew.
- On **September 11, 1897**, after months of pursuit, generals of Menelik II of **Ethiopia** captured Gaki Sherocho, the **last king of Kaffa**, bringing an end to that ancient kingdom.
- On **September 13, 1917** (Zu Al-Qada 25 (or 26), 1335 Hijri) (**Elul 26, 5677 Hebrew**), the **fifth apparition** (vision) happened to 3 Catholic children (**Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco**), in a town called **Fatima in Portugal**. They visualized what looked like a lady holding a rosary (but not a physical person) who asked them to come to the same place for 6 consecutive months, on the **13<sup>th</sup> day of the month**, at the same hour, starting from May 13, 1917. The 6 apparitions happened on May 13 (Rajab 21 (or 20), 1335 Hijri) (**Iyar 21, 5677 Jewish**) (**472,924<sup>th</sup> or 472,923<sup>rd</sup> Hijri day**), June 13, July 13, August 19 (on August 13, the children were held in jail by the communist authorities in Portugal), September 13, and October 13, 1917. The Lady identified herself as Lady of the Rosary; however, Catholics believe the lady was the Virgin Mary. As news of the apparitions started to spread, thousands of people started to gather at the usual location of the apparitions and reported seeing unusual cosmic phenomena. For example, on **September 13**, about 30,000 people showed up and on **October 13**, about 70,000 people gathered and witnessed a miracle associated with the Sun. On **July 13, 1917**, the date of the **third apparition**, she told them **three secrets** about future events. It took the Vatican till year 2000 to reveal the **Third Secret** which is believed to be about the End Times and end of the Catholic Church. However, many Catholics believe that the Vatican has not revealed the original version of the **Third Secret**. For the **Third Secret**, as revealed by the Vatican, the children were able to visualize events that included a Pope passing by a big city, half in ruins and later, this Pope and a group of bishops and priests were killed by soldiers.
- On **September 10, 1919** (**Zu Al-Hijja 14, 1337 Hijri**) (**Elul 15, 5679 Jewish**), around the end of World War I, the **Treaty of Saint-Germain-en-Laye** was signed, at the Château de Saint-Germain-en-Laye (19 Km west of Paris, France), by the victorious **Allies** on the one hand and by **Austria** on the other. The treaty declared that the **Austro-Hungarian Empire was to be dissolved**. The **new Republic of Austria**, consisting of most of the German-speaking Danubian and Alpine provinces in former Cisleithania, recognized the **independence** of: Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland, and the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, which used to be part of the Austrian Empire. The treaty included 'war reparations' of large sums of money that had to be paid by Austria to the Allies. The treaty became effective on **July 16, 1920**.
- The draft of the British Mandate for Palestine was confirmed by the League of Nations on July 24, 1922 (Zu Al-Qa'da 29, 1340 Hijri) (Tammuz 28, 5682 Jewish) (2423,259.5th Julian Day). On **September 11, 1922** (**Muharram 18, 1341 Hijri**) (**Elul 18, 5682 Jewish**), the oaths of office for the **British High Commissioner** and Commander in Chief for Palestine **were administered in Jerusalem**. On **September 16, 1922** (Muharram 23, 1341 Hijri) (**Elul 23, 5682 Jewish**) (2423,313.5th or 2423,314th Julian Day), Lord Balfour, representing the United Kingdom, reminded the Council of the League of Nations of Article 25 of the Mandate for Palestine. Article 25 allowed for the exclusion of Transjordan from unspecified provisions of the Mandate. He then presented the TansJordan Memorandum for approval detailing how Britain

intended to implement Article 25. The League of Nations approved the TransJordan Memorandum on the same day, **September 16, 1922**. On **September 23, 1922** (Safar 1, 1341 Hijri) (Tishri 1, 5683 Jewish) (242,3320.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), the U.N. Secretary-General sent a written confirmation note to Members of the League regarding the memorandum of Britain relating to Article 25. Based on this memorandum, the Mandate territory was formalized by the U.K. with the creation of two administrative areas, Palestine, under direct British rule, and autonomous Transjordan, under the rule of the Hashemite family from the Kingdom of Hijaz in present-day Saudi Arabia, in accordance with the McMahon Correspondence of 1915. Thus, TansJordan, meaning the area east of the Jordan river, became exempt from the Mandate provisions concerning the Jewish National Home. The British Mandate for Palestine came into effect on **September 29, 1923** (Safar 7, 1342 Hijri) (Tishri 7, 5683 Jewish).

- On **September 13, 1923**, following a **military coup** in **Spain**, Miguel Primo de Rivera took over, setting up a dictatorship.

- On **September 11, 1927** (Rabi Awwal 14, 1346 Hijri) (Elul 14, 5687 Jewish), at 22:15 UTC, an **earthquake struck Crimea** with a moment magnitude of 6.7 at a depth of 35 kilometres (22 miles). According to experts, the epicenter was located under the sea, south of Yalta, and stretched along the coast. This earthquake was followed by aftershocks that also generated a tsunami. The series of aftershocks, which occurred during the night of September 11 - 12, caused tremendous damage. The strength of the tremors reached 9 points. The earthquake caused the death of more than 60 people. The houses were bursting glass, plaster falling off, cracked floors and ceilings, rattling iron sheets on the roofs, chimneys fell. Following this quake, natural gas that was released from the sea floor created flames that were visible along the coastline, and was accompanied by bright flashes and explosions. Numerous, very large flames were seen offshore Sevastopol, Cape Lucullus, and Yalta in the **early morning of the next day**. Several types of fire and flame were described by witnesses. Pale flames were up to 2,000 meters (6,600 ft) wide and up to 500 meters (1,600 ft) in height, and were visible for several minutes at a time. Other flames began with a whitish glow and became bright red; this style of flame sometimes burned for more than an hour. Bright flashes and explosions were also reported. The flames and explosions were attributed to methane or other hydrocarbon gasses that had been released from the seabed and spontaneously combusted in Phosphine (a self-igniting gas).

- On **September 11, 1930**, **Stromboli volcano**, in Sicily, erupted. It was the most violent and destructive event in the historic record of Stromboli's activity.

- On **September 12, 1933**, Leó Szilárd, while waiting for a red light on Southampton Row in Bloomsbury, conceived the idea of the **nuclear chain reaction**.

- On **September 11, 1936**, U.S. President **Franklin D. Roosevelt** dedicated Boulder Dam, now known as **Hoover Dam**.

- On **September 11, 1940**, **Buckingham Palace** (residence of the British Royal Family) was damaged by German bombing.

- On **September 11, 1941**, ground-breaking ceremony for the construction of the **Pentagon** (Headquarters of U.S. Department of Defence) was held. Exactly, 60 years later, the **Pentagon** was attacked for the first time in its history on **September 11, 2001**.
- On the night of **September 11/ 12, 1944**, during World War II, the most devastating air raid on **Darmstadt, Germany** occurred when **British warplanes** bombed the city. A deadly firestorm resulted from this intensive bombing. About 11,500 people were killed. About 66,000 of the 110,000 inhabitants of Darmstadt at the time became homeless.
- On **September 12, 1945**, at the end of World War II, the British authorities accepted the formal surrender, in Singapore, of Japanese forces in Southeast Asia and the Dutch East Indies. Approximately 585,000 Japanese soldiers surrendered under this agreement.
- On **September 11, 1948** (Zu Al-Qada 7, 1367 Hijri) (Elul 7, 5708 Jewish), thousands of birds (of various species) were killed when they crashed into the **Empire State Building** (highest building in **New York City** till the construction of **World Trade Center**) and into the transmitting tower of Radio Station WBAL in Baltimore. There was no fog and weather conditions were good during the night and morning.
- On **September 11, 1948**, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, the first head of state of Pakistan died in Karachi. He is called "The Great Leader" and "Father of the Nation". Born on Christmas Day, 1876. On the next day, on **September 12, 1948**, India attacked Hyderabad and annexed it to India.
- On **July 8, 1948 (Ramadan 1, 1367 Hijri)**, a political committee of the Arab League decided to set up a temporary civil Palestinian administration, not a government, and it would be supervised by the Arab League. At the request of the **Arab Higher Committee (AHC)** which was set up by the Arab League in 1945 and was headed by former Mufti of Jerusalem, **Ameen Al-Husseini** [descendant of Al Hussein, grandson of Prophet Mohammad (p)], a **Palestinian government** based in Gaza (which was ruled by Egypt), was proposed at the Arab League's meeting in Alexandria, Egypt, held on **September 6 - 16, 1948** (Zu Al-Qa'da 2 - 12, 1367 Hijri) (Elul 2 - 12, 5708 Jewish). It was formally announced by the Arab Higher Committee (AHC) on **September 23, 1948**. **Palestinian National Council** convened in **Gaza** on **September 30 - October 1, 1948** (Zu Al-Qa'da 26 - 27, 1367 Hijri) (Elul 26 - 27, 5708 Jewish). It issued a **declaration of independence** over the **whole land of Palestine**, with Jerusalem as its capital. That is why it is known as All-Palestine government. It elected unanimously former Mufti of Jerusalem, **Ameen Al-Husseini** as President of Palestine. **Ahmad Hilmi Abd-Al-Baqi** (who was of Albanian origin, born in **Saida**, Lebanon) was chosen as Prime Minister. The government included representatives of many Palestinian political parties. On **October 2, 1948**, Jordan's **King AbdAllah** who was interested in formally annexing the West Bank to Jordan, rather than allowing the Palestinians to rule themselves, retaliated by organizing a series of Palestinian conference to counter the decision taken in Gaza. On **October 3, 1948**, Jordan's minister of defense ordered all armed Palestinian groups in the West Bank and Jordan to be disbanded. Glubb Pasha (British), the head of the Jordanian army which was called Arab Legion, particularly cracked down on **Ameen Al-Husseini's Holy War Army**. Nonetheless, Egypt recognized the All-Palestine Government on **October 12, 1948 (Zu Hijja 9, 1367 Hijri)**,

followed by Syria and Lebanon on **October 13, 1948** (**Zu Hijja 10**, 1367 Hijri) (**Tishri 10**, 5709 Jewish) (2432,837.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), Saudi Arabia on **October 14, 1948** and Yemen on **October 16, 1948**. Iraq's decision to recognize the All-Palestine Government was made formally on **October 12, 1948**, but was not made public. In contrast, both **Great Britain and the U.S.** backed Jordan's King AbdAllah. The Palestinian Government which was based in Gaza was entirely relocated to **Cairo** in **late October 1948** and became a government-in-exile, gradually losing its importance. A **conference**, sponsored by Jordan's **King AbdAllah**, was held in **Jericho**, in the West Bank (which was ruled by Jordan) in **December 1948**. The conference in Jericho called for unification of the two banks of Jordan River under the rule of Jordan, meaning the **annexation of the West Bank to Jordan**. The All-Palestine Government was eventually dissolved in **1959** by Gamal Abd-Nasir who envisaged a United Arab Republic encompassing Syria, Egypt and Palestine so Al-Husseini moved to Lebanon. Al-Husseini died in Beirut, Lebanon, on **July 4, 1974** (Jumada Thania 13, 1394 Hijri).

- Between June 1949 and September 24, 1950, nearly 50,000 Yemeni Jews were flown to Israel in **Operation Magic Carpet**, also referred to as "Operation on the Wings of Eagles," from the Biblical passage in Exodus, 19:4, "...and I will transport you on eagles' wings and bring you to me..." On **September 24, 1950** Gregorian (**September 11, 1950** Julian) (**Zu Al-Hijja 10** (or 11), 1369 Hijri) (**Tishri 13, 5711 Jewish**), the final two planes carrying Jews from Yemen to Israel as part of this operation touched down at Lod airport in Israel with 177 Yemeni Jews.

- On **September 11, 1952**, West German Chancellor Adenauer signed a **reparation pact** for Jews.

- On **September 12, 1959** (Rabi Awwal 9, 1379 Hijri) (**Elul 9**, 5719 Jewish), at 06:39:42 UTC, **Luna 2**, the Soviet Union launched **Luna 2** spacecraft to the Moon from Baikonur Cosmodrome (World's oldest and largest spaceport) in Kazakhstan. The launch was initially scheduled for **September 9, 1959**, but the core stage was shut down after it failed to reach full thrust at ignition. Fixing the problem caused a delay in the launch by three days. **Luna 2** became the **first spacecraft, without a human crew, to reach the surface of the Moon**, and the first man-made object, without a human crew, to land on a celestial body, other than the Earth. On **September 13, 1959** (Rabi Awwal 10, 1379 Hijri) (**Elul 10**, 5719 Jewish), at 21:02:24 UTC, radio signals from **Luna 2** abruptly ceased, indicating it had impacted the Moon. **Luna 2** would have been travelling at a speed of **3.3 kilometers a second**, or over **7200 miles an hour**, when it hit the Moon. About 30 minutes later, the third stage of its rocket also impacted the Moon at an unknown location. Even before the launch of Luna 2, Russia seemed optimistic about it, given that Russia had informed Jodrell Bank in Britain about this voyage ahead of time to track it. **Jodrell Bank** was a British space observatory that was equipped with the World's largest radio telescope and the only one capable of tracking Luna 2 from Earth to the Moon. This radio telescope began receiving signals from Luna 2 after its launch. When the signals stopped, this was a confirmation that Luna 2 had reached the surface of the Moon as the impact would have destroyed the spacecraft. Several astronomers confirm that at around the same time, they spotted a flash of light on the Moon's surface. During its journey, **Luna 2** released sodium gas which reacted with radiation from the Sun, making it glow and thus making **Luna 2** easier to spot and turning this spacecraft into a **man-made comet**.

- On **September 11, 1965**, **Bashar Al-Asad**, the current and the 21st President of Syria, **was born**.

- On **September 13, 1967**, **Mohammed bin Laden** (Saudi Arabian businessman, founded Saudi Bin Laden Group, a multi-national construction conglomerate ) died. He is **Osama Bin Laden's** father.

- On **September 1, 1970** (Jumada Thania 29, 1390 Hijri) (Av 30, 5730 Jewish), Palestinian rebels **attempted to assassinate King Hussein** of Jordan while he was on his way to Amman airport, but the assassination attempt failed. On **September 6, 1970**, militants belonging to the **Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (P.F.L.P.)** almost simultaneously hijacked three civilian airplanes shortly after they take off from European airports on routes toward the United States. When hijackers on one plane are foiled, hijackers seized a fourth plane (Pan Am), diverted it to Beirut and then to Cairo where the passengers were taken out of the plane and the hijackers blew up the plane on **September 6, 1970**. The two other hijacked planes (SwissAir and TWA) were ordered to land in a desert air strip known as Dawson Field in Zarqa, Jordan. On **September 9, 1970**, they also hijacked **British Overseas Airways** flight from Bombay to London and diverted to Beirut and later to Dawson Field in Jordan. The PFLP announced that the hijackings were intended "to pay special attention to the Palestinian problem". The PFLP submitted a formal list of demands that called for the release of Palestinian and Arab prisoners in European and Israeli jails. On **September 11, 1970** (Rajab 10, 1390 Hijri) (**Elul 10, 5730** Jewish), PFLP freed the majority of the 421 hostages. But they moved 40 hostages to a secret location (35 men and five women) whom they said were members of the Israeli army and therefore "prisoners-of-war". On **September 12, 1970**, the PFLP hijackers, in a dramatic scene, blew up the 3 airplanes, in front of TV cameras. Directly confronting and angering the King, the rebels declared the Irbid area a "liberated region." On **September 16, 1970**, King Hussein dismissed the civilian government of Jordan and appointed a military government headed by General Mohammad Dawoud and this military government declared martial law. Field Marshal Habis al Majali was appointed as a commander in chief of the Jordanian armed forces. The head of Pakistani training mission to Jordan, Brigadier **Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq** (who later became President of Pakistan), played a key role in planning the offensive against the **Palestian Liberation Organization (P.L.O.)**. The next day, on **September 17, 1970**, Jordanian army launched a military attack against **PLO** rebels and the headquarters of Palestinian organizations in Amman. On **September 18, 1970**, Syria tried to intervene militarily by sending 20,000 Syrian troops to Jordan to support of the Palestinian. On **September 21, 1970**, the Syrian 5<sup>th</sup> Division broke through the defenses of the Jordanian 40<sup>th</sup> Armoured Brigade. On **September 21, 1970**, in a secret deal brokered by **Henry Kissenger** (President Nixon's Assistant for National Security), King Hussein agreed to intervention from Israel. To support Jordan, on **September 22, 1970**, Israel sent 4 Israeli F-4E Phantom jets to scare the Syrian army, by flying low over the invading Syrian land army divisions, throughout the entire northern Jordan front, making sure that the Syrian army can positively identify the planes as Israeli Phantoms. So, on the late afternoon of **September 22, 1970**, the Syrian army began to retreat. Both the U.S., in support of Jordan, and the U.S.S.R., in support of Syria, intervened militarily, but this tension gradually decreased once it became clear, around **September 23** that the Syrian drive into Jordan had failed. The Jordanian army re-gained control of key cities and intersections in the country before accepting the ceasefire agreement brokered by **Gamal Abd-Nasir**, President of Egypt, during **an emergency**

**Arab League Summit**, attended by both King Hussein and Yasir Arafat, on **September 27, 1970** (Rajab 26, 1390 Hijri) (**Elul 26, 5730 Jewish**). In this summit, **King Hussein** was forced to sign an agreement which **preserved** the right of the Palestinian organizations to operate in Jordan, but required them to leave Jordanian cities and stay near the borders with Israel. On **September 28, 1970** (Rajab 27, 1390 Hijri), **Gamal Abd-Nasir** died of a sudden heart attack. As a result the P.L.O. lost its protection, and King Hussein continued the attack. The hostage crisis of the hijacked planes was resolved on **September 30, 1970** when the PFLP released the last six hostages it held, in exchange for the release of several Palestinian and Arab prisoners held in European and Israeli jails. The **Palestinian death toll** in the **days of fighting** was estimated by Jordan at 3,400, while Palestinian sources often cite the number 5,000, **mainly Palestinian civilians killed**. This Palestinian-Jordanian confrontation is known as **Black September**.

- On **September 12, 1970**, the Soviet Union launched **Luna 16** to the Moon. This voyage returned samples from lunar Sea of Fertility.

- On **September 12, 1970**, super-sonic airliner **Concorde** landed for the **1st time** at Heathrow airport in London, England.

- On **September 11, 1971**, **Nikita Khrushchev** died. He served as Secretary General of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union from 1953 to 1964, and as Chairman of the Council of Ministers, or Premier, from 1958 to 1964. On **September 13, 1953**, **Nikita Khrushchev** was appointed General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

- On **September 11, 1973**, the democratically elected Chilean President Salvador Allende was killed in a violent **military coup** led by General Augusto **Pinochet**. Pinochet exercises dictatorial power until ousted in a referendum in 1988. Pinochet stayed in power until 1990.

- On **September 12, 1974**, Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, "**Messiah**" of the **Rastafari movement**, was deposed following a military coup, ending his reign of Ethiopia for 58 years. Today, this day is celebrated annually in Ethiopia.

- On **September 11, 1977**, Foreign Minister of Israel, **Moshe Dayan**, addressing nearly 1000 supporters attending a Policy Forum at Kfar Hamaccabiah near Ramat Gan, outlined his proposal regarding the Israeli-occupied West Bank in which the Palestinian Arabs would be given substantial internal autonomy and self-government while the Israelis would maintain strategic military installations for security purposes. He proposed that 1.6 million Palestinian refugees living outside of territories occupied by Israel should become citizens of the countries in which they now live. Moshe Dayan said: *"Jordan is already prepared to integrate the 500,000 refugees in its territory and Kuwait could do the same for the 120,000 Palestinians now earning good wages there."* He said *"Israel is prepared to absorb the 300,000 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip who are formally stateless at present because Egypt has denied them citizenship. They can choose what nationality they want to have—Israeli or Jordanian. Once these refugees have been absorbed into the Arab lands, Israel will be able to negotiate with the 700,000 Palestinians on the West Bank, most of whom are not refugees, in order to find ways of living together."* However, he categorically rejected the creation of a Palestinian state or any negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organization.



- On **September 12, 1980**, a **military coup** led by General Kenan Evren happened in **Turkey**.

- While Israel's Prime Minister was Menachem Begin, and Israel's Minister of Defense was Ariel Sharon, Israel started an invasion of Lebanon on June 6, 1982 (May 24, 1982 Julian) (Shaban 13, 1402 Hijri) (Sivan 8, 5774 Jewish). On Saturday, **August 21, 1982** (Elul 2, 5742 Jewish), the first contingent of **12,000 PLO fighters** left Beirut by ship. On **August 23, 1982** (Elul 4, 5742 Jewish), **Bashir Gemayel** (Head of a Christian militia called the Lebanese forces) was elected as President of Lebanon. On **August 25, 1982** (Elul 6, 5742 Jewish), a multinational peacekeeping force (mainly American, French, and Italian) arrived in Lebanon in order to supervise the departure of the PLO from Lebanon. **Yasir Arafat** himself was the last to leave by sea on **August 30, 1982** (Elul 11, 5742 Jewish). The US had arranged with President Bourguiba that he go to Tunis. PLO headquarters was transferred to Tunis, Tunisia. On **September 11, 1982** (Zu Qada 22, 1402 Hijri) (Elul 23, 5742 Jewish), the international forces that were guaranteeing the safety of Palestinian refugees left Beirut. Then, on **September 14, 1982**, Bashir Gemayel (Head of a Christian militia called the Lebanese forces who had been elected as President of Lebanon on **August 23, 1982**) was assassinated in a massive explosion. At night on September 14, 1982, the Israeli army chief of staff, Eitan, flew to Beirut where he met with the leadership of the Lebanese Forces, a Christian militia and told them that Israel is going to enter West Beirut, but that Israel wanted the Lebanese Forces militia to enter Sabra and Shatila Palestinian Camps. On September 15, 1982, Yasir Arafat met, for the first time, with Pope John Paul II in the Vatican. Shortly after 6.00 a.m. on September 15, 1982, the Israeli army started entering West Beirut and in control of Beirut by the following day. The massacre, of about 3000 Palestinian civilians, in Palestinian refugee camps of Sabra and Shatila in Beirut, Lebanon by a Lebanese Forces militia headed Eli Hobeika lasted from around 6:00 pm, on Thursday, **September 16, 1982** (Zu Qada 27, 1402 Hijri) (Elul 28, 5742 Jewish) (2445,228.5th Julian Day) till around 8:00 am, Saturday, **September 18, 1982** (Zu Qada 29, 1402 Hijri) (Tishri 1, 5743 Jewish).

- On **September 12, 1988**, Hurricane Gilbert devastated Jamaica. It turned towards Mexico's Yucatán Peninsula 2 days later. It caused an estimated \$5 billion in damage. Hurricane Gilbert was the strongest recorded hurricane in the Western Hemisphere, later replaced by Hurricane Wilma in 2005 (based on barometric pressure).

- On **September 11, 1990**, U.S. President **George Bush Sr.** delivered a visionary speech in front of the U.S. Congress in which he said:

*"The crisis in the Persian Gulf, as grave as it is, also offers a rare opportunity to move toward an historic period of co-operation. Out of these troubled times, our **fifth objective**—a **New World Order**—can emerge: a **new era**—freer from the threat of terror, stronger in the pursuit of justice, and more secure in the quest for peace. An era in which the nations of the world, East and West, North and South, can prosper and live in harmony. A hundred generations have searched for this **elusive path to peace**, while a thousand wars raged across the span of human endeavor. Today, that **New World** is **struggling to be born**, a world quite different from the one we've known."*

Eleven years later, **September 11, 2001**, the Zionist orchestrated attack on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon happened which led to the U.S. invasion of Iraq.

