
#### Abstract

Knesset facebook print send to friend comment Knesset readies for new session Aside from Gantz, Ashkenazi and Gabbay, more than 40 new Knesset members gathered for orientation, including a tour of the refurbished premises, ahead of Tuesday's opening session; Adelstein: 'keep in mind why you're here' Inbar Tvizer|Published: 04.29.19, 19:18 Israel's parliament, the Knesset, is preparing for the start of a new session Tuesday with 49 new members. Orientation was held for the new members Monday and included a tour of the premises and an explanation of how the wheels of government turn.


Benny Gantz and Gabi Ashkenazi, senior members of the main opposition Blue and White Party, were not present at Monday's orientation. Labor Chairman Avi Gabbay, who was a minister but never a MK, was also absent.

Regarding Gantz's absence, his fellow party member Yoaz Hendel said: "I don't know why they are not present, but from what I understand heads of parties generally do not attend such events. I am sure that we will do our parliamentary work in the best possible manner. I see myself as a servant of the public."

The Knesset chamber also received a facelift: a new blue carpet was installed, the walls painted, accessibility measures for the disabled were added and Israeli flags were hung behind the Speaker's chair.
"It is exciting and joyful to be here," said new Likud MK Keren Barak. "I hope to be placed in a senior committee position. I am concerned with the rift that was formed among the nation during the election season and I hope that the campaign battles are over and are left behind. The opposition must internalize that Benjamin Netanyahu was elected prime minister and I hope that we can cooperate in order to attain good results."

Eli Avidar of Yisrael Beytenu said: "I am excited to be here. 52 years ago, I left Egypt as a refugee in my mother's arms and I am excited to come full circle and be sworn in as an MK." He added that his party does not fear being in the opposition if coalition negotiations go sour.

Remember why you're here Speaker of the K nesset Yuli Edelstein told the fresh MKs to "censor themselves with regards to legislation and focus on keeping tabs on the government. Only 4\% of proposed bills make it to the lawbooks. It is an unnecessary gimmick that wastes public funds. When we keep tabs on the government, we are serving the best interests of the citizens of Israel."

Edelstein reminded them to remember why they were elected to office and that "money and public service can also be accomplished outside of government... When you know the goal, the rest will fall into place."

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Islamic Holidays, 2010-2030 (A.H. 1431-1452)
Here are the dates of the most important Islamic holidays through 2030. These holidays move in the Western (Gregorian) calendar year since the Islamic (or Hijri) calendar is a lunar calendar, instead of a solar calendar. The Hijri year is usually ten days shorter than the Gregorian year. There are a few different versions, such as the Solar Hijri calendar used in Iran (which is a solar calendar) and the Tabular Hijri calendar (which is mathematically derived, much like how Jewish calendar was changed in the past).

Due to how the Hijri calendar rotates, the Hijri years are given as well to help clarify the chronology of events relative to the Gregorian calendar. As well, since the traditional Hijri calendar is observational instead of mathematical (based on when phases of the moon can be seen) the start dates aren't always perfectly predictable.
$\begin{array}{llll}\text { Year } & \begin{array}{l}\text { Start of Muharram1 } \\ \text { Eid al-Adha5 }\end{array} & \text { Mawlid al-Nabi2 } & \text { Start of Ramadan3 }\end{array}$ Eid al-Fitr4

2010 Dec. 6 (A.H. 1432) Feb. 26 (A.H. 1431) Aug. 11 (A.H. 1431) Sept. 10 (A.H. 1431) Nov. 15 (A.H. 1431)

2011 Nov. 26 (A.H. 1433) Feb. 16 (A.H. 1432) Aug. 1 (A.H. 1432) Aug. 31 (A.H.
1432) Nov. 6, (A.H. 1432)

2012 Nov. 15 (A.H. 1434) Feb. 5 (A.H. 1433) July 20 (A.H. 1433) Aug. 19 (A.H.
1433) Oct. 26 (A.H. 1433)

2013 Nov. 5 (A.H. 1435) Jan. 24 (A.H. 1434) July 9 (A.H. 1434) Aug. 8 (A.H.
1434) Oct. 15 (A.H. 1434)

2014 Oct. 25 (A.H. 1436) Jan. 13 (A.H. 1435) June 29 (A.H. 1435) July 29 (A.H.
1435) Oct. 4 (A.H. 1435)

2015 Oct. 14 (A.H. 1437) Jan. 3 (A.H. 1436) \&
Dec. 24 (A.H. 1437) June 18 (A.H. 1436) July 18 (A.H. 1436) Sept. 24 (A.H. 1436)
2016 Oct. 2 (A.H. 1438) Dec. 12 (A.H. 1438) June 7 (A.H. 1437) July 6 (A.H.
1437) Sept. 13 (A.H. 1437)

