



F.NO.2/6/2015-Public  
Government of Pakistan  
Ministry of Interior  
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Islamabad, the 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2016

**CIRCULAR**

Subject: **PUBLIC AND OPTIONAL HOLIDAYS FOR THE YEAR, 2016.**

The Public, Optional and Festivals of Minorities holidays for the calendar year 2016 would be as under :-

**PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**

Sr.	Name of Occasion	Days	Dates during year 2016
1	Kashmir Day	Friday	5 <sup>th</sup> February, 2016
2	Pakistan Day	Wednesday	23 <sup>rd</sup> March, 2016
3	Labour Day	Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup> May, 2016
4*	Eid-ul-Fitr, (1 <sup>st</sup> Shawal 1437A.H)	Wednesday, Thursday & Friday	6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> and July, 2016
5	Independence Day	Sunday	14 <sup>th</sup> August, 2016
6*	Eid-ul-Azha, (10 <sup>th</sup> Zil Haj 1437 A.H)	Monday & Tuesday	12 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup> September, 2016
7*	Ashura (9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> Moharum 1438 A.H)	Tuesday & Wednesday	11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> October, 2016
8*	Eid Milad-un-Nabi (12 Rabi-ul-Awal 1438A.H)	Monday	12 December, 2016
9	Quaid-e-Azam Day/ Christmas	Sunday	25 <sup>th</sup> December, 2016
10	Day after Christmas	Monday	26 <sup>th</sup> December, 2016 (For Christians only)

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

- i) 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2016 (Friday)
- ii) 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2016 (Friday)
- iii) 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2016 (Tuesday) corresponding to 1<sup>st</sup> Ramazan 1437AH  
(subject to appearance of moon).

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**NOTE**

Holidays for Muslim Festivals are subject to appearance of moon for which a separate Notification will be issued.

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**OPTIONAL HOLIDAYS**

Sr.	Name of Occasion	Days	Dates during year 2016
1	New Year Day	Friday	1 <sup>st</sup> January, 2016
2*	Giarhwin Sharief (11 Rabi-us-Sani 1437A.H)	Friday	22 <sup>nd</sup> January, 2016
3	Basant Punchami	Friday	12 <sup>th</sup> February, 2016
4	Shivaratri	Monday	7 <sup>th</sup> March, 2016
5	Holi	Wednesday	23 <sup>th</sup> March, 2016
6	Dulhandi	Thursday	24 <sup>th</sup> March, 2016
7	Good Friday	Friday	25 <sup>th</sup> March, 2016
9	Easter / Day After Easter	Sunday / Monday	27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> March, 2016
7	Baisakhi	Thursday	14 <sup>th</sup> April, 2016
8	Eid-e-Rizwan (Bahai's Community only)	Thursday	21 <sup>st</sup> April, 2016
12*	Shab-e-Meraj (27 Rajab 1437 A.H)	Thursday	5 <sup>th</sup> May, 2016
11	Buddha Purnima	Saturday	21 <sup>st</sup> May, 2016
13*	Shab-e-Barat (15 Shaban 1437 A.H)	Monday	23 <sup>rd</sup> May, 2016
14	Nauroze (Parsi's New Year Day)	Wednesday	17 <sup>th</sup> August, 2016
15	Birthday of Lord Zoroaster. (Khordad Sal)	Monday	22 <sup>nd</sup> August, 2016
16	Janam Ashtami	Thursday	25 <sup>th</sup> August, 2016
17	Durga Pooja	Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup> October, 2016
18	Dussehra	Tuesday	11 <sup>th</sup> October, 2016
20	Diwali	Sunday	30 <sup>th</sup> October, 2016
21	Guru Nanak's Birthday	Monday	14 <sup>th</sup> November, 2016
19	Birthday of Guru Valmik Sawami Ji	Wednesday	16 <sup>th</sup> November, 2016
22*	Chelum (20 Safar 1438A.H)	Monday	21 <sup>st</sup> November, 2016

**NOTE:**

- In case of Muslim Festivals, the dates of Optional holidays are based on anticipated dates and are subject to appearance of moon.
3. Government servants desiring to avail themselves of Optional Holidays shall take prior permission of the Head of Office concerned and no Government Servant shall be granted more than one optional holiday in the case of Muslims and three optional holidays in the case of non-Muslims, in a calendar year.
  4. The grant of this concession should not result in any dislocation of work. In the case of Muslim optional holidays, the number of persons permitted to avail optional holidays should be regulated in a manner so as to leave adequate staff for proper continuance of the work.
  5. The optional holidays are denominational and may be allowed at the discretion of the Head of Office, provided the state of work permits.

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



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