- On **September 12, 1990**, East and West Germany and the Four Powers (US, Britain, France, U.S.S.R.) signed the **Treaty on the Final Settlement with Respect to Germany** in Moscow, paving the way for German reunification.

- The final text of the **Oslo I Accord** for Palestinian limited self-government between the Palestinians and Israel was completed in **Oslo**, Norway on **August 20, 1993** (Rabi Awwal 2, 1414 Hijri). On **September 9, 1993** (Rabi Awwal 22, 1414 Hijri) (Elul 23, 5753 Jewish), Israel and the PLO exchange letters formally recognizing each other. The **U.S. recognized PLO** on **September 10, 1993. Oslo I Accord** (which constituted a Declaration of Principles for Palestinian self-government) was signed in the White House, in Washington DC, in the presence of Yasser Arafat (Chairman of Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), Yitzhak Rabin (Prime Minister of Israel) and U.S. President Bill Clinton on **September 13, 1993** (Rabi Awwal 26, 1414 Hijri) (**Elul 27**, 5753 Jewish) (2449,243.5<sup>th</sup> Composite Number). On **September 23, 1993**, the Israeli parliament ratified **Oslo I Accord**. The Declaration of Principles for Palestinian self-government was essentially an agenda for negotiations, governed by a tight timetable, rather than a full-blown agreement. The Declaration laid down that **within two months** of the signing ceremony, agreement on **Israel's military withdrawal** from **Gaza** and **Jericho** should be reached and within **four months**, the withdrawal **should be completed**. A Palestinian police force, made up mostly of pro-Arafat Palestinian fighters, was to be imported to maintain internal security in Gaza and Jericho, with Israel retaining overall responsibility for external security and foreign affairs. At the same time, elsewhere in the West Bank, Israel undertook to transfer power to 'authorized Palestinians' in five spheres: education, health, social welfare, direct taxation and tourism. Within nine months, the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza were to hold elections to a Palestinian Council to take office and assume responsibility for most government functions except defence and foreign affairs. Within two years, Israel and the Palestinians agreed to commence negotiations on the final status of the territories, and at the end of five years the permanent settlement comes into force. On **July 1, 1994** (Muharram 22, 1415 Hijri) (Tammuz 22, 5754 Jewish) (2449,534.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day or 2449,535<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), as a result of Oslo Accord, **Yasir Arafat** arrived to Gaza for the first time since Gaza was occupied by Israel on **June 6, 1967** and the headquarters of the Palestinian Authority was established in Gaza.

- On **September 12, 1994**, Frank Eugene Corder crashed a single-engine plane into the White House's south lawn, in Washington, DC, striking the West wing of the White House and killing himself.

- On **September 11, 1997**, after a nationwide referendum, Scotland voted to establish a devolved parliament, within the United Kingdom.

- On **September 11, 2001 (Jumada Thania 23** (or 22), **1422 Hijri**) (**Elul 23**, 5761 Jewish) (2452,163.5<sup>th</sup> or 2452,164<sup>th</sup> Julian day) in a series of coordinated attacks, two hijacked aircrafts crashed into the **World Trade Center** in, **Manhattan**, New York City, the twin towers of the World Trade Center collapsed, while a third aircraft smashed into the **Pentagon** (Headquarters of U.S. Department of Defence) and a fourth aircraft crashed into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, The U.S. government accused Al-Qaeda of orchestrating these events. However, the truth is that these events were orchestrated by the Zionists. In total 2,996 people are killed.

It is worth noting that 60 years earlier, on **September 11, 1941**, ground-breaking ceremony for the construction of the **Pentagon** was held. Furthermore, **Manhattan** was discovered on **September 11, 1609** Julian (**Jumada Thania 22**, 1018 Hijri) (**Elul 22**, 5369 Jewish).

- On **September 11, 2002**, through extreme and coordinated effort, the **Pentagon** (Headquarters of U.S. Department of Defence) was re-dedicated after repairs were completed, exactly one year after the attack on the building on September 11, 2001.

- On **September 11, 2004**, a helicopter crashed in the Aegean Sea, resulting in the death of all passengers. The passengers who died in this accident included **Patriarch Peter VII of Alexandria** and 16 others including journalists and bishops of the Greek Orthodox Church of Alexandria.

- On **September 29, 2000** (**Jumada Thania 29**, 1421 Hijri) (**Elul 29**, 5760 Jewish) (2451,816.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), the day after **Ariel Sharon's visit** to the Aqsa Mosque, the **Second Intifada (uprising)** of the Palestinians started. The second intifada led to Israel's disengagement plan by unilateral withdrawal from the Gaza Strip to be proposed on **December 18, 2003** (**Shawwal 23**, 1424 Hijri) (Kislev 23, 5764 Jewish), by Prime Minister Ariel Sharon in a policy address to the annual Herzlyia Conference. On **June 6, 2004** (Rabi Thani 17, 1425 Hijri), the Israeli government headed by Prime Minister Ariel Sharon approved a uni-lateral withdrawal from the Gaza Strip. On **February 16, 2005** (Muharram 7, 1426 Hijri), the Knesset finalized and approved the plan. The implementation of the plan started on after midnight of **August 14, 2005** (**Av 9**, 5765 Jewish) (**Rajab 9**, 1426 Hijri), when tens of thousands of Israeli troops started to oversee the evacuation of the settlers from 21 Jewish settlements in Gaza and four smaller settlements in the West Bank. Israel's Supreme Court, in response to a settlers' petition to block the government's destruction of the synagogues, gave the go-ahead to the Israeli government. However, Sharon decided not to proceed with their demolition. On **Sunday, September 11, 2005**, **Israeli cabinet declared a formal end to military rule**, ending Israel's 38-year-long military presence in Gaza. However, the **Israeli cabinet** voted to keep the more than 20 Jewish synagogues intact after rabbis said it was forbidden to demolish them. This enabled the evacuation to proceed slightly ahead of schedule. Palestinian officials had urged Israel to demolish the synagogues, given the Palestinian Authority's concern that it will not be able to protect the synagogues. On **September 11, 2005** (Shaban 7, 1426 Hijri) (**Elul 7**, 5765 Jewish) (2453,624.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), a ceremony was held when the last Israeli flag was lowered in the Israeli Army's Gaza Strip headquarters. The last Israeli soldiers left the strip and the Kissufim gate was closed by early morning of **Monday, September 12, 2005** (Shaban 8, 1426 Hijri) (**Elul 8**, 5765 Jewish) (2453,625.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). An official handover ceremony to the Palestinian Authority was cancelled after the Palestinian Authority boycotted it in response to Israel's decision not to demolish the synagogues. On September 12, 2005, after the Israeli withdrawal, jubilant Palestinians entered the former Jewish enclave in Gaza. According to Israeli sources, Hamas leaders held celebratory prayers in **Kfar Darom synagogue** as crowds of Palestinians continued to ransack, loot, and set on fire the synagogues. Less than 24 hours after the withdrawal, Palestinian Authority bulldozers began to demolish the remaining synagogues. On **Tuesday, September 20, 2005** (Shaban 16, 1426 Hijri) (**Elul 16**, 5765 Jewish), Israel completed the evacuation of 4 settlements in the West Bank. By late Tuesday night, after Israeli military forces completed the evacuation of last two Jewish settlements, Ganim and Kadim, near

Jenin, in the West Bank, Jubilant Palestinians rushed into the evacuated settlements to celebrate the event. Israel did not coordinate its departure with the Palestinian National Authority, taking the Palestinians by surprise. The Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and the northern part of the West Bank marked the first time Israel has ever removed Jewish settlements from territories claimed by the Palestinians for a Palestinian state.

- On **September 12, 2006**, **Pope Benedict XVI** delivered his infamous lecture at the University of Regensburg in Bavaria in which he seemed to diagnose **Islam** as a religion inherently flawed by fanaticism.

- During **September 12 – 14, 2007**, a series of mega-thrust earthquakes struck the Sunda Trench off the coast of **Sumatra, Indonesia**. Three of the quakes were greater than 7 in magnitude. The first which was also the most powerful earthquake occurred at 18:10 local time on **September 12, 2007**. It **measured 8.5** on the moment magnitude scale, making it in the **top 20 of the most powerful earthquakes** ever recorded and measured on a seismograph. It was centered about 34 km underground, 130 km southwest of Bengkulu on the southwest coast of Sumatra, Indonesia, and some 600 km west-northwest of **Jakarta** (Indonesia's capital). The second largest earthquake of this series, **7.9 in magnitude**, occurred at 06:49:04 local time on **September 13**. A **Tsunami** was triggered by these earthquakes. As a result of these quakes, 21 people died and 88 people were injured

- On **September 11, 2007**, Russia tested the **largest conventional weapon** ever, the Father of all bombs.

- On **September 13, 2008**, New Delhi, India, was hit by a series of bomb blasts, resulting in 30 deaths and 130 injuries.

- On **September 11, 2012** (Shawwal 24, 1433 Hijri) (**Elul 24, 5772 Jewish**), around 9:40 pm, the **U.S. Embassy in Benghazi, Libya**, was attacked, looted and burned down, resulting in the **death of five people, including the U.S. ambassador**.

- On **September 10, 2014**, U.S. President **Barack Obama** delivered a speech addressed to the American people, on TV, regarding his strategy to deal with ISIS in Syria and Iraq. On **September 11, 2014**, after a meeting in Jeddah, **10 Arab countries** joined the **coalition against ISIS**. On Tuesday, **September 23, 2014** (Zu Al-Qada 28, 1435 Hijri) (**Elul 28, 5774 Jewish**) (2456,923.5th Julian Day) at 3:30 a.m. local time in Syria (September 22, 2014 at 8:30 p.m. Eastern Time in the U.S.), an international coalition of countries (including some Arab countries) started airstrikes against ISIS in Syria. On Tuesday morning, September 23, 2014, few hours after the beginning of the airstrikes, President Barack Obama delivered a statement, in the presence of media reporters, from the White House, in Washington, DC. The U.S. military, acting alone, also launched 8 strikes on **Khorasan Group** targets near Aleppo, Syria. U.S. intelligence believes that this group, which is associated with Al-Qaida, poses a more serious, direct threat to the U.S. and Europe than ISIS, but this group remained surprisingly unknown.

- On **September 11, 2015**, Japan was hit by a 5.3-magnitude earthquake. The epicenter of the earthquake was 20 miles southeast of Tokyo. Earlier in the week, more than 100,000 people were

evacuated from their homes in Japan after an unprecedented bout of rain and tropical storm that led to flooding and landslides.

- On Friday, **September 11, 2015** (Zu Al-Qada 27, 1436 Hijri) (Elul 27, 5775 Jewish), around 5:30 pm, a construction crane (190 meters high) fell onto the Masjid Al-Haram (the mosque in which the Kaba is located). About 118 people died and 394 were injured. The crane fell onto the east side of the mosque, with its boom crashing through the roof. One witness reported that the crane fell on the third floor above Al-Safa and Al-Marwah. This incident in Mecca is considered the deadliest crane collapse accident in modern history, with the previous most deadly incident being the collapse of a construction crane in New York City on March 15, 2008 (Rabi Awwal 7, 1429 Hijri), killing seven people.
- On **September 13, 2015** (Zu Al-Qada 29, 1436 Hijri) (**Elul 29**, 5775 Jewish, the last day of the Jewish year), Israeli forces clashed with Palestinians at the Aqsa Mosque compound.

## 15. November 1 – 2

**November 1** is the **305<sup>th</sup>** day of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **60 days** remaining until the end of the year.

**November 2** is the **306<sup>th</sup>** day of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **59 days** remaining until the end of the year.

The following events happened during this period:

- On **July 18, 1290 AD** (Rajab 9, 689 Hijri) (**Av 9**, 5050 Jewish Calendar), **King Edward I** issued a royal decree ordering all Jews to leave **England** before **November 1, 1290** (Shawwal 26, 689 Hijri). Jews who would remain in England were declared liable to be executed. Most of the Jews went from England to France, while others wandered to Spain, Germany and Flanders. England had a very small Jewish community (about 1600 Jews) at that time. **Oliver Cromwell** permitted the Jews to return to England in **1657AD**.
- The **1755 Lisbon earthquake**, also known as the **Great Lisbon earthquake**, occurred in the Kingdom of Portugal on **November 1, 1755**, the holy day of All Saints' Day. It is estimated that this earthquake had a **magnitude in the range 8.5 – 9**.
- **Hussein bin Ali** was appointed by the Ottoman Sultan as the **Sharif and Amir of Mecca** on **November 1, 1908** (Shawwal 6 (or 7), 1326 Hijri).
- The Ottoman Empire joined the **Central Powers**, by signing a secret alliance agreement with Germany on **August 2, 1914** (Ramadan 10, 1332 Hijri), one day after the German Empire declared war on Russia. The Ottoman Empire effectively entered **World War I** on **October 29, 1914** (**Zu Al-Hijja 9**, 1332 Hijri), when it allowed German warships to shell

Russian Black Sea ports to destroy the Russian Black Sea Fleet. In the meantime, Austria started its invasion of Serbia on **November 1, 1914**. Russia declared war on the Ottoman Empire on **November 2, 1914** (Zu Al-Hijja 13, 1332 Hijri). The British Navy attacked Turkish seaports on the Dardanelles (a narrow strait in northwestern **Turkey** connecting the Aegean Sea to the Sea of Marmara), on **November 3, 1914**. The rest of the Allies declared war on the Ottoman Empire on **November 5, 1914** (Zu Hijja 15, 1332 Hijri).

- At the Holy Al-Haram Mosque, Mecca, **Hussein bin Ali** proclaimed to be King of the Arabs and Prince of the Believers on **November 2, 1916** (Muharram 6, 1335 Hijri).

- **Balfour Declaration (or Promise)** by the British government to facilitate the creation of a homeland in Palestine for the Jews was offered to the Jews in a letter signed by Britain's Foreign Minister on **November 2, 1917** (Muharram 16 (or 17), 1336 Hijri) (Heshvan 17, 5678 Jewish) (2421,534.5<sup>th</sup> or 2421,535<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).

- On **November 1, 1922** (Rabi Awwal 11, 1341 Hijri), the **Ottoman Sultanate** was abolished by Turkish Grand National Assembly and the last **Sultan, Mehmed VI** was forced to leave Turkey. He left Constantinople (Istanbul), aboard the British Warship *Malaya*, on **November 17, 1922**. He initially went to Malta for exile, but later on, he moved to the Italian Riviera.

- On **November 1, 1925** (Rabi Thani 14, 1344 Hijri), the **Bahra Agreement** was signed between the **Najd** and the **Iraq**, which was represented by Britain, to resolve Najd-Iraqi border issues. On **November 2, 1925**, the **Hadda Agreement** was signed between the **Najd** and **Transjordan**, which was represented by Britain, to establish the border between Najd and the Transjordan territory of Mandatory Palestine.

- In **Turkey**, at the time of President **Kemal Ataturk**, the language revolution to replace the Arabic script of the Turkish language with Latin script officially began in **1928**. In **May 1928**, numbers written in Arabic were replaced with their Western equivalents. On **November 1, 1928** (Jumada Ula 17, 1347 Hijri), the Grand National Assembly approved the **new Latin alphabet of Turkish language** that had been devised by a committee of scholars. Many members of the assembly favored gradually introducing the new letters over a period up to five years. However, Ataturk insisted that the transition last only a few months, and his opinion prevailed. On **January 1, 1929** (Rajab 19, 1347 Hijri), it became **unlawful to use the Arabic alphabet to write in Turkish language**.

- **King Faisal** of Saudi Arabia was born on **April 14, 1906** (Safar 19, 1324 Hijri). He reigned from **November 2, 1964** (Jumada Thania 26, 1384 Hijri) till his assassination on **March 25, 1975** (Rabi Awwal 12, 1395 Hijri).

- **Cairo Agreement** was an agreement between **Lebanon** and **Palestinian Liberation Organization (P.L.O.)** reached on Sunday, **November 2, 1969** (Shaban 21 (or 22), 1389 Hijri) and became effective the next day, on Monday, **November 3, 1969** (Shaban 22 (or 23), 1389 Hijri). It allowed the Palestinian guerrillas to establish military bases in Lebanon and conduct cross border operations against Israel. The Lebanese Parliament repealed this agreement on **May 21, 1987**.

- On **November 2, 1976** (Zu Al-Qada 10, 1396 Hijri), **Jimmy Carter** was elected as **President of the U.S.**

- On **December 9 - 10, 1991 (Jumada Thania 2, 1412 Hijri)** (Teveth 2, 5752 Jewish), the city of Maastricht, Netherlands hosted the European Council which drafted the **Maastricht Treaty**. The **Maastricht Treaty** (formally, the Treaty on European Union or T.E.U. undertaken to integrate Europe was signed in Maastricht on **February 7, 1992** (Shaban 3, 1412 Hijri) (Adar I 3, 5752 Jewish) by the members of the European Community. Upon its entry into force on **November 1, 1993** (Jumada Ula 16, 1414 Hijri) (Heshvan 17, 5754 Jewish), the treaty created the **European Union** and led to the creation of the **single European currency, the Euro**.

- On Monday, **November 1, 2010 (Zu Al-Qada 23 (or 24), 1431 Hijri)** (Heshvan 24, 5771 Jewish) (2455,501.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Mecca Clock Royal Tower Hotel**, a 5-star luxury **Fairmont Hotel**, in **Mecca, Saudi Arabia**, was opened, just in time to host Muslims coming to perform Hajj (Pilgrimage). The tower is overlooking and only few steps from the **Haram Mosque** the holiest sanctuary in Islam, the **Haram Mosque in Mecca** that houses the Kaba at its center. **Mecca Clock Royal Tower** is the **tallest concrete building in the World** and the second tallest building in the World (after Burj Khalifa in Dubai), with 120 floors. In addition to the Fairmont Hotel which consists of 29 floors with 858 rooms and suites, the Makkah Clock Royal Tower has five 'Royal' floors and luxury apartments on floors 30 to 52. The top distinctive feature of the building is the **Clock** (more than 40 meters in diameter), whose four facades are visible from 25 kilometers (16 miles) away. The Clock is more than five times larger than Big Ben in London. It announces daily prayers through amplifiers, reaching a radius of 7 kilometers. The Clock's four faces are covered with 98 million pieces of glass mosaics and are illuminated by around two million LED lights. The clock itself is made by the German clock manufacturer Perrot. A 23-meter high spire topped by a **Crescent**, made of fiberglass-backed mosaic gold is mounted at the top of the Clock, making the total height of the tower to the highest tip of the crescent reach **601 meters** (1,972 feet). Elevators take visitors up to an **observation deck/balcony** at the base of the clock, just beneath the clock facades. The Tower houses a **lunar observatory center** which can be used to sight the moon to determine the beginning of the lunar months of the Hijri Calendar. In addition, this tower has a **museum** for Islamic icons and objects of arts. **Mecca Clock Royal Tower** is the tallest building of the multi-billion-dollar **Abraj Al-Bait** (Towers of the House) **Complex** which consists of 7 buildings. The seven towers of the complex rest on a **115 meter-high podium** made up of **15 floors of retail stores**. Abraj Al-Bait complex has luxury hotels (Fairmont, SwissOtel, Mövenpick, Rotana, etc.), residential apartments, and shopping malls. In total, up to 100,000 people could be housed inside the towers. Abraj Al-Bait complex was constructed by Bin Laden Group (Osama Bin Laden's family). The historic Ottoman-era Ajyad Fortress was demolished to make way for Abraj Al-Bait.

- On Tuesday, **November 2, 2010 (Zu Al-Qada 25, 1431 Hijri)**, the **elections** for the federal legislatures (U.S. Senate and House of Representatives), state legislatures, and state governorships in the United States were held. The election occurred in the middle of Democratic President Barack Obama's first term in office. The Democratic Party suffered massive defeats in many national and state level elections, with many seats switching to Republican Party control.

Although the President's party usually loses congressional, statewide and local seats in a midterm elections, the 2010 midterm election season featured some of the biggest losses since the Great Depression.

## 16. November 18 – 20

**November 19** is the **323<sup>rd</sup>** day of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **42 days** remaining until the end of the year.

- On **November 18** annually, **Independence Day** in Morocco is celebrated, in honor of **King Mohammad V's return to Morocco** in 1956 following a period of exile during the French Protectorate years. Morocco had gained its independence earlier, when **Mohammad V** negotiated the return of sovereignty, with France granting **Morocco** its independence on March 2, 1956 and Spain granting independence of its regions in Morocco on April 7, 1956.
- On **November 18** annually, the **Dedication of the Basilicas of the Apostles Peter and Paul** is celebrated. It is a feast day on the liturgical calendar of the Catholic Church. This feast combines the standard celebration of the dedication of **St. Peter's Basilica** and the **Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls**. Both of them were built by the Emperor Constantine the Great during the 4th century. These sites had already been visited by pilgrims for over a century when the basilicas were built to honor the apostles, Peter and Paul, traditionally believed to have been buried there. The basilicas were originally joined by a colonnade, which was built despite the distance of several miles between them. Their significance in the Catholic Church is emphasized in the reference made to them in the obligation on Catholic bishops to make a Quinquennial visit ad limina in which they are required to go "to the tombs of the Apostles" in Rome every five years to report on the status of their dioceses or prelatures.

The following events happened during this period:

- On **November 18, 401**, the Visigoths, led by King Alaric I, crossed the Alps and invaded northern Italy.
- On **November 19, 461**, Libius Severus was declared **emperor of the Western Roman Empire**. The real power was in the hands of the magister militum Ricimer.
- On **November 19, 636**, the Muslims defeated the Persian Sasanian Empire at the **Battle of Al-Qadisiyah** in Iraq.
- The **Council of Clermont**, a mixed synod of the Catholic Church, was held from **November 18, 1095** till November 28, 1095 in **Clermont**, France. On **November 26 (or 27), 1095** Julian (**Zu Al-Qada 26**, 488 Hijri) (Kislev 26, 4856 Jewish) (2121,**335.5<sup>th</sup>** Julian Day), during the Council of Clermont, **Pope Urban II** delivered a speech urging the Christians to capture the Holy Land from the Muslims. This speech led to the **first Crusade** which started



from Europe on **August 15, 1096** (Shaban 23, 489 Hijri) and finally managed to conquer Jerusalem on **July 15, 1099** (Shaban 23, 492 Hijri).