2017 Sept. 21 (A.H. 1439) Dec. 1 (A.H. 1439) May 27 (A.H. 1438) June 26 (A.H.
1438) Sept. 2 (A.H. 1438)

2018 Sept. 11 (A.H. 1440) Nov. 21 (A.H. 1440) May 16 (A.H. 1439) June 15 (A.H. 1439) Aug. 22 (A.H. 1439)

2019 Aug. 31 (A.H. 1441) Nov. 9 (A.H. 1441) May 6 (A.H. 1440) June 4 (A.H.
1440) Aug. 11 (A.H. 1440)

2020 Aug. 20 (A.H. 1442) Oct. 29 (A.H. 1442) April 24 (A.H. 1441) May 24 (A.H. 1441) July 31 (A.H. 1441)

2021 Aug. 9 (A.H. 1443) Oct. 19 (A.H. 1443) April 13 (A.H. 1442) May 13 (A.H. 1442) July 20 (A.H. 1442)

2022 July 30 (A.H. 1444) Oct. 8 (A.H. 1444) April 3 (A.H. 1443) May 3 (A.H.
1443) July 10 (A.H. 1443)

2023 July 19 (A.H. 1445) Sep. 27 (A.H. 1445) Mar. 23 (A.H. 1444) April 22 (A.H.
1444) June 29 (A.H. 1444)

2024 July 7 (A.H. 1446) Sep. 16 (A.H. 1446) Mar. 11 (A.H. 1445) April 10 (A.H.
1445) June 17 (A.H. 1445)

2025 June 26 (A.H. 1447) Sep. 5 (A.H. 1447) Mar. 1 (A.H. 1446) Mar. 31 (A.H.
1446) June 7 (A.H. 1446)

2026 June 16 (A.H. 1448) Aug. 26 (A.H. 1448) Feb. 18 (A.H. 1447) Mar. 20 (A.H.
1447) May 27 (A.H. 1447)

2027 June 6 (A.H. 1449) Aug. 15 (A.H. 1449) Feb. 8 (A.H. 1448) Mar. 10 (A.H.
1448) May 17 (A.H. 1448)

2028 May 25 (A.H. 1450) Aug. 3 (A.H. 1450) Jan. 28 (A.H. 1449) Feb. 27 (A.H.
1449) May 5 (A.H. 1449)

2029 May 14 (A.H. 1451) July 24 (A.H. 1451) Jan. 16 (A.H. 1450) Feb. 15 (A.H.
1450) April 24 (A.H. 1450)

2030 May 3 (A.H. 1452) July 13 (A.H. 1452) Jan. 6 (A.H. 1451) \&
Dec. 26 (A.H. 1452) Feb. 5 (A.H. 1451) April 14 (A.H. 1451)
NOTE: All holidays begin at sundown on the evening before the date given.

1. Islamic New Year (Muharram is the first month of the Hijra calendar)
2. Muhammad's Birthday. Dates for Shia Muslims are five days later than the Sunni date given here.
3. The ninth month of the Hijri calendar, in which Muslims fast daily.
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The Hijri calendar contains other important dates for the world's Muslims. Four months of the year are designated as months in which war can't be waged (with the exception of jihad). This include Dhul-Hijjah, the month of the year during which Muslims take their Hajj. Eid al-Adha marks the most important day of the Hajj.

See also Ramadan; Islam Primer; Islamic Calendar, and Major Islamic Holidays.

