

# *Multi-Cultural and Diversity Newsletter*



## **Red Earth Native American Fair (Indigenous, USA)**

Sep 3- Cultural Festival takes place in Oklahoma City for 3 days. Over 150 Native tribes from U.S. and Canada gather in Downtown Oklahoma City to share and participate in their rich and diverse heritage through highest quality original art, drum and dance juried competitions.

## **Janmashtami (Hindu)**

Sep 6- This day is celebrated as the birth of Lord Krishna and his rescue from potential death by the demon Kansa. Lord Krishna was born in a prison, then carried by his father to another village where he was secretly exchanged with a cow herder's daughter for his safety.



## **Meskerem, New Year (Ethiopia)**

Sep 11- Coptic Orthodox Christians are found in all of Africa. They include Egypt, Libya, Sudan and Ethiopia. During the time of Pharaohs 4,000 years ago, the appearance of Soothis (Dog Star) marked the signal that the Nile River would rise, flooding the fertile plains so that planting could begin. The end of the rainy season became known as the New Year.

## **Rosh Hashanah/New Year (Jewish)**

Sep 15-17- It begins previous sundown at 6pm and observed for two days. Literally, 'Head of the Year' marks the first and second day of the Jewish New Year and the anniversary of the creation of the world. It ends 10 days later with Yom Kippur. It is celebrated with prayers and religious services.



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## **Keiro No Hi (Japan)**

Sep 18- Respect of the Aged Day, or Keiro No Hi, was established as a national holiday in 1966 to express respect for the elders in the community, and to recognise and thank them for their contributions to society and last but not least, celebrate their long lives.

## **Ganesh Chaturthi (Hindu)**

Sep 19-It is in honour of one of Hindu's major deity, Ganesh, the elephant-headed god. He is known as the 'remover of all obstacles' and is invoked at the beginning of all new undertakings.



## **Dashalakshani-Parva (Jain)**

Sep 20- Celebrated by the Digambara sect and lasts ten days, each day dedicated to a virtue: humility, honesty, purity, forgiveness, truthfulness, selfrestraint, asceticism, study, celibacy and detachment.

## **Heritage Day (South Africa)**

Sep 24- It is celebrated to reflect the cultural diversity and serves as a time for South Africans of various heritages to strengthen their bonds.



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## **Fiesta San Miguel (Mexico)**

Sep 28- The festival of the Archangel San Miguel is in honor of the Patron Saint of the city of San Miguel. Cultural, social, artistic and sporting events are held throughout the city, along with bullfights.

## **Eid-Maulad-un-Nabi (Islam)**

Sep 26-Sep 27- Anniversary of the birth of Prophet Muhammad. Some Muslims mark this occasion by special prayers, whilst other Muslims may mark the occasion by dedicating more time to reading the Koran.



## **Harvest Moon Festival (China, Hong Kong, Taiwan)**

Sep 29- he festival is celebrated with family reunions, moon gazing and eating of moon cakes. In Vietnam, it is called 'Trung Thu.' On that night children form a procession and travel through the streets with bright lanterns, singing and dancing to the beat of drums. In Korea it is called 'Chuseok'. It is observed by paying homage to ancestors and expressing gratitude for rich crops.

## **Chuseok (Korea)**

Sep 29- Chuseok is referred to as Korean Thanksgiving Day. It's a celebration of the harvest and thanksgiving for the bounty of the earth. Family members come from all over the country to visit their ancestral homes.



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## **Sukkot (Jewish)**

Sep 29-Oct 6- I begins previous sundown at 6pm. The Feast of Booths is a joyful harvest festival lasting 9 days. a little hut called 'sukkah' is built outdoors where families eat to remember the time Israelites wandered in the desert for 40 years, sleeping and eating under the stars.

## **Ksamavani (Jain)**

Sep 30- Ksamavani is the 'day of universal forgiveness' for wrongs committed by them and to them.



## **National Day of Truth and Reconciliation (Indigenous People, Canada)**

Sep 30- This day honours the survivors of the residential school system, their families, and communities.

### Reference

Khanna, A., Mody, P., Powers, S., Raza. R. (2023). Multicultural Calendar 2023. Toronto: O