- On **November 18, 1105**, Maginulfo was elected the **Anti-Pope Sylvester IV**.
- On **November 18, 1180**, **Phillip II** became **King of France**.
- On **November 18, 1210**, **Pope Innocent III** excommunicated Holy Roman **Emperor Otto IV**.
- On **November 20, 1272**, **Edward I** proclaimed **King of England**.
- On **November 18, 1282**, **Pope Martin IV** excommunicated **King Peter III of Aragon**.
- On **November 18, 1302**, **Pope Boniface VIII** issued the Papal bull Unam sanctam, claiming spiritual supremacy for the papacy.
- On **November 18, 1421**, a seawall at the Zuiderzee dike in the Netherlands broke down, flooding 72 villages and killing about 10,000 people. This event came to be known as St Elizabeth's flood.
- The Ottomans defeated an alliance of Europeans in the **Battle of Varna** on **November 10, 1444 Julian (November 19, 1444 Gregorian)** (Rajab 28, 848 Hijri).
- On **November 19, 1544**, **Pope Paul III** opened **Council of Trent**. This Council was held between 1545 and 1563 in Trento (Trent) and Bologna, northern Italy. It was one of the Roman Catholic Church's most important ecumenical councils. It was prompted by the Protestant Reformation. The Council issued condemnations of what it defined to be heresies committed by Protestantism and, in response to Protestantism, the Council issued key statements and clarifications of the Catholic Church's doctrine and teachings.
- On **November 18, 1601**, Tiryaki Hasan Pasha, an Ottoman provincial governor, routed the Habsburg forces commanded by Ferdinand the Archduke of Austria during the Siege of Nagykanizsa.
- On **November 19, 1621**, Rabbi Isaiah b Abraham (aha-Levi Horowitz) arrived to Palestine.
- Emperor Constantine initiated the construction of the old St. Peter's Basilica on Vatican Hill in Rome. On Vatican Hill : (a) St. Peter was supposedly buried; however, St. Peter's bones were not actually discovered until the reign of Pius XII, and (b) a shrine for pagan goddess Cybele. **Cybele** was known as “Great Idaea (Ida), Mother of the Gods“ and “Great Mother”. The rituals of worship of Cybele included human sacrifice and the **Tauro-bolium**, baptism in the blood of a sacred bull. After construction of the old **St. Peter's Basilica** was completed, it was consecrated on **November 18, 360 AD**. Construction of the present **St. Peter's Basilica** on the **Vatican Hill in Rome**, replacing the Old St. Peter's Basilica, began on **April 18, 1506 Julian (Zu Al-Qada 23 (or 24), 911 Hijri) (Nisan 24, 5266 Jewish)**. After the construction was completed, the Basilica was consecrated by **Pope Urban VIII** on **November 18, 1626 Julian (November 28, 1626**

Gregorian) (**Safar 28**, 1036 Hijri) (Heshvan 29, 5387 Jewish). Some of the relics of St Peter and St. Paul are placed in a vault under a magnificent altar at which only the Pope says mass, unless he commissions another to officiate there. This sacred vault is called "The confession of St. Peter", or "The threshold of the Apostles", to which devout Christians flock for pilgrimages.

- On **November 20, 1815**, **Second Treaty of Paris**: France and its allies agreed that France should pay indemnities after Battle of Waterloo, thus ending the Napoleonic Wars.

- On **November 20, 1815**, Russia, Prussia, Austria, and England signed Alliance "for the maintenance of peace in Europe" same day as Treaty of Paris.

- On **November 19, 1912**, during the First Balkan War, the Serbian Army captured Bitola, ending the five-century-long Ottoman rule of Macedonia.

- On **November 20, 1920**, **Abdullah son of Al-Hussein** marched into Ma'an, a district in Hijaz, leading an army of 300 men and announced his intention of attacking the French in Syria and restoring his brother Faisal to power there. Without facing opposition, Abdullah and his army had effectively occupied most of TransJordan by March 1921. In the **Cairo Conference (March 12 - 30, 1921)**, Britain decided to create **Kingdom of Iraq** under British Administration, headed by Faisal son of Al-Hussein and **Emirate of Transjordan** under British Administration, headed by Abdullah son of Al-Hussein. Abdullah became Emir of TransJordan on **April 1, 1921** (Rajab 22, 1339 Hijri), while Jordan was under the British mandate. In **May 1925**, the Aqaba and Ma'an districts of the Hijaz became part of TransJordan. The **Treaty of London** was signed between the United Kingdom and TransJordan on **March 22, 1946** (Rabi Thani 18, 1365 Hijri) and came into force on **June 17, 1946** (Rajab 17, 1365 Hijri) (Sivan 18, 5706 Jewish). In the Treaty of London, Britain agreed to recognize the independence of TransJordan, which would become known as the **Hashemite Kingdom of Transjordan**, with Abdullah I as its king. However, Britain would still maintain military bases within **TransJordan** and continue to subsidize and support the TransJordan's army. On **May 25, 1946** (**Jumada Thania 23**, 1365 Hijri), the parliament of TransJordan ratified the Treaty of London. In Jordan, **May 25** is still celebrated annually as **Independence Day**, although the British mandate for TransJordan ended officially on **June 17, 1946**. **Hashemite Kingdom of Transjordan** changed its name into the **Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan** on **April 26, 1949** (Jumada Thania 27, 1368 Hijri).

- On **October 19, 1922** (**Safar 27**, 1341 Hijri), **Refet Bele Pasha**, an army commander and representative of the Turkish Government in Ankara, loyal to Kemal Ataturk, arrived to Constantinople (Istanbul) with a small armed force to gradually take over the administration of the city. He met **Ottoman Sultan Mohammad VI** (also known as **Waheed Eddeen**). Soon after this meeting, on **November 1, 1922** (**Rabi Awwal 11**, 1341 Hijri) (Heshvan 10, 5683 Jewish) (2423,359.5<sup>th</sup> or 2423,360<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), Turkish National Assembly in Ankara reached a decision to abolish the **Ottoman Sultanate**, effectively ending the Ottoman Empire, which had lasted since **1299**. On the morning of **November 17, 1922** (**Rabi Awwal 27**, 1341 Hijri) (**Heshvan 26**, 5683 Jewish), the **36<sup>th</sup> and last Ottoman Sultan Mohammad VI**, after having obtained asylum from Britain, left the Dolmabahçe Palace in Constantinople on board the British ship *Malaya* and went for his exile initially to Malta which was ruled by Britain, and later moved to San Remo on the Italian Riviera where he lived till he died on **May 16, 1926** (Zu Al-Qada 3,

1344 Hijri). **Mohammad VI** remained as Caliph till **November 19, 1922** (Rabi Awwal 29, 1341 Hijri), the day on which the Turkish National Assembly in Ankara voted in favor of replacing him as Caliph by his cousin **Abdul Majeed II** (who used to be **Crown Prince** and **Mohammad VI's "Heir to the Throne"**). **Abdul Majeed II** became the **29<sup>th</sup> and last Ottoman Caliph**. Official installation ceremony of **Abdul Majeed II** as **Caliph** was held on **November 24, 1922**. **Abdul Majeed II** served as Caliph till **March 3, 1924 (Rajab 27 (or 26), 1342 Hijri)** (Adar 27, 5684 Jewish Calendar) (2423,847.5 or 2423,848<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), the day on which the **Ottoman Caliphate** was abolished. On the next day, **March 4, 1924**, he and his family had to leave Turkey. He chose to go to Paris, France and he died there on **August 23, 1944** (Ramadan 4, 1363 Hijri). The status of the Ottoman Sultan as Caliph was given formal sanction in the Ottoman Constitution of **November 23, 1876** (rescinded February 13, 1878, restored on **July 24, 1908**).

- On **November 20, 1925**, **Robert F. Kennedy** was born. He is an American politician, U.S. Attorney General, and a presidential candidate. He is a brother of U.S. President John F. Kennedy.

- On **November 19, 1928**, the first issue of **Time magazine** was published. Japanese Emperor Hirohito was on the cover.

- On **November 19, 1932**, **Thyssen** demanded **Hitler** should become German chancellor.

- Dr. **Rashad Khalifa** was born on **November 19, 1935 (Shaban 23, 1354 Hijri)** in Egypt, but obtained his Master's degree and Ph.D. in BioChemistry from the U.S. and lived afterwards in the U.S. He did extensive research on the mathematical structure of the Quran. He advocated a hypothesis that everything in the Quran is structured around the **number 19** and he pointed out the **verse 30 of Sura 74** which mentions **number "Nineteen"** is significant. Because the number of verses of the Quran did not fit his hypothesis, he claimed that the last 2 verses of Sura 9 are not authentic verses and should be excluded from the Quran. He later claimed to be a Messenger of Allah. Such controversial findings and claims were rejected by many Muslim scholars. On **February 14, 1989**, Iran's Khomeini issued an edict on Radio Tehran declaring Salman Rushdi an apostate and incited Muslims to kill him. On **February 19, 1989 (Rajab 13, 1409 Hijri)** (Adar 14, 5749 Hijri), a group of 38 Muslim scholars met in Saudi Arabia to discuss Salman Rushdi's book "The Satanic Verses" (Salman Rushdi was born on **June 19, 1947**) which was published on September 1988. They issued an edict which stated: "both Rashad Khalifa and Salman Rushdi are apostates." On **January 31, 1990 (Rajab 5, 1410 Hijri)** (Shevat 5, 5750 Jewish) (2447922.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Rashad Khalifa** was stabbed to death in Arizona. Today, there is still a group called **Submitters** (which is a translation of the word "**Muslims**") who follow his teachings.

- On **November 20, 1935 (Shaban 24, 1354 Hijri)** **Sheikh Izz Al-Deen Al-Qassam** was killed by Police during the British Mandate over Palestine. He was an influential Islamist preacher in the British Mandate of Palestine. He founded and led the Black Hand, a Palestinian resistance group against the Zionists.

- **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** was the first President of Turkey and was behind the end of the Ottoman Sultanate in 1922 and **abolition of the Islamic Caliphate** in **1924**. His father's name is Ali Riza. At birth, he was identified as **Mustafa son of Ali Riza**. He was an army officer. During a battle in Derna, Libya on **January 16–17, 1912** (Muharram 26 - 27, 1330 Hijri) (Teveth 26 - 27, 5672 Jewish), while the Ottoman forces were attacking the Italian-controlled fortress of Kasr-i Harun, two Italian planes dropped bombs on the Ottoman forces and a piece of limestone shrapnel from a damaged building's rubble entered Mustafa Kemal's left eye which caused a **permanent damage on his left eye's tissue**, but not total loss of sight. So, **Mustafa Kemal** became an **Awar** (person with a **defective eye**). Prophet Mohammad (p) described the Dajjal as an **Awar**. Some researchers believe that **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's** ancestors were **Crypto Jews**, possibly **Dönme** (**descendants of followers of Sabbatai Zevi** who claimed to be the **awaited Jewish Messiah**, but after being imprisoned by the Ottomans, he was freed after pretending to convert to Islam). **Crypto Jews** pretend in public to be Muslims, but remain Jews in private. **Salonica** (the city where **Mustafa Kemal** was born) served as an important center for such **Crypto Jews** and the base of the **Young Turks movement** which led a rebellion to turn the Ottoman Sultanate into constitutional monarchy, governed according to a constitution, thus limiting the power of the Sultan. Today, **Salonica** is called Thessaloniki and it is the capital Macedonia region of Greece and the second largest city in Greece. **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** made a name for himself as the **Commander of the 19th Division of the Ottoman army**, where his bravery and strategic prowess helped thwart the Allied invasion of the Dardanelles in **1915**. The real date of birth of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk is unconfirmed. In a speech he delivered in 1927, **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** claimed to have been born on the same day as day of **his landing in Samsun**, meaning **May 19**. **Atatürk landed in Samsun on May 19, 1919** (May 6, 1919 Julian) (**Shaban 19**, 1337 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5679 Jewish) (242,209<sup>th</sup> or 242,209<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). **Atatürk's landing in Samsun** is considered the **beginning Turkey's War of Independence**, the Turkish uprising against the decision of the Allies after World War I to divide among themselves many territories of the defeated Ottoman Empire. **Turkey** designates **Atatürk's** date of birth as **May 19, 1881 Gregorian** (Jumada Thania **19**, 1298 Hijri) (**Iyar 20**, 5641 Jewish) (2408,219<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). Today, **May 19** is an annual national holiday in Turkey, called "Commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports Day". **May 19** is also the official date of commemoration of the Pontic Greek Genocide in Greece and Cyprus. **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** died in Istanbul (Constantinople) on **November 10, 1938**, meaning **19 years after 1919**, the significant year in his life. At 8:10 a.m. on **November 19, 1938** (Ramadan 26 (or 25), 1357 Hijri) (Heshvan 25, 5699 Jewish) (2429,221<sup>st</sup> or 2429,222<sup>nd</sup> Julian Day), a religious funeral prayer was conducted by the Director of the Institute for Islamic Studies, in Turkish, not in traditional Arabic, and was attended by people who were close to him. His state funeral was held in Ankara on **November 21, 1938**, and was attended by dignitaries from 17 countries. Atatürk's coffin was placed inside a white marble sarcophagus at the **Ethnography Museum of Ankara** and remained there until **November 10, 1953** (Rabi Awwal 3, 1373 Hijri), the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death, when his coffin was buried in his final resting place at **Anıtkabir (Masuleum or Memorial Tomb)** in Ankara.

- On **November 19, 1949**, coronation of **Prince Rainier III**, as 30th ruling **Prince of Monaco**, was held.

- On **November 19, 1954**, **Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi** was born. He served as chief of the Egyptian Armed Forces before becoming the **President of Egypt**. Following mass protests and demonstrations against **President of Egypt, Mohammad Mursi**, that started on **June 29, 2013 (Shaban 20, 1434 Hijri) (Tammuz 21, 5773 Jewish)**, a military coup led by Chief of the Armed Forces of Egypt, **Abd-Al-Fatah Sisi**, happened and deposed **President Mursi** on **July 3, 2013 (Shaban 24, 1434 Hijri) (Tammuz 25, 5773 Jewish)**.

- **Sammy Davis Jr.** was an American singer, dancer, actor, and comedian. He was born on **December 8, 1925 (Jumada Ula 22, 1344 Hijri) (Kislev 21, 5686 Jewish)**. On **November 19, 1954 (Rabi Awwal 23, 1374 Hijri) (Heshvan 23, 5715 Jewish)**, he lost his left eye due to a car accident. At around 7:00 a.m., while Sammy Davis Jr. was driving his new Cadillac car from Las Vegas (after performing at the Frontier Hotel) back to Los Angeles to record a soundtrack for the film *Six Bridges to Cross*, his car hit the rear of a car driven by an elderly lady that was backing out in front of him in San Bernardino, California. Then, Sammy's car shifted its direction, miraculously missing oncoming traffic, and came to a stop after slamming into a stone column at the entrance to a driveway. The impact of the crash actually pushed the engine of his car back into the front seat, driving Sammy's face into the steering wheel and his **left eye was forced out of its socket** by the bullet-shaped cone at the center of the steering wheel. Sammy broke his nose on the sun visor, and he broke his knee cap on the emergency brake handle. He had a companion in his car who had driven the first part of the trip. His companion was also badly injured in the collision which fractured his jaw and broke out all of his teeth. Sammy and his companion were rushed by ambulance to San Bernardino County Hospital and were transferred to San Bernardino Community Hospital later that day. Sammy spent six hours in the hospital hallway waiting for an operating room in the cramped and outdated hospital. The damage to his left eye was so severe that it had to be removed. The eye surgeon attached a **prosthetic socket** onto Sammy's left eye muscles to hold and direct a **"glass eye"** that was later implanted after he healed further. So, he became an Awar (with a defective eye or has lost one of his eyes). Prophet Mohammad (p) said the Dajjal is Awar. Sammy was released from the hospital on **November 28, 1954**. **Sammy Davis Jr.** was back on stage only two months later. The car accident and hospital stay made a profound impact on Sammy's life. He believed that surviving the car accident was a miracle and spent much of his recovery reflecting on his existence. While being treated at the hospital in San Bernardino, he was visited by a Jewish rabbi chaplain. Later, Sammy Davis Jr. said about this visit: "We had a long talk. Some of the things he said helped me; and for the first time in my life, a religion started to make sense to me." Although Sammy's parents were Christians, he was not deeply religious. But after learning about history of the Jews, he felt that the Jews and the Blacks shared a similar history of oppression. Over the next years, he studied more Judaism and eventually converted to Judaism few years after his car accident. In August 1989, doctors discovered a cancerous tumor in **Sammy Davis'** throat. Realizing that Sammy Davis was not going to be around much longer, his friends in the entertainment industry arranged a tribute to Sammy Davis which was broadcast on TV on **February 4, 1990**. **Sammy Davis Jr.** attended the event, and at the end of it, he got up, did not speak, but did a little soft-shoe tap dance to a standing ovation. **Frank Sinatra** visited Sammy Davis Jr. at the hospital where he was being treated, and according to the National Enquirer "A softball-size tumor stuck out of Sammy's neck, giving off a horrible odor". This sight devastated Sinatra. After **Sammy Davis Jr.** died on **May 16, 1990 (Shawwal 20, 1410 Hijri) (Iyar 21, 5750 Jewish)**, it was decided that his memorial service would be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, **May 18, 1990 (Shawwal 22, 1410 Hijri) (Iyar 23,**

5750 Jewish) at Hall of Liberty in Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Hollywood Hills, Los Angeles, California and that it would be open to the public. So, on **Friday morning**, 400 free tickets were given to individuals who arrived early enough to Forest Lawn Memorial Park. People started lining up at 6 a.m. About 1200 people jammed the Hall of Liberty, and hundreds more were outside. His song "I've Got To Be Me" was played on the loudspeaker, and the crowd cheered. The service lasted for 90 minutes. Rev. Jesse Jackson eulogized him. Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Michael Jackson and Bill Cosby were honorary pall-bearers. After the memorial service, Sammy was buried in the Davis family plot at Forest Lawn in Glendale.

- On **November 20, 1962**, in response to the Soviet Union agreeing to remove its missiles from Cuba, U.S. President John F. Kennedy ended the quarantine of the Caribbean nation. This was the end of the **Cuban Missile Crisis**.

- On **November 18, 1969**, **Joseph P. Kennedy, Sr.** died. He is an American businessman and diplomat (44th U. S. Ambassador to the U.K.). He is the father of U.S. President John F. Kennedy.

- On **November 13, 1970** (Ramadan 14, **1390 Hijri**), a coup known as the Corrective Movement, brought Lieutenant General **Hafiz Al-Asad** to power in Syria. On **November 19, 1970** (Ramadan 20, 1390 Hijri) (Heshvan 20, 5731 Jewish), **Hafiz Al-Asad** was appointed as Syria's Prime Minister and Minister of Defense. On **March 12, 1971** (**Muharram 15**, 1391 Hijri), **Hafiz Al-Asad** was elected **President of Syria** in a referendum. He was born in Kurdaha near Ladikia, Syria, on **October 6, 1930** (Jumada Ula 13, 1349 Hijri). He died in Damascus at the age of **69** on **June 10, 2000** (Rabi Awwal 7, 1421 Hijri).

- On Wednesday, **November 9, 1977** (**Zu Al-Qada 28, 1397 Hijri**), Egyptian **President Anwar Sadat** delivered a speech in front of the Egyptian Parliament, **in the presence of Yasir Arafat**. In the section on foreign policy he described his efforts to advance the cause of peace before, during and after the 1973 war. He proposed to go to Geneva to demand Israeli withdrawal and a Palestinian state. In an unplanned addition to the speech, **Sadat** declared: "I am ready to go to the **end of the World** if this would prevent the wounding, let alone the killing, of a soldier or an officer of my boys.... Israel will be surprised when it hears me say that I won't refuse to go to their own home, to the Knesset itself, to discuss it [peace]". On **November 10, 1977**, Israeli Prime Minister, **Menachem Begin**, issued a press release stating that if Sadat decided to come to Jerusalem, he would be received with all the honors due to a president. The following day, **November 11, 1977**, Begin made a speech on TV addressed to the Egyptian people in English language. On **November 14, 1977**, Begin and Sadat appeared in a joint interview with Walter Cronkite on C.B.S. (an American TV channel), in which Sadat told that he was ready to go to Jerusalem if asked. On **November 15, 1977**, Begin announced, in the Knesset, his invitation to Sadat to visit Israel. At night, on Saturday, **Day of Arafat** and **eve of Eid Al-Adha**, **November 19, 1977** (**Zu Al-Hijja 9, 1397 Hijri**) (Tevet 9, 5766 Jewish), the dark/black-skinned Egyptian **President Anwar Sadat arrived to Israel** becoming the first Arab leader to publicly visit Israel by making an unexpected 2-day visit to Israel. The next day, on Sunday, November 20, 1977, he performed Eid Al-Adha (Feast of the Sacrifice) prayer in the morning at the Al-Aqsa mosque and delivered a speech addressing the Knesset in the afternoon. He returned to Egypt at night on **November 21, 1977**. Consequently, **Libya** cut off diplomatic relations with

Egypt. Anwar Sadat and Barack Obama are similar to each other in the sense that their skin color is much darker than average citizen of their countries. Similarly, while **Barack Obama** was a U.S. Senator, he arrived for the first time to Israel at night on Monday, **eve of Eid Al-Adha, January 9, 2006 (Zu Al-Hijja 9, 1426 Hijri)**, for a 5-day visit to Israel after having spent 4 days in the Middle East, visiting Iraq, Qatar, Kuwait, and Jordan. He visited the Western Wall and Church of the Holy Sepulcher (called “Church of the Qiyama” by Arab Christians) on **January 13, 2006**. He left Israel on January 14, 2006. It is worth noting that Egyptian President **Anwar Al-Sadat** was assassinated on **October 6, 1981 (Zu Hijja 8, 1401 Hijri) (Tishri 8, 5742 Jewish)**.

- On **November 18, 1978**, in Jonestown, Guyana, **Jim Jones** led his cult known as “Peoples Temple” to a mass murder–suicide that claimed 918 lives in all, 909 of them in Jonestown itself, including over 270 children. Congressman Leo Ryan was murdered by members of the Peoples Temple hours earlier.

- An unpublicized limited-scale uprising or unrest in Western Arabia (Hijaz region) started in **early November 1979**. Later, on **November 20, 1979 (Muharram 1, 1400 Hijri)** (Heshvan 30, 5740 Jewish) at the time of Dawn prayer, a group of militant rebels led by **Muhammad AbdAllah Al-Qahtani** (who was declared to be the Mahdi) [born on **September 28, 1935** (Jumada Thania 29, 1354 Hijri) (Tishri 1, 5696 Jewish)] and **Juhaiman Al-Otaibi** [born on **September 16, 1936** (Jumada Thania 29, 1355 Hijri) (Elul 29, 5696 Jewish)] took over the Haram Mosque in Mecca. They entered the Mosque carrying several coffins with them and they told the Mosque guards that the coffins contained dead bodies. In reality, the coffins contained dozens of weapons. During the Fajr prayer, the rebels chained all of the mosque’s doors and placed two guards at each door. The rebels stormed the loud speakers room and took control of the mosque’s loudspeakers. Immediately after the prayer, the rebels announced the appearance of the Mahdi. The rebels said their Mahdi had escaped from his enemies and was taking refuge inside the Haram Mosque. In their announcement, the rebels questioned the legitimacy of the Saudi monarchy of Al-Saud. The rebels then started to pledge allegiance to the Mahdi. **Year 1400 Hijri** (the beginning of the current Hijri century) is equivalent to **400**, the numerical value of **the Satan**. On **November 24 – 25, 1979**, Saudi forces launched a major attack against the rebels which drove the rebels to hide in the basement of the Mosque. Some sources said that about 1000 of the 3000 Saudi National Guard troops that were sent to the Mosque to end the rebellion refused to attack the rebels or joined the rebels. On **November 24, 1979**, several thousand people held demonstrations in Jeddah in support of the rebels. On **November 26, 1979** (Muharram 7, 1400 Hijri), many Western newspapers, such as Chicago Tribune, reported that the man who claimed to be the Mahdi was arrested and Saudi security forces took control of most of the Mosque. However, the information regarding the arrest of the Mahdi was false. On **November 28, 1979**, Saudi Arabia sought help from France’s GIGN (National Gendarmerie Intervention Group). The French acted as consultants assisting the Saudi forces. On **December 4, 1979 (Muharram 14, 1400 Hijri)**, the Saudi forces managed to capture the rebels and the Saudi TV, at night, showed footage of the captured rebels, including **Juhaiman Al-Otaibi**. On **December 5, 1979 (Muharram 15, 1400 Hijri)**, Saudi TV showed footage of the dead body of **Mohammad Al-Qahtani**. French police claimed that 4000 people died in this rebellion. At dawn on **January 9, 1980** (Safar 20, 1400 Hijri), 63 of the rebels, including **Juhaiman Al-Otaibi**, were publicly beheaded in the squares of eight Saudi cities. It is worth

noting that in the Eastern region of Saudi Arabia, Shia protesters defied the Saudi government ban on Shia rituals for commemoration of the Martyrdom of Al-Hussein on Muharram 10. The Shia protesters staged demonstrations in the first few days of Muharram, calling on the government to end discrimination against them.