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| Year | Start of Muharram | $\frac{\text { Mawlid }}{\text { al-Nabi }}$ | Start <br> of Rama dan | $\frac{\text { Eid al- }}{\text { Fitr }}$ | Eid alAdha: |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2010 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Dec. } 6 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1432) } \end{aligned}$ | Feb. 26 (A.H. 1431) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aug. } 11 \text { (A.H. } \\ & 1431 \text { ) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Sept. } \\ & 10 \\ & \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1431) } \end{aligned}$ | Nov. 15 <br> (A.H. <br> 1431) |
| 2011 | Nov. 26 (A.H. 1433) | Feb. 16 (A.H. 1432) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aug. } 1 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1432) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aug. } \\ & 31 \\ & \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1432) } \end{aligned}$ | Nov. 6, (A.H. 1432) |
| 2012 | Nov. 15 (A.H. 1434) | Feb. 5 (A.H. 1433) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { July } 20 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1433) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aug. } \\ & 19 \\ & \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1433) } \end{aligned}$ | Oct. 26 (A.H. 1433) |


| Year | Start of Muharram | $\frac{\text { Mawlid }}{\text { al-Nabi: }}$ | Start of Rama dan | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Eid al- } \\ & \hline \text { Fitr } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Eid al- } \\ & \text { Adha: } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2013 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nov. } 5 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1435) } \end{aligned}$ | Jan. 24 (A.H. 1434) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { July } 9 \text { (A.H. } \\ & 1434 \text { ) } \end{aligned}$ | Aug. 8 (A.H. 1434) | Oct. 15 (A.H. 1434) |
| 2014 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Oct. } 25 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1436) } \end{aligned}$ | Jan. 13 <br> (A.H. <br> 1435) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { June } 29 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1435) } \end{aligned}$ | July 29 (A.H. 1435) | Oct. 4 (A.H. 1435) |
| 2015 | Oct. 14 (A.H. 1437) | Jan. 3 <br> (A.H. <br>  <br> Dec. 24 <br> (A.H. <br> 1437) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { June } 18 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1436) } \end{aligned}$ | July 18 (A.H. 1436) | Sept. <br> 24 <br> (A.H. <br> 1436) |
| 2016 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Oct. } 2 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1438) } \end{aligned}$ | Dec. 12 (A.H. 1438) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { June } 7 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1437) } \end{aligned}$ | July 6 (A.H. 1437) | Sept. <br> 13 <br> (A.H. <br> 1437) |
| 2017 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Sept. } 21 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1439) } \end{aligned}$ | Dec. 1 (A.H. 1439) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May } 27 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1438) } \end{aligned}$ | June 26 (A.H. 1438) | Sept. 2 (A.H. 1438) |
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| 2019 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aug. } 31 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1441) } \end{aligned}$ | Nov. 9 (A.H. 1441) | May 6 (A.H. <br> 1440) | June 4 (A.H. 1440) | Aug. 11 (A.H. 1440) |
| 2020 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aug. } 20 \text { (A.H. } \\ & 1442 \text { ) } \end{aligned}$ | Oct. 29 (A.H. 1442) | April 24 <br> (A.H. 1441) | May 24 (A.H. 1441) | July 31 (A.H. 1441) |
| 2021 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aug. } 9 \text { (A.H. } \\ & 1443 \text { ) } \end{aligned}$ | Oct. 19 (A.H. 1443) | April 13 <br> (A.H. 1442) | May 13 (A.H. 1442) | July 20 (A.H. 1442) |