- On **November 19, 1980**, the movie "**Heaven's Gate**" premiered at New York's Cinema 1 Theater. After a sparsely attended one-week run, this movie's Cimino and United Artists (the producing studio) quickly pulled the film from any further releases, completely postponing a full worldwide release. In April 1981, in Los Angeles, the film resurfaced in a "director's cut" two-hour-twenty-nine-minute (149 minute) version that Cimino had recut for a third time. In the fall of 2012, the film was re-released to "soak up acclaim" as a 216-minute "director's cut" at the 69th Venice Film Festival
- On **November 19, 1985**, U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev met in Geneva, Switzerland, for the first time, discussing international diplomatic relations and the arms race.
- On **November 20, 1989**, in the Velvet Revolution, the number of protesters assembled in Prague, Czechoslovakia swelled from 200,000 the day before to an estimated half-million.
- On **November 19, 1995**, "Sacrilege" closed at Belasco Theater in New York City after only 21 performances.
- On **November 20, 1996**, Father Gruner's Canonical Complaint, in connection with apparitions of Fatima, against Cardinal Sanchez and Archbishop Sepe and their accomplices is placed in the Pope John Paul's own hands, as shown in *Fatima Priest* and published April 2, 1998 in *Il Messaggero*.
- On **November 20, 2003**, after the November 15 bombings, a second day of the 2003 Istanbul bombings happened in Istanbul, Turkey, destroying the Turkish head office of HSBC Bank AS and the British consulate.
- On Friday, **March 13, 2015** (Jumada Ula 22, 1436 Hijri), the second anniversary of his pontificate, in a surprise move, while celebrating a penitential service in St. Peter's Basilica, **Pope Francis** announced an **Extraordinary Holy Year (Jubilee Year)**, and called it **Holy Year of Mercy**. He entrusted this Holy Year to **Mary, Mother of Mercy**. This Holy Year started on **December 8, 2015** (Safar 26, 1437 Hijri) (Kislev 26, 5776 Jewish) and ended on **November 20, 2016**, on the Feast of Christ the King.

## 17. December 8 – 12

**December 9** is the **343<sup>rd</sup>** day of the Gregorian Calendar. There are **22 days** remaining until the



end of the year.

The following events happened during this period:

- On **December 9, 656**, **Battle of Camel** happened in which Caliph **Ali ibn Abi Talib** defeated his opponents.

- On **December 5, 1110** Julian (**December 11, 1110** Gregorian) (Jumada Ula 20, 504 Hijri) (Kislev 20, 4871 Jewish), city of **Sidon** (Saida) in Lebanon was **captured by the Crusaders** from the Fatimis after 47 days of siege. Since 1098, Sidon was held by the Fatimid Caliphate. In the summer of 1110, 20-year-old King Sigurd I of Norway (Sigurd Jorsalfare) arrived with a fleet of 60 ships and between 5000 and 6000 men, where he was received by Baldwin I of Jerusalem. Together, they began the siege of Sidon in October 1110, King Baldwin from the land and King Sigurd I from the sea. A siege from the sea was necessary to block help and supplies from the Fatimid Caliphate fleet in the city of Tyre 36 km further south. When a Venetian fleet arrived, they managed to dispel the Fatimid Caliphate attempt to break the blockade. As a result of the Crusaders takeover, the Lordship of Sidon was created and placed under the Kingdom of Jerusalem. Sidon was retaken by the Muslim Ayyubi Dynasty in 1187, but ten years later in 1197, the city came back under the Crusaders. In 1260 the Count of Sidon Julien Grenier sold the county to the Knights Templar. The same year the Egyptian Mamluks displaced the Knights Templar and conquered city of Sidon.

- The **First Vatican Council** (informally known as **Vatican I**) started on **December 8, 1869** (Ramadan 4, 1286 Hijri) and ended on **October 20, 1870** (Rajab 24, 1287 Hijri). It was the **20<sup>th</sup> Ecumenical Council**.

- In the 1870s, while **Sudan** was part of **Egypt** which was ruled by the Albanian dynasty of **Muhammad Ali Pasha** as an autonomous province of the Ottoman Empire, a Muslim scholar in **Sudan** named **Muhammad Ahmad bin AbdAllah** preached renewal of the faith and liberation of the land, and began attracting followers. On **June 29, 1881** (Shaban 1, 1298 Hijri) (Tammuz 2, 5641 Jewish), he proclaimed himself **the Mahdi**, the promised redeemer of the Islamic world. He changed the Shahada, or profession of faith, to include the phrase, "Muhammad Al-Mahdi is the Khalifa of the Prophet of God," and revised the five pillars of Islam by replacing the Hajj or pilgrimage to Mecca with the obligation to undertake jihad, and adding a sixth pillar, which was belief in the Mahdiya. An Egyptian expedition, dispatched to attack the Mahdi, was ambushed and slaughtered by the Mahdi's men on the night of **December 9, 1881** (**Muharram 17, 1299 Hijri**) (Kislev 17, 5642 Jewish). Egypt sent a larger expedition to attack Mahdi's men who were poorly clothed, half starving, and armed only with sticks and stones, so the Mahdi led a successful assault against the Egyptian forces, defeating them decisively **at dawn**, on **June 7, 1882** (Rajab 20, 1299 Hijri) (Sivan 20, 5642 Jewish). By the end of 1882, the Mahdi controlled most of Sudan. In 1882, Egypt (including Sudan), while remaining as an autonomous province of the Ottoman Empire, became an official protectorate of Britain. On **January 26, 1885** (Rabi Thani 9, 1302 Hijri) (Shevat 10, 5645 Jewish), after a ten-month siege that started on **March 13, 1884**, the Mahdi's fighters captured **Khartoum** (capital of Sudan) and killed Charles Gordon, the British Governor. The British public reacted to his death by acclaiming 'Gordon of Khartoum', who had had a strong Christian faith, a martyred

warrior-saint. **Muhammad Ahmad bin AbdAllah** was born on **August 12, 1844** (Rajab 27, 1260 Hijri) and died due to typhus on **June 22, 1885** (Ramadan 9, 1302 Hijri). His great-grandson, **Al-Sadiq Al-Mahdi** became Prime Minister of Sudan starting from 1966.

- **Frank Sinatra** was born on **December 12, 1915** (Safar 4, 1334 Hijri) (2420,843.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). At night, on **May 14, 1998** (**Muharram 17**, 1419 Hijri) (**Iyar 18**, 5758 Jewish) (2450,947.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), meaning on the eve of **May 15** (Muharram 18, 1419 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5758 Jewish), **Frank Sinatra** died in Los Angeles. On **May 18, 1998**, about 800 - 1000 people, from all over the East Coast, overflowed from **St. Francis Church** (the same church in which he was baptized when he was a baby) onto the street, in Sinatra's hometown of Hoboken, New Jersey, for a public religious memorial service, at the end of which those in attendance sang his most famous song "My Way. A private service for the reading of the Rosary took place on **Tuesday night May 19, 1998** (**Iyar 23**, 5758 Jewish) in Beverly Hills. Sinatra's funeral was held at **noon on Wednesday, May 20, 1998** (**Iyar 24**, 5758 Jewish) at the **Beverly Hills Roman Catholic church** and Cardinal Roger Mahony, archbishop of Los Angeles, led the services. Attendance of the funeral services was by **invitation only**. Sinatra's friends from the music and film industry attended the funeral. His most famous song "**My Way**" written by Lebanese Canadian singer and song-writer Paul Anka, tells the World that the End Times is near. The song starts with "**And now the End is near**". People on Twitter asked Sinatra's daughter, Nancy, how she felt about "My Way" being sung at the inauguration of Donald Trump as President of the U.S., she prophetically replied by tweeting: "Just remember the first line of the song,"

- In the evening of **December 8, 1917** (Safar 23, 1336 Hijri), the Ottoman Governor of **Jerusalem**, Izzat Bey, gave a "Surrender Letter" to former mayor of Jerusalem, **Dr. Hussein Al-Husseini** [descendant of Al-Husseini, grandson of Prophet Mohammad (p)], so that he delivers it to the invading **British forces**. During this meeting, he re-instated Dr. Hussein Al-Husseini to the position of **Mayor of Jerusalem**, the office he had been removed from by **Jamal Pasha** in 1915. The Ottoman forces started retreating from Jerusalem during that night. The next morning shortly before 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, **December 9, 1917** Gregorian (**November 26, 1917** Julian) (Safar 24, 1336 Hijri) (Kislev 24, 5678 Jewish) (2421,571.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Hussein Al-Husseini** attempted to deliver the letter of surrender and the keys of the city to British Officers, Sergeants James Sedgwick and Frederick Hurcombe, just outside Jerusalem's western limits. They refused to accept the letter, but it was eventually accepted by Brigadier-General C. F. Watson, Commander of the 180<sup>th</sup> British Infantry Brigade. At **10:30 a.m.**, the **British army** entered **Jerusalem**. On that day, Christians rang their church bells in celebration of this occasion and held prayers. The head of the British forces, **General Allenby**, entered **Jerusalem** on foot through Jaffa Gate on **December 11, 1917** Gregorian (**November 28, 1917** Julian. The Ottoman Empire was still using the Julian Calendar) (**Safar 26**, 1336 Hijri) (Kislev 26, 5678 Jewish) (473,135<sup>th</sup> Hijri Day). General Allenby said: "The wars of the Crusaders are now complete." This event represented the return of the rule of the Crusaders over Jerusalem after being ruled by Muslims since **year 1244**. When General **Allenby** entered Jerusalem, he was accompanied by **Archibald Wavell**, **British Lieutenant-Colonel** (later became of **Field Marshal**), who was an **Awar** (a person who has a defective eye) like the Dajjal, as described by Prophet Mohammad (p).

- **Sammy Davis Jr.** was an American singer, dancer, actor, and comedian. He was born on **December 8, 1925** (Jumada Ula 22, 1344 Hijri) (Kislev 21, 5686 Jewish). On **November 19, 1954 (Rabi Awwal 23, 1374 Hijri)** (Heshvan 23, 5715 Jewish), he lost his left eye due to a car accident. At around 7:00 a.m., while Sammy Davis Jr. was driving his new Cadillac car from Las Vegas (after performing at the Frontier Hotel) back to Los Angeles to record a soundtrack for the film *Six Bridges to Cross*, his car hit the rear of a car driven by an elderly lady that was backing out in front of him in San Bernardino, California. Then, Sammy's car shifted its direction, miraculously missing oncoming traffic, and came to a stop after slamming into a stone column at the entrance to a driveway. The impact of the crash actually pushed the engine of his car back into the front seat, driving Sammy's face into the steering wheel and his **left eye was forced out of its socket** by the bullet-shaped cone at the center of the steering wheel. Sammy broke his nose on the sun visor, and he broke his knee cap on the emergency brake handle. He had a companion in his car who had driven the first part of the trip. His companion was also badly injured in the collision which fractured his jaw and broke out all of his teeth. Sammy and his companion were rushed by ambulance to San Bernardino County Hospital and were transferred to San Bernardino Community Hospital later that day. Sammy spent six hours in the hospital hallway waiting for an operating room in the cramped and outdated hospital. The damage to his left eye was so severe that it had to be removed. The eye surgeon attached a **prosthetic socket** onto Sammy's left eye muscles to hold and direct a **"glass eye"** that was later implanted after he healed further. So, he became an Awar (with a defective eye or has lost one of his eyes). Prophet Mohammad (p) said the Dajjal is Awar. Sammy was released from the hospital on **November 28, 1954. Sammy Davis Jr.** was back on stage only two months later. The car accident and hospital stay made a profound impact on Sammy's life. He believed that surviving the car accident was a miracle and spent much of his recovery reflecting on his existence. While being treated at the hospital in San Bernardino, he was visited by a Jewish rabbi chaplain. Later, Sammy Davis Jr. said about this visit: "We had a long talk. Some of the things he said helped me; and for the first time in my life, a religion started to make sense to me." Although Sammy's parents were Christians, he was not deeply religious. But after learning about history of the Jews, he felt that the Jews and the Blacks shared a similar history of oppression. Over the next years, he studied more Judaism and eventually converted to Judaism few years after his car accident. In August 1989, doctors discovered a cancerous tumor in **Sammy Davis'** throat. Realizing that Sammy Davis was not going to be around much longer, his friends in the entertainment industry arranged a tribute to Sammy Davis which was broadcast on TV on **February 4, 1990. Sammy Davis Jr.** attended the event, and at the end of it, he got up, did not speak, but did a little soft-shoe tap dance to a standing ovation. **Frank Sinatra** visited Sammy Davis Jr. at the hospital where he was being treated, and according to the National Enquirer "A softball-size tumor stuck out of Sammy's neck, giving off a horrible odor". This sight devastated Sinatra. After **Sammy Davis Jr.** died on **May 16, 1990** (Shawwal 20, 1410 Hijri) (Iyar 21, 5750 Jewish), it was decided that his memorial service would be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, **May 18, 1990** (Shawwal 22, 1410 Hijri) (Iyar 23, 5750 Jewish) at Hall of Liberty in Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Hollywood Hills, Los Angeles, California and that it would be open to the public. So, on **Friday morning**, 400 free tickets were given to individuals who arrived early enough to Forest Lawn Memorial Park. People started lining up at 6 a.m. About 1200 people jammed the Hall of Liberty, and hundreds more were outside. His song "I've Got To Be Me" was played on the loudspeaker, and the crowd cheered. The service lasted for 90 minutes. Rev. Jesse Jackson eulogized him. Frank Sinatra, Dean

Martin, Michael Jackson and Bill Cosby were honorary pall-bearers. After the memorial service, Sammy was buried in the Davis family plot at Forest Lawn in Glendale.

- The **Second Vatican Council** (informally known as **Vatican II**) started on **October 11, 1962** (Jumada Ula 12, 1382 Hijri) and ended on **December 8, 1965** (Shaban 14, 1385 Hijri) (Kislev 14, 5726 Jewish). It was the **21<sup>st</sup> Ecumenical Council**.

- **Golda Meir**, former Prime Minister of Israel, was born on **May 3, 1898 (Zu Al-Hijja 10, 1315 Hijri)** (Iyar 11, 5658 Jewish) and she died on **December 8, 1978** (Muharram 7, 1399 Hijri) (Kislev 8, 5739 Jewish) (2443,850.5<sup>th</sup> **Julian Day**). She served as Prime Minister of Israel from **March 17, 1969 to June 3, 1974**.

- On **December 10 - 11, 1978** (Muharram 9 – 10, 1399 Hijri), around 6 to 9 million anti-Shah Iranian demonstrators marched throughout Iran, about **10%** of Iran's population. It is rare for a revolution to involve as much as **1%** of a country's population. According to one historian, "these figures may represent the largest protest event in history." On **December 11**, a dozen military officers were shot dead by their own troops at Tehran's Lavizan barracks. The last **Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi**, left Iran for exile on **January 16, 1979** (Safar 16, 1399 Hijri), as the last Persian monarch, leaving his duties to a regency council and an opposition-based prime minister, Bakhtiar. Bakhtiar took several measures designed to appeal to moderate elements in the opposition movement. He lifted restrictions on the press, set free remaining political prisoners. He promised the dissolution of SAVAK, the lifting of martial law, and free elections. Bakhtiar sought unsuccessfully to persuade Ayatollah Khomeini to postpone his return to Iran until conditions in the country were normalized. Khomeini refused to meet in Paris a member of the regency council Bakhtiar sent as an emissary. After some hesitation, Khomeini rejected Bakhtiar's offer to come to Paris personally for consultations. Bakhtiar's attempt to prevent Khomeini's imminent return by closing the Mehrabad Airport in Tehran on **January 26, 1979 (Safar 26, 1399 Hijri)** proved to be only a stopgap measure. **Ayatollah Khomeini** returned to Iran and was greeted by millions of supporting Iranians on **February 1, 1979**. Khomeini established *komiteh-ye Imam* ( the Imam's committee) to oversee the revolution. On **February 5, 1979**, Khomeini named Mehdi Bazargan as prime minister of a provisional government. On **February 10, 1979 (Rabi Awwal 12, 1399 Hijri)**, fighting erupted at Tehran's Doshan Tappeh air force base. The armed rebels attacked a weapons factory, capturing nearly 50,000 machine guns and distributing them to civilians who joined in the fighting. The rebels began storming police stations, military bases, and government buildings throughout Tehran. The final collapse of the government came at 2 p.m. on **February 11, 1979 (Rabi Awwal 13, 1399 Hijri)** (Shevat 14, 5739 Jewish) (2443,915.5 or 2443,916<sup>th</sup> **Julian Day**)., when the Supreme Military Council announced that the armed forces would observe neutrality in the confrontation between the government and the people and ordered the troops back to their base. Revolutionaries took over government buildings, T.V. and radio stations, and palaces of the Pahlavi Dynasty, marking the end of the monarchy in Iran, and bringing **AyatAllah Khomeini** to official power. Today, the period, from **February 1 to 11**, is celebrated annually in Iran as the "Decade of Fajr (Dawn)". **February 11** is celebrated as "Islamic Revolution's Victory Day". On **March 30 - 31, 1979**, a national referendum was held in Iran over whether to replace the monarchy with an "Islamic Republic". The result which was in favor of becoming an **Islamic Republic** was announced on

**April 1, 1979** (Jumada Ula 4, 1399 Hijri). The last **Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi**, died of cancer in his exile in Egypt on **July 27, 1980**.

- The first Palestinian Intifada (uprising) started on **December 8, 1987** (Rabi Thani 16, 1408 Hijri) (Kislev 17, 5748 Jewish) (2447,137.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day) and started to subside by **Madrid Conference** in October 30 – **November 1, 1991** (Rabi Thani 21 - 23, 1412) (subsequent bilateral meetings took place in Washington from December 9, 1991.) and ended with **Oslo Accord** in **September 13, 1993** (Rabi Awwal 26, 1414 Hijri) (**Elul 27**, 5753 Jewish).

- On **December 8, 1991** (Jumada Thania 1, 1412 Hijri), Presidents of Russia, Ukraine and Belarus signed the **Belavezha Accords**, declaring dissolution of the U.S.S.R. by its founding states and established the C.I.S. On **December 25, 1991** (Jumada Thania 18, 1412 Hijri), early in the morning, **Gorbachev** announced his **resignation as President of the Soviet Union** in a televised speech, and at 7:32 p.m. Moscow time, after Gorbachev left the Kremlin, the **Soviet flag was lowered for the last time**, and Russia's former flag was raised in its place, symbolically **marking the end of the Soviet Union**. The next day, **December 26, 1991**, the Council of Republics, the upper chamber of the Union's Supreme Soviet, issued a formal Declaration recognizing that the **Soviet Union** had ceased to exist.

- On **December 9 - 10, 1991** (Jumada Thania 2, 1412 Hijri) (Teveth 2, 5752 Jewish), the city of Maastricht, Netherlands hosted the European Council which drafted the **Maastricht Treaty**. The **Maastricht Treaty** (formally, the Treaty on European Union or T.E.U. undertaken to integrate Europe was signed in Maastricht on **February 7, 1992** (Shaban 3, 1412 Hijri) (Adar I 3, 5752 Jewish) by the members of the European Community. Upon its entry into force on **November 1, 1993** (Jumada Ula 16, 1414 Hijri) (Heshvan 17, 5754 Jewish), the treaty created the **European Union** and led to the creation of the **single European currency, the Euro**.

- On Friday, **March 13, 2015** (Jumada Ula 22, 1436 Hijri), the second anniversary of his pontificate, in a surprise move, while celebrating a penitential service in St. Peter's Basilica, **Pope Francis** announced an **Extraordinary Holy Year (Jubilee Year)**, and called it **Holy Year of Mercy**. He entrusted this Holy Year to **Mary, Mother of Mercy**. This Holy Year will start on **December 8, 2015** (Safar 26 (or 25), 1437 Hijri) (Kislev 26, 5776 Jewish), to commemorate: (a) the Feast of the **Immaculate Conception**, (b) the **50<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the closing of the **Second Vatican Council** (21<sup>st</sup> Ecumenical Council) on **December 8, 1965** (Shaban 14, 1385 Hijri) (Kislev 14, 5726 Jewish), and (c) the **146<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the opening of the **First Vatican Council** (21<sup>st</sup> Ecumenical Council) on **December 8, 1869**. This Holy Year of Mercy will end on **November 20, 2016**, on the Feast of Christ the King. In Christianity, the tradition dates to year 1300 AD, when Pope Boniface VIII convoked a holy year, following which ordinary jubilee holy years have generally been celebrated every 25 years, in addition to extraordinary jubilee holy years on as needed basis. The last ordinary Holy Year was in year 2000 (from Christmas Eve, December 24, 1999 to Epiphany, January 6, 2001) and it drew some 25 million Catholic pilgrims to the Vatican and Rome. The last two Extraordinary Holy Years started on **January 6, 1933** and on **March 25, 1983** to mark the passing of 1900 years and 1,950 years from the death of Jesus. A Catholic Holy Year involves special celebrations and pilgrimages (usually to the Vatican), strong calls for conversion and repentance, and the offer of

special opportunities to experience God's grace through the sacraments, especially confession. On **December 8, 2015**, Pope Francis will open the **Holy Door** of St. Peter's Basilica, **which is normally bricked up**, after a 9:30 a.m. Mass. The ceremony shall serve as the beginning of a worldwide celebration, "24 Hours for the Lord." The last time the Holy Door was opened was by Pope John Paul II on **December 24, 1999**, the beginning of the Holy Year. At the request of Pope Francis, Catholic churches will remain open Friday and Saturday to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation (also known as confession) to the faithful.

## Chapter 3

### Significant Days of the Jewish Calendar in History

Significant days of the **Jewish Calendar** in History include:

#### 1. **Iyar 4 - 6**

The **Jewish month** of **Iyar** is written Arabic exactly the same as **Ayar** which is **May** as known in Greater Syria & Iraq.

The following events happened on **Iyar 4 - 6**:

- **Sykes-Picot Agreement** is a secret agreement, between Britain and France, with the assent of Tsarist Russia, to divide the Middle East, among themselves. The first round of discussions took place in London on **November 23, 1915 (Muharram 16, 1334 Hijri)** with the French government represented by **François-Georges Picot**, a diplomat with extensive experience in the Middle East, and the British government represented by **Arthur Nicolson**. The second round of discussions took place on **December 21, 1915 (Safar 13 (or 14), 1334 Hijri)** with the British now represented by **Mark Sykes** (British Conservative MP, and assistant to the secretary of state for war, Lord Kitchener), a leading expert on the Middle East. **Sykes-Picot Agreement** is named after its final negotiators, **Mark Sykes** and **François-Georges Picot**. The terms of the agreement were specified in a letter, dated **May 9, 1916 (Rajab 6, 1334 Hijri) (Iyar 6, 5676 Jewish)**, from **Paul Cambon**, ambassador of France in London, addressed to **Edward Grey**, Foreign Secretary of Britain. These terms of the agreement were ratified in a return letter from Edward Grey to Paul Cambon on **May 16, 1916 (Rajab 13, 1334 Hijri) (Iyar 13, 5676 Jewish) (242,0999.5 or 242,1000<sup>th</sup> Julian day)**. **Sykes-Picot Agreement** was revealed to the public for the first time in Izvestia and Pravda newspapers in Russia on **November 23, 1917 (Safar 8, 1336 Hijri)**, after the Communists came to power in Russia. On **November 26, 1917 (Safar 11, 1336 Hijri)**, in Britain, the *Manchester Guardian* newspaper (which in 1959, became known as "The Guardian") printed the text of the **Sykes-Picot Agreement**.