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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2022 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { July } 30 \text { (A.H. } \\ & 1444 \text { ) } \end{aligned}$ | Oct. 8 (A.H. <br> 1444) | April 3 (A.H. <br> 1443) | May 3 (A.H. 1443) | July 10 (A.H. 1443) |
| 2023 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { July } 19 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1445) } \end{aligned}$ | Sep. 27 (A.H. 1445) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mar. } 23 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1444) } \end{aligned}$ | April <br> 22 <br> (A.H. <br> 1444) | June 29 (A.H. 1444) |
| 2024 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { July } 7 \text { (A.H. } \\ & 1446 \text { ) } \end{aligned}$ | Sep. 16 (A.H. <br> 1446) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mar. } 11 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1445) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { April } \\ & 10 \\ & \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1445) } \end{aligned}$ | June 17 (A.H. 1445) |
| 2025 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { June } 26 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1447) } \end{aligned}$ | Sep. 5 (A.H. 1447) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mar. } 1 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1446) } \end{aligned}$ | Mar. <br> 31 <br> (A.H. <br> 1446) | June 7 (A.H. 1446) |
| 2026 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { June } 16 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1448) } \end{aligned}$ | Aug. 26 (A.H. <br> 1448) | Feb. 18 (A.H. 1447) | Mar. <br> 20 <br> (A.H. <br> 1447) | May 27 (A.H. 1447) |
| 2027 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { June } 6 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1449) } \end{aligned}$ | Aug. 15 (A.H. <br> 1449) | Feb. 8 (A.H. 1448) | Mar. <br> 10 <br> (A.H. <br> 1448) | May 17 (A.H. 1448) |
| 2028 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May } 25 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1450) } \end{aligned}$ | Aug. 3 <br> (A.H. <br> 1450) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jan. } 28 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1449) } \end{aligned}$ | Feb. 27 (A.H. 1449) | May 5 (A.H. 1449) |
| 2029 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May } 14 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1451) } \end{aligned}$ | July 24 (A.H. 1451) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jan. } 16 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1450) } \end{aligned}$ | Feb. 15 (A.H. 1450) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { April } \\ & 24 \\ & \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1450) } \end{aligned}$ |
| 2030 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May } 3 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1452) } \end{aligned}$ | July 13 (A.H. 1452) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jan. } 6 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1451) \& } \\ & \text { Dec. } 26 \text { (A.H. } \\ & \text { 1452) } \end{aligned}$ | Feb. 5 (A.H. 1451) | April <br> 14 <br> (A.H. <br> 1451) |

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See also Ramadan; Islam Primer; Islamic Calendar, and Major Islamic Holidays.

## See a

Each month began with the New Moon and lasted 29 or 30 days to render $354 / 5$ day years.

## The Twelve Athenian Civil Lunar months (in order) we re:

Hekatombaion.
Metageitnion.
Boidromion.
Pyanopsion.
Maimakterion.
Poseidon.
Gamelion.
Anthesterion.
Athenian months were named Hekatombion, Metageitnion, Boedromion, Pyanepsion, Maimakterion, Poseidon, Gamelion, Anthesterion, Elaphebolion, Munychion, Thargelion, and Skirophorion.

Polysyllabic
RUMINATIONS ON GRAMMAR, LINGUISTICS, STANDARDIZED TESTS, AND ANYTHING ELSE THAT STRIKES MY FANCY
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CALENDAR HISTORY
NAVIGATING GRAMMAR
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The Ancient Greek Calendar
Of all ancient calendrical systems, the Greek is the most confusing. The Greek Calendar is much like ancient Greece itself. It shared a certain basic similarity from region to region, but each city-state kept its own version. All the Greek calendars were lunisolar and shared the same basic features of the other lunisolar calendars we've examined so far: twelve months, with a periodic intercalation of a thirteenth.
The Athenian calendar is the best known and most intensively studied, and I shall therefore use it as a model. The Athenian months were named Hekatombion, Metageitnion, Boedromion, Pyanepsion, Maimakterion, Poseidon, Gamelion, Anthesterion, Elaphebolion, Munychion, Thargelion, and Skirophorion. (For a list of the known month names in other Greek areas, see Ginzel, vol. 2, pp. 335-6). The intercalary month usually came after Poseidon, and was called second Poseidon. Hekatombion, and hence the beginning of the year, fell in the summer. Other Greek regions started their year at different times (e.g., Sparta, Macedonia in fall, Delos in winter).

For the historian inclined towards tidy orderliness, the regrettable fact is that the Athenians were simply unwilling to stick to a completely regular calendar, which makes reconstruction difficult. Their irregularity was not from lack of astronomical knowledge. In 432 BCE, the Athenian astronomer Meton instituted his 19-year cycle, fix ing regular intercalations (whether Meton got this cycle from Babylonia or discovered it himself is not known). From that point, a small group of Greek astronomers used the Metonic cycle in the ir calculations, but this should be regarded as an astronomer's ideal calendar. Abundant epigraphical evidence demonstrates that in the civil calendar, while the archons inserted approximately the correct number of intercalary months over the long term, the specific corrections were somewhat arbitrary, as the archons saw fit. This irregularity doesn't really affect the long-term workings of the calendar, but it does make things very confusing when trying to establish a precise date for an event.

The Athenians seem to have taken a rather casual attitude towards the ir calendar. It appears they used neither a regular formula nor continuous direct observation to determine the length of the months. Most likely, they followed a general rule of alternating months ( 29 and 30 days long), subject to periodic correction by observation.