- On **April 23, 1920** (Shaban 5, 1338 Hijri) (**Iyar 5**, 5680 Jewish), the **Grand National Assembly of Turkey** was established.
- On **April 24, 1920** (Shaban 4, 1338 Hijri) (**Iyar 5**, 5680 Jewish), at the **Conference of San Remo**, a draft of an agreement among the the Allies to award the Mandate over Palestine to Britain was done. On the next day, **April 25, 1920** (Shaban 5, 1338 Hijri) (**Iyar 6**, 5680 Jewish), was finalized and approved. The revised final draft of the **British mandate** (including Transjordan) was forwarded to the **League of Nations** and was announced by **League of Nations** on **July 22, 1922** (Zu Al-Qada 26, 1340 Hijri) (Tammuz 26, 5682 Jewish). The draft of the **British Mandate for Palestine** was approved by the **League of Nations** on **July 24, 1922** (Zu Al-Qada 28, 1340 Hijri) (Tammuz 28, 5682 Jewish) (2423,259.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day).
- On **May 14, 1948** (Rajab 5, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 5**, 5708 Jewish), the Jews declared the creation of the **State of Israel**. At midnight of **May 14**, the **British mandate** of Palestine ended. On **May 15, 1948** (Rajab 6, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 6**, 5708 Jewish), neighboring Arab countries sent their armies to Palestine to liberate it and put an end to the Zionist State of Israel.
- As his first visit to Israel that was part of his first World Tour, **Frank Sinatra** arrived to Israel in his private plane at night on **May 3, 1962** (Zu Qada 29, 1381 Hijri) (**Nisan 29**, 5722 Jewish), for series of seven performances in six cities in Israel from which the proceeds will go toward establishment of a youth center called **Frank Sinatra Brotherhood and Friendship Center for Arab and Israeli Children**, in the Arab city of Nazareth. His visit coincided with Israel's annual Yom Ha'atzmaut (Independence Day) celebrations that commemorate the Zionist Jews' declaration of the establishment of State of Israel on **May 14, 1948** (**Iyar 5**, 5708 Jewish). Sinatra sang at the official Independence Day event in **Tel Aviv** on **May 9, 1962** (**Iyar 5**, 5722 Jewish) and was seated beside Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion and General Moshe Dayan on the reviewing stand during the Israel Defense Forces parade. During this visit, he visited the **Old City of Jerusalem** which was ruled by Jordan.
- Dr. **Rashad Khalifa** was born on **November 19, 1935** (**Shaban 23**, 1354 Hijri) in Egypt, but obtained his Master's degree and Ph.D. in BioChemistry from the U.S. and lived afterwards in the U.S. He did extensive research on the mathematical structure of the Quran. He advocated a hypothesis that everything in the Quran is structured around the **number 19**. Because the number of verses of the Quran did not fit his hypothesis, he claimed that the last 2 verses of Sura 9 are not authentic verses and should be excluded from the Quran. He later claimed to be a Messenger of Allah. Such controversial findings and claims were rejected by many Muslim scholars. He was stabbed to death in Arizona on **January 31, 1990** (Rajab 5, 1410 Hijri) (Shevat 5, 5750 Jewish) (2447,922.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). **Nineteen years** after the murder, on **April 28, 2009** (Jumada Ula 4, 1430 Hijri) (**Iyar 4**, 5769 Jewish), the police in Calgary, Canada arrested Glen Francis, a 52-year-old citizen of Trinidad and Tobago, on suspicion of killing Rashad Khalifa. On **December 19, 2012**, the jury of his trial in the U.S., after a three-hour deliberation, found Glen Francis guilty of first-degree murder. Today, there is still a group called **Submitters** (which is an English translation of the word "**Muslims**") who follow his teachings.

## 2. Iyar 18 - 20

The following events happened during this period:

On **Iyar 20** (circa 1312 BCE), the Children of Israel departed their encampment near Mount Sinai.

- **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** was the first President of Turkey and was behind the end of the Ottoman Sultanate in 1922 and **abolition of the Islamic Caliphate** in **1924**. His father's name is Ali Rıza. At birth, he was identified as **Mustafa son of Ali Rıza**. He was an army officer. During a battle in Derna, Libya on **January 16 - 17, 1912** (Muharram 26 - 27, 1330 Hijri) (Teveth 26 - 27, 5672 Jewish), while the Ottoman forces were attacking the Italian-controlled fortress of Kasr-i Harun, two Italian planes dropped bombs on the Ottoman forces and a piece of limestone shrapnel from a damaged building's rubble entered Mustafa Kemal's left eye which caused a **permanent damage on his left eye's tissue**, but not total loss of sight. So, **Mustafa Kemal** became an **Awar** (person with a **defective eye**). Prophet Mohammad (p) described the Dajjal as an **Awar**. Some researchers believe that **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's** ancestors were **Crypto Jews**, possibly **Dönme** (descendants of followers of **Sabbatai Zevi** who claimed to be the **awaited Jewish Messiah**, but after being imprisoned by the Ottomans, he was freed after pretending to convert to Islam). **Crypto Jews** pretend in public to be Muslims, but remain Jews in private. **Salonica** (the city where **Mustafa Kemal** was born) served as an important center for such **Crypto Jews** and the base of the **Young Turks movement** which led a rebellion to turn the Ottoman Sultanate into constitutional monarchy, governed according to a constitution, thus limiting the power of the Sultan. Today, **Salonica** is called Thessaloniki and it is the capital Macedonia region of Greece and the second largest city in Greece. **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** made a name for himself as the **Commander of the 19th Division of the Ottoman army**, where his bravery and strategic prowess helped thwart the Allied invasion of the Dardanelles in **1915**. The real date of birth of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk is unconfirmed. In a speech he delivered in 1927, **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** claimed to have been born on the same day as day of **his landing in Samsun**, meaning **May 19**. **Atatürk landed in Samsun on May 19, 1919** (May 6, 1919 Julian) (**Shaban 19**, 1337 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5679 Jewish) (242,209.5<sup>th</sup> or 242,209<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). **Atatürk's landing in Samsun** is considered the **beginning Turkey's War of Independence**, the Turkish uprising against the decision of the Allies after World War I to divide among themselves many territories of the defeated Ottoman Empire. **Turkey** designates **Atatürk's** date of birth as **May 19, 1881 Gregorian** (Jumada Thania 19, 1298 Hijri) (**Iyar 20**, 5641 Jewish) (2408,219.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). Today, **May 19** is an annual national holiday in Turkey, called "Commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports Day". **May 19** is also the official date of commemoration of the Pontic Greek Genocide in Greece and Cyprus. **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** died in Istanbul (Constantinople) on **November 10, 1938**, meaning **19 years after 1919**, the significant year in his life. At 8:10 a.m. on **November 19, 1938** (Ramadan 26 (or 25), 1357 Hijri) (Heshvan 25, 5699 Jewish) (2429,221.5<sup>th</sup> or 2429,222<sup>nd</sup> Julian Day), a religious funeral prayer was conducted by the Director of the Institute for Islamic Studies, in Turkish, not in traditional Arabic, and was attended by people who were close to him. His state funeral was held in Ankara on **November 21, 1938**, and was attended by dignitaries from 17 countries. Atatürk's coffin was placed inside a white marble sarcophagus at the **Ethnography Museum of Ankara** and remained there until **November 10, 1953** (Rabi Awwal 3, 1373 Hijri), the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his



death, when his coffin was buried in his final resting place at **Anitkabir (Masuleum or Memorial Tomb)** in **Ankara**.

- On **May 19, 1919** (May 6, 1919 Julian) (**Shaban 19**, 1337 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5679 Jewish) (242,2097.5<sup>th</sup> or 242,2098<sup>th</sup> Julian), a **greart fire** broke out in the northern parts of Western **Canada**.

- **Adolf Hitler** committed suicide on **April 30, 1945** (Jumada Ula 17, 1364 Hijri) (**Iyar 17**, 5705 Jewish). In accordance with Hitler's will, Goebbels succeeded him as Chancellor of Germany. **Goebbels** served as Chancellor for only one day. The following day, on **May 1, 1945** (Jumada Ula 18, 1364 Hijri) (**Iyar 18**, 5705 Jewish), Goebbels and his wife committed suicide, after poisoning their six children with cyanide. **Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels** was a German politician and served as Minister of Propaganda of Nazi Germany from 1933 to 1945. He was one of Adolf Hitler's close associates and most devoted followers. He advocated the extermination of the Jews in the Holocaust. He was born on **October 29, 1897**. **Berlin** surrendered on **May 2, 1945** (Jumada Ula 19, 1364 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5705 Jewish). However, fighting continued to the north-west, west, and south-west of the city until the end of the war in Europe on **May 8 (May 9** in the Soviet Union) as German units fought westward so that they could surrender to the Western Allies rather than to the Soviets. Two separate **ceremonies for capitulation (surrender) of Germany** took place at the time. First, the **capitulation (surrender) to the Allied nations** in Reims was signed on **May 7, 1945** (Jumada Ula 24, 1364 Hijri) (**Iyar 24**, 5705 Jewish), effective 23:01 CET **May 8**. This date is commonly referred to as the V-E Day (Victory in Europe Day) in most western European countries. **Joseph Stalin** was displeased by this, believing that the German surrender should have been accepted only by the envoy of the USSR Supreme command and signed only in Berlin. Therefore, another ceremony was organized in the outskirts of Berlin late on **May 8**, when it was already **May 9** in Moscow due to the difference in time zones. **Victory Day** is celebrated annually in Russia on **May 9**.

- The **Hurva Synagogue**, (in Hebrew, it is called Beit ha-Knesset ha-Hurva, literally means "The Ruin Synagogue") (In Arabic, it is called Khirba, meaning "Ruin"), also known as Hurvat Rabbi Yehudah he-Hasid ("Ruin of Rabbi Judah, the Pious"), is a historic synagogue located in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem. In the **winter of 1700**, a group of around 500 Ashkenazi Jews led by **Yehudah (Judah) heHasid** arrived from Europe. They were mystics who were intent on **advancing the arrival of the Messianic Era** by settling in Jerusalem and leading ascetic lives. **A few days after their arrival** in the city, **he-Hasid died**. They became without a leader. So, their **messianic hopes** dissipated and the community began to disintegrate. Those who remained managed to build forty dwellings and a **small synagogue** in the Ashkenazic Compound. Soon after, they endeavored to construct a **larger synagogue**, but the task proved expensive. So, they borrowed money, as loans, from local Arabs, eventually falling into severe debt. In **late 1720**, with the debts still outstanding, the Arab lenders lost patience and **set the synagogue and its contents on fire**. The leaders of the community were imprisoned and shortly after, **all the Ashkenazim were banished** from the city. The **synagogue was left desolate**, in a pile of rubble, so it thus became known as the "Hurva (Ruin) of Rabbi Judah heHasid". Between 1808 and 1812, another group of Jews, known as Perushim, immigrated to Palestine from Lithuania. They were disciples of the **Vilna Gaon** and had settled in the city of Safed. In late 1815, leader of the Safed Perushim, Rabbi Menachem Mendel of Shklov, arrived to Jerusalem

with a group of followers. They directed their main efforts to rebuilding the Hurva Synagogue, which had symbolized the expulsion of the Ashkenazi Jews from Jerusalem. The **rebuilding of Hurva Synagogue** would represent the first step of **rebuilding Jerusalem** that the Bible mentions as a pre-requisite for the **arrival of the Messiah**. After a very lengthy series of diplomatic efforts by the Jews and Europeans, the Ottoman Sultan, Abdul-Majid I, granted a permit for the rebuilding of the Hurva. The groundbreaking of the **synagogue** ceremony took place on the **last day of Hanukkah of 1855**. On **April 22, 1856 (Shaban 17, 1272 Hijri) (Nisan 17, 5616 Jewish)**, the cornerstone was laid in the presence of Chief Rabbi of Jerusalem, Shmuel Salant. In **1864**, the new **synagogue was dedicated**. Among the prominent figures who attended the dedication ceremony was Baron Alphonse James de **Rothschild**, who 8 years earlier had been given the honor of laying the first stone. The building was officially named Beit Yaakov – "House of Jacob". **The new Hurva Synagogue** was designed by the Ottoman Sultan's official architect who had come to Jerusalem to restore the Islamic shrines in the Aqsa Mosque compound. **Hurva Synagogue** had a neo-Byzantine design, similar to Constantinople's Hagia (Aya) Sophia cathedral/mosque, featuring 14-meter-high window arches and a huge dome which spanned the entire prayer space. The height of Hurva Synagogue, to the top of the dome, was 24 meters, making it one of the tallest structures in the walled Old City of Jerusalem. A balcony around the dome gave visitors an outstanding view over the city. The interior was decorated with ritual objects donated by different Jewish communities in Europe, and the Holy Ark, which could store up to 50 Torah scrolls, had come from the Nikolajewsky Synagogue in Kherson, Russia. From 1864 onwards till 1948, the Hurva Synagogue was considered the most beautiful and most important synagogue in Palestine. It also housed part of the Etz Chaim Yeshiva, the largest yeshiva (Jewish religious school or college) in Jerusalem. It was a focal point of Jewish spiritual life in the city. It became Jerusalem's main Ashkenazic synagogue and the site of the installation ceremonies of the Ashkenazic chief rabbis in Palestine. In 1948, about 100,000 Jews lived in Jerusalem: 2,000 in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem and 98,000 in the western neighborhoods of Jerusalem. The Jewish presence in the Old City declined from a peak of 19,000 in the 1880, as people moved to the newer Western neighborhoods outside the walls of the Old City. Eight hours before the **end of the British Mandate of Palestine**, which was due to finish at **midnight of May 14 -15, 1948**, **David Ben-Gurion**, Executive Head of the World Zionist Organization who later became the first Prime Minister of Israel, announced unilateral establishment of the **State of Israel** on the land of Palestine at **4:00 p.m.** (Time in Palestine) just before the start of the Jewish Sabbath, on **Friday, May 14, 1948** Gregorian (May 1, 1948 Julian) (Rajab 5, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 5**, 5708 on Jewish Calendar) (2432,685.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). The attack by Palestinian irregular fighters on the **Jewish Quarter** of Jerusalem began on **May 16, 1948**. By the following day, **May 17**, the Palestinian fighters had captured a third of the Jewish Quarter. On **May 19, 1948** (Rajab 10, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 10**, 5708 Jewish), Jordanian army forces led by Major AbdAllah Al-Tal started entering the Old City of Jerusalem and took up positions around Zion Gate, closing access to Jewish Quarter. The Jordanian forces captured the Police Station in Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood, as Jewish gang fighters fled without a fight. As days went by, the area under Jewish control was constantly shrinking. On **May 25, 1948**, during the battle for the Old City, Major AbdAllah Al-Tal, wrote to Otto Lehner of the International Red Cross to warn that unless the Jewish terrorist group, Haganah, abandoned its positions in Hurva Synagogue and its adjoining courtyard, he would be forced to attack it. Commander of the Haganah in the Old City ignored the warning, knowing that if the Hurva fell, the battle for the Jewish Quarter would soon be lost. On **May 26, 1948**, the Jordanian forces delivered an ultimatum to the Jews to

surrender within 12 hours, otherwise Hurva Synagogue would be blown up. On **May 27, 1948**, Al-Tal, after receiving no answer to his proposal, told his men to "Get the Hurva Synagogue by Noon." The Jordanian army placed a 200-litre barrel filled with explosives against Hurva synagogue's wall. The explosion resulted in a gaping hole. Jewish Haganah fighters spent 45 minutes fighting in vain to prevent the Jordanian troops from entering. When the Jordanian troops finally burst through, they tried to reach the top of its dome to plant an Arab flag. Three of the Jordanian troops were shot by snipers, but the fourth succeeded. The Arab flag flying over Hurva Synagogue signaled the triumph of the Jordanian army. In the evening on **May 27, 1948**, **Hurva Synagogue**, including the Etz Chaim Yeshiva attached to it, was blown up and completely rendered into rubble. The demolition of Hurva Synagogue was timed to coincide with Jordan's **King Abdullah's visit to the Old City of Jerusalem** on **May 27** during which he visited Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, where he prayed for the welfare of his army. He also visited the Tomb of Christ in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher (Tomb), which is also called Church of the Qiyama (Resurrection), knelt inside and offered a prayer. On **Friday, May 28, 1948** (Rajab 19, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5708 Jewish), after the rabbis of the Jewish Quarter negotiated a surrender agreement with King Abdullah of Jordan, the Jewish fighters finally surrendered **in the afternoon** and the Jordanian army liberated the Old City of Jerusalem. After the surrender agreement had been signed, the **evacuation and departure (exodus) of the Jews**, combatants and civilians, from the Old City of Jerusalem began and lasted till 2 a.m. on **Sunday, May 30, 1948**. One by one Jews came out of their cellars to be rushed off quickly. The wounded people were sent to hospitals. The women, children and old men were handed over to the Red Cross, and the fighters were taken as Prisoners-of-War (P.O.W). Jewish POW were assembled before being led away to captivity, marching through the narrow alleys of the Old City. In his memoirs, Jordanian Major Abdullah Al-Tal reported that he took measures to prevent Arab civilians seeking revenge from attacking the Jewish Quarter. He expressed pride in how his troops followed his orders and acted "according to the legacy of Arab tolerance". He proudly reported that the Jews were astonished by the conduct of the Jordanian troops who handed over water and cigarettes to the women, children, and elderly. The photos taken by journalists clearly show the success of Al-Tal's effort to secure an undisturbed and peaceful evacuation of all Jews from the Old City. The photos of Jewish refugees document old Jewish men, women, and many children, ultra-orthodox Ashkenazim and Sephardim walking to the assembly place and then to Zion Gate, the exit point from the Old City. A day after the surrender, a Jewish Agency spokesman commended the Jordanian troops who "conducted themselves admirably". However, in defiance of the curfew imposed by the Jordanian Army, some Arab civilians raided the abandoned buildings in the Jewish Quarter, looting and setting fire to them on their way. The Jews claim that soon after the Jordanian army captured the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem, 57 synagogues, libraries and centers of religious study were ransacked and 12 were totally and deliberately destroyed. Those that remained standing were **defaced**, used for housing of people or animals. Jordan's victory by gaining control of Old City of Jerusalem is arguably Israel's worst and most humiliating defeat during the War of Independence. In his memoirs, Major Abdullah Al-Tal, explained the ramifications of the victory: "Al Quds (Jerusalem) was purged of Jews and for the first time in 1000 years, no Jew remained there." After **19 years**, Israel captured of the Old City of Jerusalem from Jordan during the Six-Day War on **June 7, 1967** (Safar 28, 1387 Hijri) (**Iyar 28**, 5727 Jewish), a number of plans were submitted for re-building Hurva Synagogue. After years of deliberation and indecision, a **commemorative Arch** (reaching to the height of the last destroyed Hurva Synagogue) was erected instead in 1977 at the location of the

ruined Hurva Synagogue. The Ark itself became a prominent landmark in the Jewish Quarter. The plan to rebuild Hurva Synagogue, as an exact replica of the last destroyed one, received approval by the Israeli Government in year 2000. After the construction of the new Hurva synagogue finished, it was dedicated on **March 15** and **March 16, 2010. March 16, 2010** (Rabi Thani 1, 1431 Hijri) (**Nisan 1, 5770 Jewish**) was Rosh Chodesh (Head of the Month) of Nisan, meaning the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the month of Nisan. **Nisan 1** is the first day of the **Jewish religious year. Nisan 1** is historically significant because it is the **day on which the construction** of the **Biblical Wilderness Tabernacle** was completed. For the Jews, construction of Hurva Synagogue symbolized end of exile and return of the Jews to the historical Land of Israel in preparation for the coming of the Messiah of the End Times. On **March 20, 2010**, Sabbath services were held in Hurva Synagogue for the first time since 1948.

- On **May 19, 1948** (Rajab 10, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 10, 5708 Jewish**), Jordanian army forces led by AbdAllah Al-Tal marched to Jerusalem and took up positions around Zion Gate, closing access to Jewish Quarter. The Jordanian forces captured the Police Station in Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood, as Jewish gang fighters fled without a fight. Then, the Jordanian forces proceeded towards Mandelbaum House area, but was repulsed after heavy battle with Jewish fighters. On **May 28, 1948** (Rajab 19, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 19, 5708 Jewish**), the **Jewish Quarter** of the old city of **Jerusalem was captured by the Jordanian forces**. The civilian, non-combatant, Jewish inhabitants were protected from the wrath of angry Arabs by the Jordanian forces of **King AbdAllah**, and were expelled to West Jerusalem which was under control of the Jews. About 300 fighters of the Haganah (Jewish terrorist group) were taken prisoners. After the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem was captured, the destruction, desecration and looting of Jewish sites began. About 57 ancient synagogues (**Hurva Synagogue**, the oldest dated to the 13th century), libraries and centers of religious study were ransacked and 12 were totally destroyed. On the Mount of Olives, Arabs removed 38,000 tombstones from the ancient Jewish cemetery and used them as paving stones for roads. The Old City of Jerusalem remained under the control of Jordan till it was captured by Israeli forces on **June 7, 1967** (Safar 28, 1387 Hijri) (**Iyar 28, 5727 Jewish**) in the 6-day war between Israel and the Arabs.

- On **May 28, 1948** (Rajab 19, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 19, 5708 Jewish**), the Provisional Government of the **State of Israel** issued an ordinance establishing the **Israel Defense Forces (IDF)**, to be comprised of land forces, a navy and an air force. This ordinance was signed by Israel's Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion.

- On **May 28, 1948** (Rajab 19, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 19, 5708 Jewish**), Czech technicians at the Ekron Airbase in Israel finished assembling four Avia S-199 planes brought from Czechoslovakia.

- In the afternoon on **May 29, 1948** (Rajab 20, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 20, 5708 Jewish**), an Egyptian army column, including tanks, armored fighting vehicles and artillery was spotted, by the Israeli army, moving northwards up the coastal road, possibly headed towards Tel Aviv. Israel used aircrafts, recently imported from Czechoslovakia and assembled on the previous day, **May 28**, to stop the Egyptian army's advance. The Egyptian army's advance was stopped by **June 3, 1948**.

- The U.N. declared the first truce in the war between the Arabs and Jews on **May 29, 1948**

(**Rajab 20**, 1367 Hijri) (**Iyar 20**, 5708 Jewish), which began on **June 11, 1948** and lasted till **July 8, 1948 (Ramadan 1, 1367 Hijri)**.

- During this visit to Fatima, **Pope John Paul II was attacked** with a knife (or dagger) by **Juan Fernandez y Krohn** (born in 1948), a fanatical, ultra-conservative **Spanish Catholic priest** on **May 12, 1982** (**Rajab 19**, 1402 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5742 Jewish) (2445,101.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). The Vatican chose not to disclose that **Pope John Paul II** was wounded in the attack. The news media reported that the Pope was attacked, but he was not wounded. **Juan Maria Fernandez y Krohn** attacked **Pope John Paul II** because he thought **Pope John Paul II** was a communist and an agent working for the Soviet Union. On **October 15, 2008**, **Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz** finally **disclosed that the Pope was actually wounded** in the attack on **May 12, 1982**. Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz served as **Pope John Paul II's** secretary and closest aide for nearly 40 years, including all of his 27 years as Pope, and after the **Pope John Paul II's** death, Stanislaw Dziwisz became Archbishop of Krakow, Poland on June 3, 2005 and Cardinal in 2006. Cardinal Dziwisz made this revelation as the Vatican prepared for the first screening of the movie titled *Testimony*, based on Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz's book, *My Friend Karol* (Karol is the real first name of Pope John Paul II), about his 40 years as secretary of **Pope John Paul II**. After being convicted of the assault, **Juan Fernandez y Krohn** was sentenced to six years, but served only three years in a Portuguese prison and then he was expelled from Portugal. After he was released from prison, he worked as a lawyer in Belgium, but became known for his violent acts in court rooms. He has been involved in several other criminal cases involving violent behavior at extremist political protests. In 1996, **Juan Fernandez y Krohn** was charged, in Spain, with setting to fire in a local centre of the Heri Batasuna Party of Bask separatists. **Juan Fernandez y Krohn** was arrested again in July 2000 and received a five-year sentence after climbing over a security barricade at the Royal Palace of Brussels, intending to kill either King Albert II or the approaching Spanish King Juan Carlos. **Juan Fernandez y Krohn** believed Juan Carlos Bourbon, King of Spain was involved in the killing his older brother Alfonso Bourbon, Infante of Spain in 1956 so that he could become king.

- On **May 13, 1982** (65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first apparition in Fatima, Portugal) (**Rajab 20**, 1402 Hijri) (**Iyar 20**, 5742 Jewish) (2445,102.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **during his first visit to Fatima, Portugal, Pope John Paul II** had a private meeting with **Lucia** for the **first time** at 8:00 am, and later he consecrated the World (but not specifically Russia and not in union with Bishops of the World) to the Immaculate Heart of Virgin Mary. On **May 19, 1982, Pope John Paul II** explained why he did not specifically consecrate Russia during his visit to Fatima, Portugal on **May 13, 1982**, by saying: *"I tried to do all which I could do in the given circumstances to show forth the collegial unity of the Bishop of Rome with all his brothers in the ministry and the episcopal service of the World."*

- At night, on **May 14, 1998 (Muharram 17, 1419 Hijri) (Iyar 18, 5758 Jewish)** (2450,947.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), meaning on the eve of **May 15** (Muharram 18, 1419 Hijri) (**Iyar 19**, 5758 Jewish), **Frank Sinatra** died in Los Angeles. On **May 18, 1998**, about 800 - 1000 people, from all over the East Coast, overflowed from **St. Francis Church** (the same church in which he was baptized when he was a baby) onto the street, in Sinatra's hometown of Hoboken, New Jersey, for a public religious memorial service, at the end of which those in attendance sang his most famous song "My Way. A private service for the reading of the Rosary took place on **Tuesday night May 19,**

**1998 (Iyar 23, 5758 Jewish)** in Beverly Hills. Sinatra's funeral was held at **noon on Wednesday, May 20, 1998 (Iyar 24, 5758 Jewish)** at the **Beverly Hills Roman Catholic church** and Cardinal Roger Mahony, archbishop of Los Angeles, led the services. Attendance of the funeral services was by **invitation only**. Sinatra's friends from the music and film industry attended the funeral. His most famous song "**My Way**" written by Lebanese Canadian singer and song-writer Paul Anka, tells the World that the End Times is near. The song starts with "**And now the End is near**". People on Twitter asked Sinatra's daughter, Nancy, how she felt about "My Way" being sung at the inauguration of Donald Trump as President of the U.S., she prophetically replied by tweeting: "Just remember the first line of the song," He was born on **December 12, 1915 (Safar 4, 1334 Hijri) (2420,843.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**.

- On **May 14, 1998 (Muharram 18, 1419 Hijri) (Iyar 18, 5758 Jewish) (2450,947.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**, the final episode of popular TV show **Seinfeld** was broadcast, starring **Jerry Seinfeld**, a Jewish American actor and comedian.

- On **March 5, 2000 (Zu Al-Qada 28, 1420 Hijri)**, the Israeli cabinet (headed by Prime Minister, **Ehud Barak**) voted unanimously to unilaterally **withdraw from Lebanon** by **July 7, 2000**, the first anniversary of Ehud Barak's becoming Prime Minister. Around **mid May, 2000**, in preparation for its Israeli army's main withdrawal from southern Lebanon in **July 2000**, the Israeli army started transferring control of some outposts in southern Lebanon to Israel's ally, the South Lebanon Army (S.L.A.) Israeli-backed Lebanese militia. A brief hand-over ceremony for each of these posts was held with the SLA commander assuming responsibility. On **May 18, 2000 (Safar 13, 1421 Hijri) (Iyar 13, 5760 Jewish)**, the attack of the Lebanese resistance forced members of the South Lebanon Army (SLA) to abandon a Lebanese village they were holding in Israel's self-declared "security zone" inside Lebanon. On **May 21 - 22, 2000**, the South Lebanon Army (S.L.A.) started to quickly collapse against the advancing Lebanese resistance forces and civilian demonstrations. Some S.L.A. soldiers surrendered to Lebanese authorities while others took refuge in Israel. The quick collapse of S.L.A. was in contrast with how S.L.A. managed to maintain its control of a significant area of South Lebanon between the Israel's invasion in 1978 and Israel's invasion in 1982. This forced Israel in the night of **May 23 - 24, 2000**, before the dawn of **May 24, 2000 (Safar 19, 1421 Hijri) (Iyar 19, 5760 Jewish)**, to complete full **withdrawal** of Israeli troops (ahead of its initial planned withdrawal in July) from **most of the Lebanese territories** it had occupied since its Israel's first invasion of Lebanon in 1978.

- On **March 29, 2002 (Muharram 16, 1423 Hijri) (Nisan 16, 5762 Jewish)**, **Israel** began what it called "Operation Defensive Shield", an invasion of Palestinian towns in the West Bank. During the Operation, Israeli tanks and troops besieged **Arafat's Palestinian Authority Headquarters in Ramallah**, prohibiting him from leaving, from **March 29, 2002 till May 2, 2002 (Safar 19 (or 20), 1423 Hijri) (Iyar 20, 5762 Jewish)**. At approximately 2:00 a.m. on **April 2, 2002**, the Israeli forces invaded Bethlehem using about 250 tanks and armored personnel carriers, F-16 fighter jets, and Apache gunships. By 4:30 a.m., Israeli forces seized full control over Bethlehem, except the Old Town of Bethlehem. Around 11:30 a.m., Israeli occupation forces shelled **Santa Maria Church**, and as a result, several priests and nuns were wounded. About 200 Palestinian civilians and militants fled to the **Church of the Nativity**, seeking refuge, including Muhammad Al-Madani, the governor of Bethlehem. In addition, there were some 200 monks resident in the church. The Israeli security forces **besieged** of the **Church of the Nativity** (located over the birthplace cave of Jesus) in Bethlehem, for 39 days, from

**April 2, 2002** (Muharram 20, 1423 Hijri) (Nisan 20, 5762 Jewish) till **May 10, 2002 (Safar 27** (or 28), **1423 Hijri) (Iyar 28, 5762 Jewish)**. During the siege, Israeli army snipers, from their rooftop positions surrounding the Church, killed seven Palestinians who were in the Church. After 39 days of siege, an agreement was reached, according to which the Palestinian militants turned themselves in to Israel and were exiled to Europe and the Gaza Strip. Palestinians had last sought refuge in the **Church of the Nativity** during Israel's occupation of the West Bank in **1967**.

- On **May 19, 2006** (Iyar 21, 5766 Jewish), "***The Da Vinci Code***" film was released in the United States, starring Tom Hanks. Prior to its release in the U.S., the film was released in some countries starting from **May 17, 2006 (Iyar 19, 5766 Jewish)**. The film is based on a best-seller book "***The Da Vinci Code***" by Ron Brown.

- **Reshma Bano Qureshi**, a **Muslim girl**, when she was 17 years old, she went from Mumbai (Bombay), India (where she lives with parents) to the northern Indian city of **AllahAbad (City of Allah)**. It is also a holy city for Hindus) to appear for an examination. Her sister was living in AllahAbad and had left her husband after being subjected to abuse and torture and taken her son with her, away from her husband. This made her sister's husband so angry that he planned to punish his wife by spilling acid onto her face. On **May 19, 2014 (Rajab 19, 1435 Hijri) (Iyar 19, 5774 Jewish)**, while Reshma was with her sister on the way to the exam center, her sister's husband with 2 other men attacked her sister. While her sister's husband was about to spill sulphuric acid onto her sister, Reshma jumped to defend her sister without noticing that he was carrying a bottle of acid, the acid was spilled by mistake into the face of Reshma, instead of her sister's face. The two girls were left to suffer in agony on roadside for several hours after nobody called an ambulance. When they finally managed to get somebody to call their parents, they were taken to a police station and then a hospital. This incident caused Reshma severe facial burns, disfiguring Reshma's face, particularly her left eye. Reshma **lost sight in her left eye** permanently. So, since that incident, Reshma has become an **Awar** (a person with a defective eye). Prophet Mohammad (p) said that **Dajjal is an Awar**. She is one of tens of girls in India who suffer from an acid attack annually, but her campaign to bring attention the plight of such victims of acid attacks was successful in catching the attention of the media WorldWide.

### 3. **Iyar 22 - 24**

**Iyar** is the **8<sup>th</sup> month** of the Jewish Civil year that starts on the **first day of Tishri**. So, **Iyar** is similar to **Shaban** which is the **8<sup>th</sup> month** of the Hijri year.

The following events happened on **Iyar 22 - 24**:

- Followers of Count Emicho of the **First Crusade**, on its way to Jerusalem, arrived to **Worms**, one of the oldest cities in **Germany**, on **May 18, 1096 Julian (Jumada Ula 23, 489 Hijri) (Iyar 23, 4856 Jewish)**. The Crusaders launched a savage attack on the town's Jews. Bishop Adalbert intervened and allowed his palace to serve as a refuge for the Jews, but eight days later the mob broke in and slaughtered those seeking asylum there. Those Crusaders believed that the Jews were the race responsible for the death and crucifixion of Jesus, so they deserved nothing

better than conversion or death. In all, around 800 Jews were killed. The great majority of Jews preferred to be killed or commit suicide rather than convert to Christianity and be baptized. Only few Jews survived because they agreed to convert to Christianity.

- Construction of the **Sanctuary of Fatima in Portugal in Cova de Iria** (where the apparitions happened) started on **May 13 1928 (Zu Al-Qada 23, 1346 Hijri) (Iyar 23, 5688 Jewish)** and it was opened and consecrated on **October 7, 1953 (Muharram 28, 1373 Hijri) (Tishri 28, 5714 Jewish)**.

- General **Edmund Allenby**, who led the British forces in the conquest of Jerusalem in December 1917, ending the rule of Jerusalem by the Ottomans which had lasted since December 1516, and the rule of Jerusalem by Muslims which had lasted since July 1244, was born on **April 23, 1861 (Shawwal 13, 1277 Hijri) (Iyar 13, 5621 Jewish)** and died on **May 14, 1936 (Safar 22, 1355 Hijri) (Iyar 22, 5696 Jewish)**. After he died, he was cremated and his ashes were buried in the Warriors Chapel (now St George's chapel) in Westminster Abbey on **May 19, 1936 (Safar 27, 1355 Hijri) (Iyar 27, 5696 Jewish)**. Westminster Abbey (formally titled "the Collegiate Church of St Peter") is located in London, just to the west of the Palace of Westminster. It is one of Britain's most notable religious buildings and the traditional place of coronation and burial site for English and, later, British monarchs.

- **Berlin** surrendered on **May 2, 1945 (Jumada Ula 19, 1364 Hijri) (Iyar 19, 5705 Jewish)**. However, fighting continued to the north-west, west, and south-west of the city until the end of the war in Europe on **May 8 (May 9 in the Soviet Union)** as German units fought westward so that they could surrender to the Western Allies rather than to the Soviets. Two separate **ceremonies for capitulation (surrender) of Germany** took place at the time. First, the **capitulation (surrender) to the Allied nations** in Reims was signed on **May 7, 1945 (Jumada Ula 24, 1364 Hijri) (Iyar 24, 5705 Jewish)**, effective 23:01 CET **May 8**. This date is commonly referred to as the V-E Day (Victory in Europe Day) in most western European countries. **Joseph Stalin** was displeased by this, believing that the German surrender should have been accepted only by the envoy of the USSR Supreme command and signed only in Berlin. Therefore, another ceremony was organized in the outskirts of Berlin late on **May 8**, when it was already **May 9** in Moscow due to the difference in time zones. **Victory Day** is celebrated annually in Russia on **May 9**.

- On **June 1, 1967 Gregorian (May 19, 1967 Julian) (Safar 22, 1387 Hijri) (Iyar 22, 5727 Jewish)**, when war with Israel's Arab neighbors was imminent, **Moshe Dayan** was appointed **Minister of Defense of Israel**. He personally oversaw Israel's **capture of East Jerusalem** on **June 7, 1967**. **Moshe Dayan** was an **Awar** (having a damaged eye). Prophet Mohammad (p) said that the **Dajjal** is an **Awar**.

- **Cairo Agreement** was an agreement between **Lebanon** and **Palestinian Liberation Organization (P.L.O.)** reached on Sunday, **November 2, 1969 (Shaban 22, 1389 Hijri)** and became effective the next day, on Monday, **November 3, 1969 (Shaban 23, 1389 Hijri)**. It allowed the Palestinian guerrillas to establish military bases in Lebanon and conduct cross border operations against Israel. The Lebanese Parliament repealed this agreement on **May 21, 1987 (Ramadan 22, 1407 Hijri) (Iyar 22, 5747 Jewish)**.



- **Sammy Davis Jr.** was an American singer, dancer, actor, and comedian. He was born on **December 8, 1925** (Jumada Ula 22, 1344 Hijri) (Kislev 21, 5686 Jewish). On **November 19, 1954 (Rabi Awwal 23, 1374 Hijri)** (Heshvan 23, 5715 Jewish), he lost his left eye due to a car accident. At around 7:00 a.m., while Sammy Davis Jr. was driving his new Cadillac car from Las Vegas (after performing at the Frontier Hotel) back to Los Angeles to record a soundtrack for the film *Six Bridges to Cross*, his car hit the rear of a car driven by an elderly lady that was backing out in front of him in San Bernardino, California. Then, Sammy's car shifted its direction, miraculously missing oncoming traffic, and came to a stop after slamming into a stone column at the entrance to a driveway. The impact of the crash actually pushed the engine of his car back into the front seat, driving Sammy's face into the steering wheel and his **left eye was forced out of its socket** by the bullet-shaped cone at the center of the steering wheel. Sammy broke his nose on the sun visor, and he broke his knee cap on the emergency brake handle. He had a companion in his car who had driven the first part of the trip. His companion was also badly injured in the collision which fractured his jaw and broke out all of his teeth. Sammy and his companion were rushed by ambulance to San Bernardino County Hospital and were transferred to San Bernardino Community Hospital later that day. Sammy spent six hours in the hospital hallway waiting for an operating room in the cramped and outdated hospital. The damage to his left eye was so severe that it had to be removed. The eye surgeon attached a **prosthetic socket** onto Sammy's left eye muscles to hold and direct a **"glass eye"** that was later implanted after he healed further. So, he became an Awar (with a defective eye or has lost one of his eyes). Prophet Mohammad (p) said the Dajjal is Awar. Sammy was released from the hospital on **November 28, 1954**. **Sammy Davis Jr.** was back on stage only two months later. The car accident and hospital stay made a profound impact on Sammy's life. He believed that surviving the car accident was a miracle and spent much of his recovery reflecting on his existence. While being treated at the hospital in San Bernardino, he was visited by a Jewish rabbi chaplain. Later, Sammy Davis Jr. said about this visit: "We had a long talk. Some of the things he said helped me; and for the first time in my life, a religion started to make sense to me." Although Sammy's parents were Christians, he was not deeply religious. But after learning about history of the Jews, he felt that the Jews and the Blacks shared a similar history of oppression. Over the next years, he studied more Judaism and eventually converted to Judaism few years after his car accident. In August 1989, doctors discovered a cancerous tumor in **Sammy Davis'** throat. Realizing that Sammy Davis was not going to be around much longer, his friends in the entertainment industry arranged a tribute to Sammy Davis which was broadcast on TV on **February 4, 1990**. **Sammy Davis Jr.** attended the event, and at the end of it, he got up, did not speak, but did a little soft-shoe tap dance to a standing ovation. **Frank Sinatra** visited Sammy Davis Jr. at the hospital where he was being treated, and according to the National Enquirer "A softball-size tumor stuck out of Sammy's neck, giving off a horrible odor". This sight devastated Sinatra. After **Sammy Davis Jr.** died on **May 16, 1990** (Shawwal 20, 1410 Hijri) (Iyar 21, 5750 Jewish), it was decided that his memorial service would be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, **May 18, 1990** (Shawwal 22, 1410 Hijri) (Iyar 23, 5750 Jewish) at Hall of Liberty in Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Hollywood Hills, Los Angeles, California and that it would be open to the public. So, on **Friday morning**, 400 free tickets were given to individuals who arrived early enough to Forest Lawn Memorial Park. People started lining up at 6 a.m. About 1200 people jammed the Hall of Liberty, and hundreds more were outside. His song "I've Got To Be Me" was played on the loudspeaker, and the crowd cheered. The service lasted for 90 minutes. Rev. Jesse Jackson eulogized him. Frank Sinatra, Dean

Martin, Michael Jackson and Bill Cosby were honorary pall-bearers. After the memorial service, Sammy was buried in the Davis family plot at Forest Lawn in Glendale.

- In fulfillment of “**The Gaza-Jericho agreement**” signed on **May 4, 1994 (Zu Al-Qada 23, 1414 Hijri) (Iyar 23, 5754 Jewish)**, the Israeli forces withdrew from **Jericho** on **May 13, 1994** and from most of the **Gaza Strip** on **May 18 - 19, 1994 (Zu Al-Hijja 8 – 9, 1414 Hijri) (Sivan 8 – 9, 5754 Jewish)** and then, Palestinian Authority police and officials immediately took control. This was the first Israeli withdrawal from Palestinian land since June 1967 war in which Israel captured the West Bank and Gaza. On **May 4, 1994**, Israeli Prime Minister **Yitzhak Rabin** and PLO Chairman **Yasir Arafat** reached an agreement in Cairo called “**The Gaza-Jericho agreement**” on the first stage of Palestinian self-rule. This agreement addressed four main issues: security arrangements, civil affairs, legal matters and economic relations. It included an Israeli military withdrawal from about **60 percent of the Gaza Strip** (Jewish settlements and their environs excluded) and the West Bank town of **Jericho**, land captured by Israel during the Six-Day War of 1967. This agreement also included an agreement to a transfer of authority from the Israeli Civil Administration to the newly created Palestinian Authority, its jurisdiction and legislative powers, a Palestinian police force and relations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority. This agreement was made in accordance with the **Oslo Accords**, signed in Washington, D.C. on **September 13, 1993**.

- At night, on **May 14, 1998 (Muharram 17, 1419 Hijri) (Iyar 18, 5758 Jewish)** (2450,947.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), meaning on the eve of **May 15** (Muharram 18, 1419 Hijri) (**Iyar 19, 5758 Jewish**), **Frank Sinatra** died in Los Angeles. On **May 18, 1998**, about 800 - 1000 people, from all over the East Coast, overflowed from **St. Francis Church** (the same church in which he was baptized when he was a baby) onto the street, in Sinatra's hometown of Hoboken, New Jersey, for a public religious memorial service, at the end of which those in attendance sang his most famous song “My Way. A private service for the reading of the Rosary took place on **Tuesday night May 19, 1998 (Iyar 23, 5758 Jewish)** in Beverly Hills. Sinatra’s funeral was held at **noon on Wednesday, May 20, 1998 (Iyar 24, 5758 Jewish)** at the **Beverly Hills Roman Catholic church** and Cardinal Roger Mahony, archbishop of Los Angeles, led the services. Attendance of the funeral services was by **invitation only**. Sinatra's friends from the music and film industry attended the funeral. His most famous song “**My Way**” written by Lebanese Canadian singer and song-writer Paul Anka, tells the World that the End Times is near. The song starts with “**And now the End is near**”. People on Twitter asked Sinatra's daughter, Nancy, how she felt about “My Way” being sung at the inauguration of Donald Trump as President of the U.S., she prophetically replied by tweeting: “Just remember the first line of the song,” He was born on **December 12, 1915 (Safar 4, 1334 Hijri) (2420,843.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**.

#### 4. **Iyar 27 - 29**

The following events happened during this period:

- During the time of **Moses**, the **battle** between the **Jews** and the **Amalek** took place on **Iyar 28**.

- According to the Jews, **Prophet Samuel** died on **Iyar 28**, 2884 Jewish. His death is commemorated by pilgrimages to his tomb on the outskirts of **Jerusalem**. **Samuel** was the Prophet who **anointed David**, the founder of Jerusalem. David and Samuel together surveyed the region, looking for the proper place to build the **Jewish Temple**. According to the Jews, the first king (Saul) anointed by Samuel was supposed to defeat Amalek, but he failed. David is the one who was able to kill Goliath, defeat the Amalek, and succeeded Saul as the second King of Israel.

- After 4 years of siege, the First Crusade captured **Akka (Acre)**, for the first time, on **May 26, 1104** Julian (June 2, 1104 Gregorian) (**Shaban 29**, 497 Hijri) (**Iyar 29**, 4864 Jewish). In 1187, Salah Eddeen Al-Ayyubi liberated Akka from the Crusaders. After a long siege and confrontation with Salah Eddeen Al-Ayyubi since **August 28, 1189**, **Akka (Acre)** surrendered to the **Crusaders** of the Third Crusade on **July 11, 1191** Julian (July 18, 1191 Gregorian) (Jumada Thania 16, 587 Hijri) (Tammuz 17, 4951 Jewish) (2156,261.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). One hundred years later, after a siege that started on **April 5, 1291**, **Mamluk Sultan of Egypt Al-Ashraf Khalil** conquered **Akka (Acre)**, the **last capital of the remnant of the Crusaders' Kingdom**, on **May 18, 1291** (Jumada Ula 17, 690 Hijri) (Sivan 18, 5051 Jewish).

- On **May 17, 1809** (Rabi Thani 2, 1224 Hijri) (Sivan 2, 5569 Jewish) (2381,919.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Napoleon annexed the Italian Papal States** to the French Empire. On **June 10, 1809**, **Pope Pius VII** made public a bull of excommunication of those involved in the annexation, including Napoleon. Around 3:00 AM on Thursday, **July 6, 1809** (Jumada Ula 22, 1224 Hijri) (**Tammuz 22**, 5569 Jewish) (2381,969.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Pope Pius VII was arrested** and remained imprisoned. After Napoleon's army was defeated in the **Battle of Paris** on **March 31, 1814** and Napoleon abdicated on **April 11, 1814**, **Pope Pius VII** returned to Rome in **May 24, 1814** (Jumada Thania 5, 1229 Hijri). **Pope Pius VII** left Rome to Genoa during the “**100 Days**” when Napoleon escaped from Elba. **Pope Pius VII** returned finally to Rome on **June 7, 1815** (Jumada Thania 28, 1230 Hijri) (**Iyar 28**, 5575 Jewish). Napoleon was defeated in the **Battle of Waterloo** on **June 18, 1815** (Rajab 10, 1230 Hijri) (Sivan 10, 5575 Jewish). Napoleon abdicated, in favor of his son Napoleon II, 4 days later on **June 22, 1815**. In the meantime, the Provisional Government deposed his son and tried to negotiate a conditional surrender with the Coalition powers. They failed to obtain any significant concessions from the Coalition who insisted on a military surrender. On the **July 7, 1815** (Rajab 29, 1230 Hijri) (Sivan 29, 5575 Jewish), coalition forces entered **Paris**. **Napoleon** was notified of his exile to **St. Helena** on **July 31, 1815** (**Shaban 23**, 1230 Hijri) (**Tammuz 23**, 5575 Jewish). On **August 8, 1815** (**Ramadan 1** (or 2), 1230 Hijri) (Av 2, 5575 Jewish), early in the morning, a British ship called “*The Northumberland*”, carrying **Napoleon Bonaparte**, set sail to **Island of Saint Helena** for his last **exile**.