In addition to this calendar, which has been called the festival calendar, Athenians maintained a second calendar for the political year. This "conciliar" year divided the year into "prytanies," one for each of the "phylai," the subdivisions of Athenian citizens. The number of phylai, and hence the number of prytanies, varies over time. Until 307 BCE , there were 10 phylai.

After that the number varies between 11 and 13 (usually 12). Even more confusing, while the conciliar and festival years were basically the same length in the 4th century BCE, such was not regularly the case earlier or later. Thus documents dated by prytany are frequently very difficult to assign to a particular equivalent in the Julian calendar, although we are usually secure in assigning an approximate date. Since the prytany will
play no role in my argument for establishing a basic chronology, I will not go into the intricacies here. The references cited below, however, go into the problem in mindnumbing detail.

Ordinary records of Greek city-states were dated according to the eponymous year of the person in power, be that the archon, king, priest of Hera, etc. For Athens, our list of archons from the 4 th c . BCE to the later 1st c. CE is complete for all but a few years, which is a great help in verifying our chronology. Regional eponymous years, however, are awkward for historians trying to correlate the various areas, a problem no less evident to the ancient Greek historians than it is to us. The solution that seemed obvious to them was to reckon time by the intervals between Olympiads, in addition to giving eponymous years.

That the Olympics were held every four years is well known, but some evidence for that assertion is not out of place. Ancient writers all refer to the Olympics as a 5-year period (in Greek, pentaeterikoi, Latin quinquennales). This might seem strange, but Greeks and Romans most commonly counted inclusively; that is to say:

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    1 2 3 3 4 5
Olympiad . . . Olympiad
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which we would call a four-year interval. NB: our way of counting implies a zero start, a concept both Greeks and Romans lacked. Since the Greek calendars all differed slightly, you might wonder how everyone managed to get to the games on time. The Pindar scholiast claims that for the early Olympiads, the festival was held alternately after 49 or 50 months, which is essentially equivalent to four years in a lunisolar calendar. This scheme makes perfect sense, because no matter what specific intercalary months the various cities did or did not decide to include, they could all simply count forward to 49 or 50 . It also implies, by the way, that a rule of 8 years $=99$ months was being used to determine this interval (although not that every Greek city used this formula for their own intercalations).

Since the Olympiad was a summer festival, it was eventually correlated to the Attic (Athenian) calendar, so as to begin on Hekatombion 1, which might imply a certain agreement about when intercalations should be added, or simply indicate Athenian cultural dominance.

Ancient historians date by Olympiad by giving both the number of the Olympiad and the year within the cycle, 1-4 (the Olympiad itself was held on year 1). Additionally, lists of Olympic winners were maintained, and the 3 rd c . BCE writer Timaios compiled a synchronic list comparing Olympic winners, Athenian archons, Spartan kings, and the priests of Hera from Argos.

Olympiad 1,1 correlates to 776 BCE. We do not actually need to believe an actual festival was held on this date, but when Greek historians are writing in later times, they date their own events using this as the epoch. We can establish a precise correlation to the common era from a variety of different sources, but the most definitive comes from a
passage in Diodorus, where he dates the year of a total solar eclipse to the reign of the Athenian archon Hieromnemon, which he also gives as Ol. 117,3. The only astronomically possible date for this event is August $15,310 \mathrm{BCE}$, which fixes our epoch.

One thing to be wary of with reckoning by Olympiad is that writers calculated the start of the year by their local convention (spring, summer, winter, or fall). For example O1. 1,1 correspond to Fall, 777 - Fall 776 BCE by Macedonian reckoning. Byzantine writers who use Olympiads take the year to begin on September 1.

Most of the other eras used by Greek writers are of little importance. One worth mentioning, however, is the Trojan Era (from the destruction of Troy), which is found in a number of historians' works. This date, of course, is purely conventional, and can be seen as analogous to the various world eras (e.g., Hillel's above). A wide variety of starting points are found, but the one with the widest currency, developed by Eratosthenes, set it 407 years before the first Olympiad (1183 BCE).

THEORYBIN: Cy2653 (1411BC) is 407 from st $^{\text {st }}$ Oly in cy3060 (1004BC)
Homer's Iliad written in cy3345 (729BC) Homer's Iliad written in cy3345 (729BC)

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