- On Tuesday, **May 31, 1859** (Shawwal 27, 1275 Hijri) (**Iyar 27**, 5619 Jewish) (240,0195.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Big Ben Clock**, in London, England, started operating and keeping time. The clock is perched on a 96-meter (315-foot) elegant tower called the **Clock Tower**, overlooking **River Thames**, adjacent to **Westminster Bridge**, at the northern end of the **Palace of Westminster** (the meeting place of the House of Commons and the House of Lords, the two houses of the Parliament of the U. K.) in **Westminster**, in central **London**. The **Clock Tower** also houses **Big Ben Bell** (also called the Great Bell) that rings every hour on the hour (that is why it is called

**“The Hour Bell”**), and **4 smaller Quarter bells** which chime every quarter of an hour (meaning 15 minutes). **Big Ben Bell** was initially hung in New Palace Yard for testing. It was tested each day until **October 17, 1857 (Safar 27 (or 28), 1274 Hijri)** when a **1.2m crack** appeared. A new replacement bell was cast on **April 10, 1858 (Shaban 25, 1274 Hijri)**. The **Big Ben Bell** rang for the first time on **July 11, 1859 (Zu Al-Hijja 9 (or 10), 1275 Hijri)** (Tammuz 9, 5619 Jewish), but its success was short-lived. In **September 1859**, the new bell cracked again and Big Ben remained silent for four years. During this 4-year period, the hour was struck on the fourth Quarter bell. In 1863, a solution for Big Ben's was found: **(a)** Big Ben was turned by a quarter turn so the hammer struck a different spot, **(b)** the hammer was replaced by a lighter version, **(c)** a small square was cut into the bell to prevent the crack from spreading. The Quarter bells first chimed on **September 7, 1859 (Safar 8 (or 9), 1276 Hijri) (Elul 8, 5619 Jewish)**. The **Clock Tower** is one of the most distinctive architectural symbols of London.

- On **May 17, 1901 (Muharram 28, 1319 Hijri) (Iyar 28, 5661 Jewish)**, **Theodore Herzl** met with **Ottoman Sultan Abdul-Hamid II**.

- **Lateran Treaty** between the **Pope** and the **Kingdom of Italy** was signed in Lateran Palace, by Benito Mussolini, Prime Minister of Italy, representing the Italian government, on **February 11, 1929 (Ramadan 1 (or Shaban 29), 1347 Hijri)** (Adar 1, 5689 Jewish) (2425,653.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), was ratified by the Parliament of Italy, and became effective on **June 7 1929 (Zu Al-Hijja 28, 1347 Hijri) (Iyar 28, 5689 Jewish)** (2425,769.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), establishing **City of the Vatican** as an independent State. In this treaty, Italy recognized papal sovereignty over the Vatican, and in return, the papacy recognized the Kingdom of Italy, with Rome as its capital. Since **September 20 – 21, 1870**, when the **Italian army** entered Rome and the Vatican and **ended the Papal State**, the Pope was a virtual prisoner in the Vatican, never leaving it, **for 59 years** until **Lateran Treaty** was signed.

- General **Edmund Allenby**, who led the British forces in the conquest of Jerusalem in December 1917, ending the rule of Jerusalem by the Ottomans which had lasted since December 1516, and the rule of Jerusalem by Muslims which had lasted since July 1244, was born on **April 23, 1861 (Shawwal 13, 1277 Hijri) (Iyar 13, 5621 Jewish)** and died on **May 14, 1936 (Safar 22, 1355 Hijri) (Iyar 22, 5696 Jewish)**. After he died, he was cremated and his ashes were buried in the Warriors Chapel (now St George's chapel) in Westminster Abbey on **May 19, 1936 (Safar 27, 1355 Hijri) (Iyar 27, 5696 Jewish)**. Westminster Abbey (formally titled “the Collegiate Church of St Peter”) is located in London, just to the west of the Palace of Westminster. It is one of Britain's most notable religious buildings and the traditional place of coronation and burial site for English and, later, British monarchs.

- On **June 6, 1948 (Rajab 28, 1367 Hijri) (Iyar 28, 5708 Jewish)**, nearly two brigades of the **Arab Liberation Army** and the **Lebanese Army** captured two Arab towns **Al-Malkiyya** and **Qadas in Northern Palestine** in what became the only intervention of the **Lebanese army** during the war.

- On **June 6, 1948 (Rajab 28, 1367 Hijri) (Iyar 28, 5708 Jewish)**, **Syrian forces** attacked **Mishmar HaYarden** (Jewish Settlement) in Northern Palestine, but they were repulsed. On **June 10, 1948**, the Syrians captured **Mishmar HaYarden** and advanced to the main road,

where they were stopped by the Israeli troops. Subsequently, the Syrians reverted to a defensive posture, conducting only a few minor attacks on small, vulnerable Israeli settlements.

- The **Battle of Nitzanim** was fought in the **kibbutz of Nitzanim**, in Southern Palestine, between the Israeli army and the Egyptian Army in the 1948 Arab–Israeli War, on **June 7 - 10, 1948**. The kibbutz of Nitzanim is located on the coast between Gaza and Yafa and it was surrounded by the Arab towns: Isdud to the North, Majdal to the South, and Julis and Beit Daras to the East. The battle started around midnight of **June 6 – 7, 1948 (Rajab 28 – 29, 1367 Hijri) (Iyar 28 - 29, 5708 Jewish)**, with an Egyptian artillery bombardment of Nitzanim, followed by an Egyptian aerial bombardment and armored and infantry attacks. The main Egyptian attack broke through the Israeli defenses at around 11:00 a.m. on **June 7, 1948**. The Israelis started retreating. At 4:00 p.m. on **June 7, 1948**, 105 Israeli fighters, 26 of them injured, surrendered to the Egyptian Army. The Israeli survivors were later displayed in a victory parade in the nearby Arab town, Majdal, after which they were transferred to Cairo. **Battle of Nitzanim** was the first major Egyptian victory of the war, and one of the few cases of Israeli surrender. On the night of **June 7 – 8, 1948**, the Israeli forces captured the strategic **Hill 69** (located between **Nitzanim** and **Isdud**) and carried out an unsuccessful attack against the Arab town of **Isdud**. On the night of **June 9 – 10, 1948**, the Israeli forces attempted to re-capture **Nitzanim**. At dawn, an Israeli platoon managed to break into **Nitzanim** from the South and capture the "Palace" (an abandoned Arab Palace/ Mansion, located at a hill overlooking **Nitzanim**), but withdrew from **Nitzanim** after being hit by heavy Egyptian fire. The Egyptian artillery pursued the withdrawing Israelis until the Israelis reached **Hill 69**. The **Egyptians** attacked **Hill 69**. The Israelis suffered heavy casualties, so they withdrew from the Hill, but their withdrawal was disorganized and cost more casualties. The total **Israeli death toll** in the **Battle of Hill 69** was 20 soldiers. So, the Egyptians managed to capture **Hill 69** on **June 10, 1948**. The Egyptians attempted to continue towards **Beit Daras** and **Be'er Tuvia**, but met with strong Israel defense, so at nightfall, the Egyptians withdrew.

- An agreement to create **Arab Union** (or Confederation), between Hashimite Kingdom of **Iraq** and Hashimite Kingdom of **Jordan**, was signed by King Faisal II of Iraq and King Hussein of Jordan on **February 14, 1958**. The membership in this union was also made open to other Arab countries wishing to join it later. The head of this union was designated as the King of Iraq and the headquarters of the union would be changed every 6 months: Baghdad for 6 months and Amman for 6 months. Each of the two Kingdoms remained as a sovereign state with its own separate government. This **Arab Union** between Iraq and Jordan was designed to be a pro-Western rival to the pro-Soviet Union, socialist union between Syria and Egypt, called United Arab Republic, that was announced on **February 1, 1958**. Constitution of the Arab Union of Iraq and Jordan was completed on **March 29, 1958**. King of Saudi Arabia, Saud bin Abd-Al-Aziz Al-Saud, made an 8 – day visit to Iraq from May 11 to May 18, 1958 to meet King Faisal II to support this Union. On **May 19, 1958 (Shawwal 29, 1377 Hijri) (Iyar 29, 5718 Jewish)**, the Arab Union of Iraq and Jordan officially came into existence and the first government was formed with Nuri Al-Saeed as prime minister. A military coup in Iraq led by socialist officers, Abd Al-Kareem Qasim and Abd Al-Salam Arif on **July 14, 1958** killed Iraq's King Faisal II and his family and ended the monarchy in Iraq that had lasted for 37 years since **August 23, 1921** when King Faisal I became the first King of Iraq after the end of the Ottoman's rule of Iraq. Prime Minister Nuri Al-Saeed was captured, killed, and mutilated on **July 15, 1958**.

- On Monday, **June 5, 1967** (Safar 26, 1387 Hijri) (Iyar 26, 5727 Jewish) (2439,646.5<sup>th</sup> or 2439,647<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), Israel launched its **6-day war** against the Arabs. Israel captured **Gaza** on **June 6, 1967**. Israel captured East Jerusalem including the **Old City of Jerusalem and the Aqsa Mosque** and therefore, all of Jerusalem became under its control on Wednesday, **June 7, 1967** (Safar 28, **1387 Hijri**) (Iyar 28, 5727 Jewish) (2439,648.5<sup>th</sup> or 2439,649<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). Today, **Iyar 28** is celebrated annually in Israel as **Jerusalem Day**. The leader of the brigade, Lt. General Mordechai (Motta) Gur [who was born on **May 6, 1930** (Zu Hijja 7, 1348 Hijri) (Iyar 8, 5690 Jewish) and died by committing suicide on **July 16, 1995** (Safar 18, 1416 Hijri) (Tammuz 18, 5755 Jewish)] communicated the unfolding events to his company commanders by radio:

*“Shortly we’re going to go in to the Old City of Jerusalem, that all generations have dreamed about. We will be the first to enter the Old City.”* Then, after an intense battle, he uttered his now-famous words: *“The Temple Mount is in our hands!”* Then, the Chief Rabbi of Israel’s army, **Shlomo Goren** (who was born on February 3, **1917** and died on October 29, 1994), while dressed in military uniform and carrying a Torah scroll, **blew a Trumpet** (ram’s horn) at the Western Wall to announce the re-unification of East Jerusalem (which was ruled by Jordan) with West Jerusalem (which was ruled by Israel), and held the first Jewish prayer session at the Western Wall since 1948. Until then, during the Ottoman and the British occupation of Jerusalem, Jews were not allowed to sound the Trumpet at the Western Wall. Israeli soldiers were singing a popular Israeli song titled “Jerusalem of Gold” written by Israeli poetess and song-writer, Naomi Shemer. This event was broadcast live on Voice of Israel radio station. This war resulted in Israel capturing East Jerusalem, Gaza, and Golan Heights from the Arabs.

- **Pope John Paul II** visited the town of **Fatima**, Portugal, for the first time, on **May 13, 1982** (65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first apparition in Fatima, Portugal) (Rajab 19, 1402 Hijri) (Iyar 20, 5742 Jewish) (2445,102.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). On **May 13, 1991** (Shawwal 29, 1411 Hijri) (**Iyar 29**, 5751 Hijri), he visited **Fatima** for the second time. On **May 13, 2000**, in his third trip to Fatima, Portugal, **Pope John Paul II** beatified **Francisco Marto and Jacinta Marto**, two of the children who reported seeing visions of the Virgin Mary in 1917.

- **U.S.S.R.** started its invasion of **Afghanistan** on **December 24, 1979** (Safar 4, 1400 Hijri) (Teveth 4, 5740 Jewish) (2444,231.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). The withdrawal of Soviet troops started on **May 15, 1988** (Ramadan 28, 1408 Hijri) (**Iyar 28**, 5748 Jewish) and ended on **February 15, 1989** (Rajab 10, 1409 Hijri) with the last Soviet troops leaving.

- **Jerusalem Covenant** was written in 1992 by Deputy Chief Justice Rabbi Menachem Elon. It is intended as a **renewal of the Biblical covenant** between God and the Children of Israel and emphasizes the importance of Jerusalem for the Jews and their insistence of having all of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. The signing of this Covenant started in **May 31, 1992** (**Iyar 28**, 5752 Jewish) because it was Jerusalem Day, an annual holiday celebrated in Israel on Iyar 28, the anniversary of Israel’s capture of the Old City of Jerusalem on June 7, 1967 (Iyar 28, 5727 Jewish). **May 31, 1992** (**Iyar 28**, 5752 Jewish) was the **25<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of Israel’s capture of Old City of Jerusalem. The Covenant is in the form of a **scroll written on parchment**. It was circulated to all the Jewish communities in the World for signing for **one Jewish year** that was designated as Year of Jerusalem, starting from May 31, 1992 (Zu Al-Qada 28, 1412 Hijri) (Jerusalem Day, **Iyar 28**, 5752 Jewish) till **Iyar 28** of the next year, meaning till **May 19, 1993**

(Zu Al-Qada 28, 1413 Hijri) (Jerusalem Day, **Iyar 28**, 5753 Jewish) the day on which the Covenant returned to Jerusalem and was signed by hundred of prominent individuals who came to Jerusalem to sign this Covenant and attend the big celebration of this occasion that was held in Jerusalem. The Jerusalem Covenant has been displayed since 1993 alongside Israel's Declaration of Independence in the Knesset (Parliament) of Israel. The Jerusalem Covenant project was the main accomplishment of the **Ministry of Jerusalem Affairs** created by Prime Minister **Yitzhak Shamir**. The campaign to solicit signatures to this Covenant from the general public throughout the World, particularly on the internet, continues even till now in 2017.

- On **May 14, 1999** (Muharram 28, 1420 Hijri) (**Iyar 28**, 5759 Jewish), **John Paul II** bowed to and kissed a Quran that was presented to him as a gift by an Iraqi delegation at the Vatican as a sign of respect. The delegation included Chaldean Catholic Patriarch Raphael, the Shi'ite imam of Khadum mosque and the Sunni president of Board of Directors of the Iraqi Islamic Bank, and a representative of the Iraqi Ministry of Religion.

- On **March 29, 2002** (**Muharram 16**, 1423 Hijri) (Nisan 16, 5762 Jewish), Israel began what it called "Operation Defensive Shield", an invasion of Palestinian towns in the West Bank. During the Operation, Israeli tanks and troops besieged **Arafat's Palestinian Authority Headquarters**, prohibiting him from leaving, from **March 29, 2002** till **May 2, 2002** (Safar 20, 1423 Hijri) (**Iyar 20**, 5762 Jewish). At approximately 2:00 a.m. on **April 2, 2002**, the Israeli forces invaded Bethlehem using about 250 tanks and armored personnel carriers, F-16 fighter jets, and Apache gunships. By 4:30 a.m., Israeli forces seized full control over Bethlehem, except the Old Town of Bethlehem. Around 11:30 a.m., Israeli occupation forces shelled **Santa Maria Church**, and as a result, several priests and nuns were wounded. About 200 Palestinian civilians and militants fled to the **Church of the Nativity**, seeking refuge, including Muhammad Al-Madani, the governor of Bethlehem. In addition, there were some 200 monks resident in the church. The Israeli security forces **besieged** of the **Church of the Nativity** (located over the birthplace cave of Jesus) in Bethlehem, for 39 days, from **April 2, 2002** (Muharram 20, 1423 Hijri) (Nisan 20, 5762 Jewish) till **May 10, 2002** (**Safar 28 (or 27)**, 1423 Hijri) (**Iyar 28**, 5762 Jewish). During the siege, Israeli army snipers, from their rooftop positions surrounding the Church, killed seven Palestinians who were in the Church. After 39 days of siege, an agreement was reached, according to which the Palestinian militants turned themselves in to Israel and were exiled to Europe and the Gaza Strip. Palestinians had last sought refuge in the church during Israel's occupation of the West Bank in 1967.

## 5. Tammuz 15

**Tammuz** corresponds to **July**. On **July 15, 1099**, the Crusaders captured Jerusalem and entered the Aqsa Mosque for the first time.

The following events happened on this day:

- **Nostradamus** was born on December 14, 1503 (Jumada Thania 25, 909 Hijri) (Kislev 26, 5264 Jewish). He died on July 2, 1566 (Zu Al-Hijja 14, 973 Hijri) (**Tammuz 15**, 5326 Jewish).

- Sunni Sheikh Ahmad Al-Aseer, Imam of Masjid (Mosque) of Bilal son Rabah in **Abra**, a district of city of **Saida**, Lebanon, was defeated by Shia's Hizb Allah and the Lebanese Army in a battle that started on **Sunday June 23, 2013** (Shaban 14, 1434 Hijri) (**Tammuz 15**, 5773 Jewish) (2456,466.5<sup>th</sup> Julian). It lasted for about 24 hours till **June 24, 2013**. This means it happened in the Middle (or Half) of Shaban, traditionally an important day.

## 6. Tammuz 22 - 24

**Tammuz 23** is the **289<sup>th</sup>** day of the year that starts of **Tishri 1**.

**Tammuz 23** is the **112<sup>th</sup>** day of the year that starts of **Nisan 1**.

The following events happened during this period:

- As the **first Crusade** was approaching Jerusalem, an eclipse of the moon on **June 5, 1099** was regarded by the Crusaders as a favorable sign from God. The Crusade reached Jerusalem, the main destination of their **pilgrimage journey**, in the morning, on **Tuesday, June 7, 1099** Julian (Rajab 15, 492 Hijri) (Sivan 15, 4859 Jewish). Faced with a seemingly impossible task, the low morale of the Crusaders was raised when a priest, by the name of **Peter Desiderius**, claimed to have had a divine vision instructing them to fast and then march in a barefoot procession around the city walls, after which the city would fall in nine days, following the Biblical example of Joshua at the siege of Jericho. After fasting for 3 days, on Friday, **July 8, 1099**, the Crusaders performed the procession, sounding trumpets and chanting as instructed by Desiderius, ending on the Mount of Olives where Peter the Hermit preached to them, while the city's Muslim defenders mocked them. More practical help for the Crusaders had already arrived in the form of six ships that anchored at Jaffa, which had been abandoned by the Muslims. The ships were carrying food, armaments, and supplies needed to build siege engines. Using their newly acquired supplies, the Crusaders, with the aid of Genoese engineers, began building **two huge siege towers**, catapults and a battering ram. On **July 10, 1099 (Shaban 18, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 18, 4859 Jewish)**, the two siege towers built by the Crusaders were completed and wheeled into position. For the first time, the Muslim ruler of Jerusalem became concerned, issuing strict orders that he be notified if either tower moved closer to the city. The Crusaders started their assault on Jerusalem on the night of **July 13, 1099** Julian (**July 19, 1099** Gregorian) at night. The Crusaders fought all day on **July 14, 1099** Julian (July 20, 1099 Gregorian) (**Shaban 22, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 22, 4859 Jewish)** (2122,661.5<sup>th</sup> or 2122,662<sup>nd</sup> Julian Day) without establishing a foothold. The Crusaders (about 1300 knights and 12,000 soldiers) breached the walls of Jerusalem and conquered Jerusalem on **Friday, July 15, 1099 AD** Julian (July 21, 1099 Gregorian) (**Shaban 23, 492 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 4859 Jewish)** (2122,662.5<sup>th</sup> or 2122,663<sup>th</sup> Julian Day). The next day, on **July 16, 1099** Julian (**July 22, 1099** Gregorian), the Crusaders forced Jews of Jerusalem to gather in the main synagogue and then, the Crusaders set this synagogue on fire. Most of the **inhabitants of Jerusalem (mostly Muslims) were slaughtered** by the Crusaders within **July 15 - 16**. On **July 22, 1099 (Ramadan 1, 492 Hijri) (Av 1, 4859 Jewish)**, a council was held in the Church of



the Holy Sepulchre and **Godfrey de Bouillon** (descendant of Charlemagne) was chosen as ruler of Kingdom of Jerusalem, but he refused the title of “King”, instead he adopted the title “Advocate of the Holy Sepulchre”. **Pope Urban II** died on **July 29, 1099**, without knowing that Jerusalem was conquered.

- On **May 17, 1809** (Rabi Thani 2, 1224 Hijri) (Sivan 2, 5569 Jewish) (2381,919.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Napoleon annexed the Italian Papal States** to the French Empire. On **June 10, 1809**, **Pope Pius VII** made public a bull of excommunication of those involved in the annexation, including Napoleon. Around 3:00 AM on Thursday, **July 6, 1809** (Jumada Ula 22, 1224 Hijri) (**Tammuz 22**, 5569 Jewish) (2381,969.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day), **Pope Pius VII was arrested** and remained imprisoned. After Napoleon's army was defeated in the **Battle of Paris** on **March 31, 1814** and Napoleon abdicated on **April 11, 1814**, **Pope Pius VII** returned to Rome in **May 24, 1814** (Jumada Thania 5, 1229 Hijri). **Pope Pius VII** left Rome to Genoa during the “**100 Days**” when Napoleon escaped from Elba. **Pope Pius VII** returned finally to Rome on **June 7, 1815** (Jumada Thania 28, 1230 Hijri) (**Iyar 28**, 5575 Jewish). Napoleon was defeated in the **Battle of Waterloo** on **June 18, 1815** (Rajab 10, 1230 Hijri) (Sivan 10, 5575 Jewish). Napoleon abdicated, in favor of his son Napoleon II, 4 days later on **June 22, 1815**. In the meantime, the Provisional Government deposed his son and tried to negotiate a conditional surrender with the Coalition powers. They failed to obtain any significant concessions from the Coalition who insisted on a military surrender. On the **July 7, 1815** (Rajab 29, 1230 Hijri) (Sivan 29, 5575 Jewish), coalition forces entered **Paris**. **Napoleon** was notified of his exile to **St. Helena** on **July 31, 1815** (**Shaban 23**, 1230 Hijri) (**Tammuz 23**, 5575 Jewish). On **August 8, 1815** (**Ramadan 1** (or 2), 1230 Hijri) (Av 2, 5575 Jewish) , early in the morning, a British ship called “*The Northumberland*”, carrying **Napoleon Bonaparte**, set sail to **Island of Saint Helena** for his last **exile**.

- In 1878, an Egyptian army officer, **Ahmad Urabi Al-Husseini** [a descendant of Al-Hussein, grandson of Prophet Mohammad (p)] started a rebellion against **Tewfik Pasha**, the Khedive of Egypt and Sudan, against the corrupted government of Egypt. On **May 20, 1882**, a combined Anglo-French fleet arrived at Alexandria to support Tewfik Pasha. On **June 13, 1882**, Khedive Tewfik fled from Cairo to Alexandria which was protected by the British fleet. On **July 11, 1882** (**Shaban 24 (or 23)**, 1299 Hijri) (**Tammuz 24**, 5642 Jewish), the British fleet started bombarding Alexandria, and finally a large British naval force finally managed to land in Alexandria by **July 13, 1882**. On **September 13, 1882** (Shawwal 29, 1299 Hijri) (Elul 29, 5642 Jewish), Britain’s decisively defeated the Egyptian forces loyal to Ahmad Urabi in the Battle of Tal El-Kabir, near Cairo. In the evening of **September 14, 1882** (Zu Al-Qada 1, 1299 Hijri) (**Tishri 1**, 5642 Jewish), the British advancing forces reached Cairo and Ahmad Urabi surrendered to the British. On **September 24, 1882**, Khedive Tewfik and his “ministers” returned to Cairo. Ahmad Urabi was sentenced to death in December 1882, but was later exiled to the British colony of Ceylon (Sri Lanka).

- **Benito Mussolini** was born on **July 29, 1883** (Ramadan 24, 1300 Hijri) (**Tammuz 24**, 5643 Jewish) and died on **April 28, 1945** (Jumada Ula 15, 1364 Hijri) (Iyar 15, 5705 Jewish).

- On **Thursday, July 23, 1908** Gregorian (**July 10, 1908** Julian) (Jumada Thania 23 (or 24), 1326 Hijri) (**Tammuz 24**, 5668 Jewish), upon learning that the troops of **Young Turk**

**movement** in Salonica were marching towards Istanbul, **Ottoman Caliph & Sultan Abdul Hamid II** announced the restoration of the suspended constitution of 1876.

- In 1917, three Catholic children (**Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco**), in a town called **Fatima in Portugal**, experienced 6 apparitions (visions) of the Virgin Mary on: May 13 (Rajab 21 (or 20), 1335 Hijri) (**Iyar 21**, 5677 Jewish) (**472,924<sup>th</sup>** or **472,923<sup>rd</sup>** Hijri day), June 13, July 13, August 19, September 13, and October 13, 1917. The 2<sup>nd</sup> apparition happened on **June 13, 1917 (Shaban 23, 1335 Hijri)** (Sivan 23, 5677 Jewish). On **July 13, 1917 (Ramadan 23, 1335 Hijri)** (**Tammuz 23**, 5677 Jewish) (**2421,422.5<sup>th</sup>** or **2421,423<sup>rd</sup>** Julian Day), the Virgin Mary told them **three secrets** about future events.

- **Bolshevik Communist Revolution** in Russia led by **Vladimir Lenin**, that led to 5 - 6 years of civil war, started on **November 7, 1917** (based on Gregorian Calendar) (October 25, 1917 based on Julian Calendar used in Russia at that time) (Muharram 22, 1336 Hijri). On **December 29, 1922** (Jumada Ula 10, 1341 Hijri), **Union Treaty** for the creation the **Union of Soviet Socialist Republics** (U.S.S.R.) was approved by a conference of delegations and the treaty was confirmed by the first Congress of Soviets of the U.S.S.R. and signed by heads of delegations, the next day, on **December 30, 1922** (Jumada Ula 11, 1341 Hijri) (Teveth 11, 5683 Jewish). The **Union of Soviet Socialist Republics** (U.S.S.R.) adopted its first constitution on **July 6, 1923** (Zu Al-Qada 22, 1341 Hijri) (**Tammuz 22**, 5683 Jewish).

- On **July 22, 1946 (Shaban 23, 1365 Hijri)** (**Tammuz 23**, 5706 Jewish) (**2432,023.5<sup>th</sup>** Julian day), the western part of the southern wing of **King David Hotel** in Jerusalem, which was serving as headquarters of the British Mandate, collapsed due to explosives set off by **Irgun**, a Zionist terrorist group led by **Menahim Begin**, who later became Prime Minister of Israel.

- On **July 11, 1947 (Shaban 23, 1366 Hijri)** (**Tammuz 23**, 1366 Jewish), **Exodus 1947 ship**, carrying illegal Jewish migrants, left the port of Sète near Marseilles, France, heading to Palestine. **Exodus 1947 ship** was the largest **Aliyah Bet** ship. **Aliyah Bet**, meaning "**Migration B**", refers to the Second Wave or Series of Jewish Migration attempts by European Jews to immigrate illegally to Palestine **before and after World War II**. The ship was carrying **4500 Jews**, the largest-ever number of illegal Jewish immigrants to Palestine. The story of this ship received a lot of international attention. On **July 18, 1947, (Ramadan 1, 1366 Hijri)** (Av 1, 5707 Jewish), the British navy intercepted, boarded the **Exodus ship**, and refused its entry into Palestine at the port of Haifa. The Jewish migrants resisted violently, and the interception ended with two Jewish migrants and one crewman dead. British Foreign Secretary, Ernest Bevin, said that the migrants on board the Exodus ship would be returned to the ship's port of origin in France to deter future illegal immigrants. However, the French government announced that it would not permit the disembarkation of passengers unless it was voluntary on their part. The passengers refused to disembark, spending weeks in difficult conditions. The ship was then taken to Germany, where the passengers were forcibly removed in Hamburg and returned to DP camps.

- In 1949, Israel signed an Armistice agreement with each of its neighboring **Arab countries** to end 1948 war. The fourth and last of these Armistice agreements was signed between Israel and Syria on **July 20, 1949 (Ramadan 23, 1368 Hijri)** (**Tammuz 23**, 5709 Jewish) (**2433,118<sup>th</sup>**

Julian day).

- On **July 7, 1980 (Shaban 23, 1400 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 5740 Jewish)**, Islamic Sharia Law was imposed in Iran.
- On **July 7, 1980 (Shaban 23, 1400 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 5740 Jewish)**, President of Syria, **Hafiz Assad** imposed Law 49, making membership in Syria's **Muslim Brotherhood** punishable by death.
- On **July 7, 1980 (Shaban 23, 1400 Hijri) (Tammuz 23, 5740 Jewish)**, 83 militants of the Christian Liberals Party were killed by the Christian Lebanese Forces militia in the coastal town of Safra. This incident came to be known as the Safra Massacre.
- **Yasir Arafat** returned to Gaza for the first time on **July 1, 1994 (Muharram 22, 1415 Hijri) (Tammuz 22, 5754 Jewish) (2449,534.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day or 2449,535<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**.

## 7. Av 9

**Av 9** is the **304<sup>th</sup> day** of the year that starts of **Tishri 1**.

**Av 9** is the **127<sup>th</sup> day** of the year that starts of **Nisan 1**.

The **first 9 days of Av (Av 1 – Av 9)** are called the “Dark Time”. During this period, the observing Jews do not want any comfort, so they don't bathe, don't shave, don't put on fresh clean clothes. They take their shoes off, turn their chairs upside down, and sit on the upturned chair.

The Jewish holiday called **Tisha B' Av** (means **9<sup>th</sup> day of Av**, the 5<sup>th</sup> month of the Jewish Calendar) is considered by the Jews as the saddest day in their history because of the calamities that happened to the Jews on this day.

The following events happened around this day:

- On **Av 9, 1312 B.C.**, the twelve spies sent by Moses to observe the land of Canaan returned from their mission. Only two of the spies, Joshua and Caleb, brought a positive report, while the others spoke disparagingly about the land. The majority report caused the Children of Israel to cry, panic and despair of ever entering the "Promised Land". For this, **they were punished by God that their generation would not enter the land**. Because of the Israelites' lack of faith, God decreed that for all generations this date would become one of crying and misfortune for their descendants, the Jewish people.
- The **First Jewish Temple** built by King Solomon **was destroyed by the Babylonians** led by Nebuchadnezzar **on 9<sup>th</sup> of Av, 3340 – 3338 Jewish Calendar, meaning 421 - 423 BC**, based on

Jewish Rabbinical sources [or **586 – 587 BC** based on secular sources]. The people of Judah (Judea), the Jewish Southern Kingdom, were sent into the Babylonian exile.

- The **Second Jewish Temple** was destroyed by the Romans on **9<sup>th</sup> of Av, 3828 – 3830** Jewish Calendar, meaning **68 - 70 AD**, scattering the people of Judah and commencing the Jewish exile from the Holy Land. According to the Talmud, in tractate Ta'anit, the destruction of the Second Temple began on the **9<sup>th</sup> of Av** and was finally consumed by the flames the next day on the **10<sup>th</sup> of Av**.

- **Simeon Bar Kokhba**, led the Second Judean Revolt, but the third Jewish-Roman War, against the Roman Empire, at the time of Roman Emperor Hadrian. He **established an independent Jewish state**, over parts of Judea, which he ruled for **three years**, until it was conquered by the Romans. One of the reasons of the revolt was that in 130 AD, Emperor Hadrian who visited the ruins of the Second Temple of the Jews in Jerusalem, seems at first to be sympathetic towards the Jews, promising to rebuild the temple, but the Jews felt betrayed when they found out that his intentions were to **build a temple dedicated to Jupiter** on the ruins of the Second Temple and change the name of Jerusalem into **Aelia Capitolina** (Aelia after himself, Capitolina after Jupiter Capitolinus). Furthermore, Hadrian forbade circumcision of males (Jews view circumcision as a religious requirement). **Simeon Bar Kokhba's** original name was Simeon **ben Kosiba**, which means Son of Star, in fulfilment of biblical prophecy in Numbers 24:17. He ruled as a Nasi, which means **Prince**, but he was regarded by the Jews as a **Messiah**. **David Ben-Gurion**, Israel's first prime minister, took his Hebrew last name from one of Bar-Kokhba's generals. Simeon Bar Kokhba tried to restore Hebrew, versus Aramaic, as the official language of Jews. **Simeon bar Kokhba** was killed, and his state was conquered on **August 5, 135 AD Julian (Av 9, 3895 Jewish)**. Some historians believe the end of the revolt happened in **July 25, 136 AD (Av 9, 3896 Jewish)**. The Romans' crushing his rebellion caused, according to historian Cassius Dio, 580,000 Jews to be killed (meaning it was a genocide), and 50 fortified towns and 985 villages to be razed. As a result the Bar-Kokhba Revolt, the majority of the Jewish population of Judea was either killed, exiled, or sold into slavery. This led some scholars to date the **beginning of the Jewish diaspora** from this date. Many of the Jews who left Judea moved to Galilee. After their victory, the Romans merged **Judea, Galilee and Samaria** into a new Roman province called **Syria Palestina**. The Romans barred the Jews from Jerusalem, except to attend Tisha B'Av.

- The **Schism in Christianity**, into Roman Catholic Church versus Eastern Orthodox Churches, started on **July 16, 1054** (Rabi Thani 8, 446 Hijri) (**Av 9, 4814 Jewish**).

- On **July 23, 1148 AD Julian** (July 30, 1148 Gregorian) (Rabi Awwal 4, 543 Hijri) (**Av 5, 4908 Jewish**), the **Second Crusade**, aiming to conquer **Damascus**, reached Damascus outskirts and laid a siege on Damascus. The city was ruled by a Muslim named Mu'in Ad-Din Unur. The siege lasted from **July 23** till **July 28, 1148 AD (Av 10, 4908 Jewish)**. Nur Ad-Din Zangi, Muslim ruler of Aleppo, arrived with Muslim reinforcements and cut off the Crusaders. The Crusaders' siege ended in a decisive crusader defeat. The entire crusader army retreated back to Jerusalem by **July 28, 1148 AD**. Mu'in Ad-Din was forced to acknowledge Nur Ad-Din as his overlord.

- On **July 18, 1290 AD (Av 9, 5050 Jewish)**, **King Edward I** issued a royal decree ordering all Jews to leave **England** before **November 1, 1290** (Shawwal 26, 689 Hijri). Jews who would

remain in England were declared liable to be executed. Most of the Jews went from England to France, while others wandered to Spain, Germany and Flanders. England had a very small Jewish community (about 1600 Jews) at that time. **Oliver Cromwell** permitted the Jews to return to England in **1657AD**.

- In **January, 1306 AD**, **King Philip IV** (Philip, the Fair) of France devised a **secret plan** to strip the Jews of their belongings and expel them from **France**. If any were to be found after a particular date then they would be killed. King Philip IV ordered the arrest and expulsion from France on **July 22, 1306 AD (Av 10, 5066 Jewish) (Muharram 10, 706 Hijri)**. More than **100,000 Jews** were arrested. It was possible to complete the arrests in one day because the orders had been kept secret and the authorities knew the whereabouts of the Jews. When in prison the Jews were told that they were sentenced to exile. They had to leave behind their belongings and debts and were to be allowed to leave the country only with the clothes they were wearing and a small sum of money. All the Jews' belongings were auctioned. The King took the proceeds. All debts to the Jews were transferred to the King and he received the payments from their Christian debtors. Most Jews went to the next Duchy. Gradually, they were allowed to drift back.

- On March 31, 1492 AD (Jumada Thania 2, 897 Hijri), during the Spanish Inquisition period when Spain was ruled by King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, the **Al-Hambra Decree for the expulsion of all the Jews from Spain** was issued. The Jews were permitted to take their belongings with them, except gold or silver or minted money. The punishment for any Jew who did not convert to Catholicism or leave by the deadline was death without trial. It resulted in about 130,000 – 800,000 Jews leaving Spain for refuge in Portugal, North Africa and the Balkan region (ruled by the Ottomans), etc. More than half of the Jews went to Portugal, where they eluded persecution for only a few years. The deadline of the expulsion was originally July 31, 1492, but it was later postponed to **August 2, 1492 (Shawwal 8, 897 Hijri) (Av 9, 5252 Jewish)**. The next day, on **August 3, 1492**, **Christopher Columbus** set sailed on his first voyage that led him to discover the Americas. Thus, the first words Columbus wrote in his diary were: “After you expelled the Jews, your majesties sent me with a fleet.”

## 8. **Av 23 – 24**

**Av 23** is the **318<sup>th</sup> day** of the year that starts of **Tishri 1**.

**Av 23** is the **141<sup>st</sup> day** of the year that starts of **Nisan 1**.

The following events happened during this period:

- The first Crusade started their march from Europe on Friday August 15, 1096 AD (**Shaban 23**, 489 Hijri) (**Av 24**, 4856 Jewish), as set by **Pope Urban II** and conquered Jerusalem on Friday, **July 15**, 1099 AD Julian (July 21, 1099 Gregorian) (**Shaban 23**, 492 Hijri) (**Tammuz 23**, 4859 Jewish).

- On Saturday, **August 5, 1944 (Shaban 16 (or 15), 1363 Hijri) (Av 16, 5704 Jewish) (2431,307.5<sup>th</sup> or 2431,308<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**, during **World War II**, the **Wola (or Woli) massacre** (or *slaughter*) started. **Wola** is a district within **Warsaw, Poland**. It continued for 7 days till **August 12, 1944 (Shaban 23 (or 22), 1363 Hijri) (Av 23, 5704 Jewish)**. It was the systematic **killing of around 40,000 - 50,000 of Polish people** including women, children and patients in hospitals (without distinction was made between Polish civilians and resistance fighters) in organized mass executions throughout the Wola district of the Polish capital Warsaw by Nazi German troops during the Warsaw Uprising in 1944.

- **Barack Obama** was born on **Friday, August 4, 1961** Gregorian (July 22, 1961 Julian) (**Safar 22, 1381 Hijri) (Av 22, 5721 Jewish) (2437,515.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)** in Honolulu, Hawaii at 7:24 p.m. local time. Based on Jerusalem Time, it was 8:24 a.m. on **Saturday, August 5, 1961** Gregorian (**July 23, 1961 Julian) (Safar 23, 1381 Hijri) (Av 23, 5721 Jewish) (2437,516.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**.

- **Pope John Paul I** was born on **October 17 1912 (Zu Al-Qada 6, 1330 Hijri)**. After the death of **Pope Paul VI** on **August 6, 1978** who served as Pope for **15 years**, **Pope John Paul I** was elected on **August 26, 1978 (Ramadan 23, 1398 Hijri) (Av 23, 5738 Jewish)** and served as Pope for only 33 days till his death on **September 28, 1978 (Shawwal 25, 1398 Hijri) (Elul 25, 5738 Jewish)**. On **October 4, 1978 (Zu Al-Qada 3, 1398 Hijri)**, funeral services for **Pope John Paul I** were held in Saint Peter's Square in the Vatican.

- President of Israel, **Shimon Peres**, visited **Mosque of the Jazzar (Slaughterer)** in **Akka, Israel**, on Tuesday, **August 23, 2011 (Ramadan 23, 1432 Hijri) (Av 23, 5771 Jewish) (2455,796.5<sup>th</sup> Julian Day)**.

## 9. Kislev 24 - 25

**Kislev** is the **3<sup>rd</sup> month** of the year that starts of **Tishri 1**.  
**Kislev** is the **9<sup>th</sup> month** of the year that starts of **Nisan 1**.

The Jewish holiday of **Hanukkah** (also known as **Festival of Lights** or **Feast of Dedication**) starts of eve of **Kislev 25** and lasts for 8 days.

The following events happened during this period:

(1) On **Kislev 25 (3720 BC)**, in the year 41 after Creation, the **first murder in history** occurred. Adam and Eve's eldest son, **Cain, killed his younger brother, Abel**, according to the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter of Genesis in the Bible.

(2) On **Kislev 25 (1312 BC)**, **the components of the Mishkan were completed**. The **Mishkan** is the portable sanctuary or "Tabernacle" which was built under **Moses'** direction to house the Divine Presence and accompanied the Israelites during the Israelites' wandering in the desert for

40 years. However, the *Mishkan* was not dedicated until three months later.

(3) On **Kislev 25** (520 BC), the foundation of the **Second Temple** was laid.

When Persian King Cyrus conquered Babylonia in 538 BC, he allowed the Jews to return to Palestine. However, only a small percentage of the exile returned; and this small population managed only to build the Mizbeiach [altar] (Ezra 3:2-6). Attempts to begin construction of the new Temple were thwarted by the local non-Jewish population (Ezra 4:1-5).

In the Old Testament, Chapter 1 of Haggai describes Haggai's first call for action to build the Temple was delivered on the **1<sup>st</sup> day of the 6<sup>th</sup> month (Elul)**, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of King Darius (**520 BC**) (Haggai 1).

In Chapter Two of Haggai, on the **21<sup>st</sup> of the 7<sup>th</sup> month (Tishri)**, the last day of Jewish feast of Succot, Haggai provides the nation with additional words of encouragement (Haggai 2:1-9).

Furthermore, also in Chapter 2 of Haggai, Haggai delivers additional prophecy on the **24<sup>th</sup> of the 9<sup>th</sup> month (Kislev)**, on the day before construction was to begin - and most likely in anticipation of that ground-breaking ceremony. (Haggai 2:10, 15, & 18).

In the two prophecies that he delivers on this momentous day, Haggai emphasizes the same central points that he had made earlier. Not only will economic prosperity return (Haggai 2:15-20), but political sovereignty as well (Haggai 2:21-23):

The Children of Israel finally **completed construction of the Temple in the 6<sup>th</sup> year of Persian King Darius** (see Ezra 6:13-15).

**Haggai 2:10-23** says the following:

<sup>10</sup> On the **twenty-fourth day of the ninth month**, in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to the **prophet Haggai**: <sup>11</sup> “This is what the LORD Almighty says: Ask the priests what the law says: <sup>12</sup> If someone carries consecrated meat in the fold of their garment, and that fold touches some bread or stew, some wine, olive oil or other food, does it become consecrated?

The priests answered, “No.”

<sup>13</sup> Then Haggai said, “If a person defiled by contact with a dead body touches one of these things, does it become defiled?” “Yes,” the priests replied, “it becomes defiled.”

<sup>14</sup> Then Haggai said, “So it is with this people and this nation in my sight,” declares the LORD. “Whatever they do and whatever they offer there **is defiled**...

<sup>18</sup> give careful thought from this day and onwards, from this **twenty-fourth day of the ninth month**, from the day **the foundation of the Temple of the LORD** (Heikhal Hashem) has been laid. Give careful thought: <sup>19</sup> From this day onward, I will bless you.

<sup>20</sup> The word of the LORD came to Haggai a **second time** on the **twenty-fourth day of the month**: <sup>21</sup> “Tell Zerubbabel governor of Judah that **I am going to shake the heavens and the earth**. <sup>22</sup> I will **overturn royal thrones** and shatter the power of the foreign kingdoms. I will overthrow chariots and their drivers; horses and their riders will fall, each by the sword of his brother.

<sup>23</sup> “‘On that day,’ declares the LORD Almighty, ‘I will take you, my servant **Zerubbabel** son of Shealtiel,’ declares the LORD, ‘and I will make you like my signet ring, for **I have chosen you**,’ declares the LORD Almighty.”

(4) On **Kislev 25** (168 BC), the Greeks made pagan sacrifices in the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem.

In **167 (or 168) B.C., Greek Seleucid King Antiochus IV** [whose original name was Mithridates (a name derived from Mithra, a pagan god)]. **Antiochus** ordered an altar to **Zeus (Greek pagan god)** be erected in the Jewish Temple. He took away the treasures from the Jewish Temple and attempted to Hellenize the Jews by forbidding the Jews from keeping their holy traditions, such as: the Sabbath, kosher laws, studying their holy books, and circumcision. He desecrated the Altar of the Temple by sacrificing a forbidden, unclean pig on it. Sacrifice of pigs was a standard ritual practice in the Ancient Greek religion. The Temple was dedicated to the worship of Zeus Olympus (a god worshipped by pagan Greeks). An altar to Zeus was set up on the high altar. The Jews were forced to bow before it under penalty of death. **Antiochus** went so far as to **proclaim himself a god**, taking the title “**Epiphanes**”, meaning “**God manifest or the Visible God**”.

According to the Old Testament of the Bible:

<sup>54</sup> Now on the **fifteenth day of Kislev (or Kisleu)**, in the **one hundred and forty-fifth year (year 145 based on Seleucid Era corresponds 167 (or 168) B.C.)**, they erected a **desolating sacrilege** (abomination of desolation) upon the altar of burnt offering. They also built idol altars in the surrounding cities of Judah, <sup>55</sup> and burned incense at the doors of the houses and in the streets. <sup>56</sup> The **books of the law** which they found, they tore to pieces and burned with fire.

<sup>57</sup> Where the **book of the covenant** was found in the possession of any one, or **if any one adhered to the law**, the decree of the king condemned him to death. <sup>58</sup> They kept using violence against Israel, against those found month after month in the cities. <sup>59</sup> And **on the twenty-fifth day of the month**, they did **sacrifice upon the idol altar**, which was upon the altar of God. <sup>60</sup> According to the decree, they **put to death the women** who had their children **circumcised**, <sup>61</sup> and their families and those who circumcised them; and **they hung the infants** from their mothers’ necks.



<sup>62</sup> **But many in Israel stood firm** and were resolved in their hearts not to eat unclean food.

<sup>63</sup> **They chose to die rather than to be defiled** by food or to profane the holy covenant; and they did die. <sup>64</sup> And very great wrath came upon Israel.

(5) On **Kislev 25 (164 or 165 B.C.)**, the **Maccabean Revolt** led the practicing Jews to re-gain control of Jerusalem and re-dedicate the Jewish Temple to God.

(6) Some researchers believe **Jesus Christ** was born on **Kislev 25**, 3757 Jewish Calendar (5 BC). While other researchers believe that **Jesus Christ** was **conceived** by Mary on **Kislev 25**.

(7) On **Kislev 24, 5678 Jewish Calendar (December 9, 1917)** (Safar 24, **1336 Hijri**), after the Ottomans' defeat in Jerusalem against British invaders, the Ottoman Governor of Jerusalem sent a "Surrender Letter", delivered by Mayor of Jerusalem, **Hussein Al-Husseini**, to the British invaders. Field Marshal Edmund Allenby, head of the invading British forces, entered Jerusalem on foot, through the Jaffa Gate, on **December 11, 1917**.

(8) On **Kislev 25, 5686 Jewish Calendar (December 12, 1925 Gregorian) (November 29, 1925 Julian)** (Jumada Ula 26, 1344 Hijri), **Medina** surrendered to **Abdul Aziz Al-Saud's** forces.

(9) On **Kislev 25, 5729 Jewish Calendar (December 16, 1968) (Ramadan 25, 1388 Hijri)**, the order of the expulsion of the Jews of Spain (associated with *Tish'a B'Av* 1492) was officially voided by Spain on the first day of Hanukkah.