



**MORE RACIALLY
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Global majority heritage/UK minority ethnic (GMH/UKME) cultural events

A list of annual celebrations

2024

GMH/UKME cultural events 2024

Date	Event	Explanation
January		
4	World Braille Day	Celebrating the importance of braille for as a means of communication in the full realisation of human rights for blind and visually impaired people
17	World Religion Day	Highlighting the idea that spiritual principles underlying the world's religions play an important role in unifying humanity
26	Republic Day of India	Honouring the day on which the constitution of India came into effect (a national holiday in India)
27	Holocaust Memorial Day	Commemorating the victims of the Holocaust
February		
1	National Freedom Day	Celebrating the signing of the 13th Amendment that abolished slavery in 1865
4	Sri Lanka Independence Day	Commemorating the country's political independence from British rule in 1948
7	UK Race Equality Week	Highlighting the injustices of racism in all its forms
7	Grenada Independence Day	Commemorating the country becoming an independent nation in 1974
13	Racial Justice Sunday	Remembering, reflecting and responding to issues of racial inequality
15	Lantern Festival	Marking the end of Chinese New Year
March		
6	Ghana Independence Day	Commemorating independence from Britain in 1957
10	Harriet Tubman Day	Leader of the underground railroad who helped slaves escape to freedom
21	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	Advancing equality and combatting racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
25	International Remembrance Day for Victims of Slavery	Honouring and remembering those who suffered and died as a consequence of the transatlantic slave trade and raising awareness about the dangers of racism and prejudice today
April		
5	Pandita Ramabai's Day of Recognition	Translator evangelist in India
17	Syria Independence Day	Commemorating the end of the French mandate in 1946
18	Zimbabwe Independence Day	Commemorating independence from Britain in 1980
22	Stephen Lawrence Day	A day of remembrance honouring his life and the fight against racism
27	South Africa Freedom Day	Commemorating the first post-apartheid elections and the new constitution being announced in 1994
27	Sierra Leone Independence Day	Commemorating independence from Britain in 1961

May		
19	Malcolm X's birthday	Civil rights leader
20	Asian Gold Ribbon Day	Standing in solidarity against anti-Asian racism
21	World Day for Cultural Diversity	Celebrating the richness of the world's cultures
25	George Floyd Day	A day of remembrance honouring his life and the fight against racism
26	Guyana Independence Day	Commemorating independence from Britain in 1966
28	Ethiopia Derg Downfall Day	Celebrating the defeat of the ruling Marxist-Leninist military junta, the Derg, by the rebel coalition Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) in 1991
30	Apolo Kivebulaya Commemoration Day	Ugandan Anglican priest, evangelist and pioneer in the Democratic Republic of Congo
June		
12	Race Unity Day	Raising awareness of the importance of racial harmony and understanding
12	Philippines Independence Day	Commemorating the declaration of Philippine independence from Spain in 1898
15	Bishop Wilfred Wood's birthday	First Black Church of England Bishop
22	UK Windrush Day	Celebrating the arrival of those from the Caribbean former colonies in 1948
27	Helen Keller's birthday	Celebrating the pioneer in advocating for people with disabilities
July		
4	USA Independence Day	Commemorating the Declaration of Independence, which was ratified by the Second Continental Congress in 1776, establishing the USA
6	Malawi Independence Day	Commemorating independence from Britain in 1964
18	South Asian Heritage Month (until 17 August)	Exploring the shared cultures and histories of the UK and Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and the Maldives
23	Egypt Revolution Day	Celebrating the anniversary of the Egyptian Revolution of 1952 which led to the declaration of the modern republic of Egypt
30	Morocco Throne Day	Celebrating the day of the King's accession to the throne – the first was held in 1933 to recognise the accession of Mohammed V of Morocco in 1927
30	Olaudah Equiano	Writer and abolitionist celebrated in a Lesser Festival common worship
August		
1	Emancipation Day	Celebrating the day that the Slavery Abolition Act came into effect across the British Empire in 1834
6	Jamaica Independence Day	Celebrating the nation's independence from Britain in 1962
12	Blessed Isidor Bakanja	A martyr and witness to reconciliation, celebrated by the Carmelites on his Feast Day
14	Pakistan Establishment Day	Commemorating the founding of the country in 1947
15	India Independence Day	Commemorating independence from Britain in 1947
31	Malaysia Merdeka/ Independence	Commemorating independence from Britain in 1957
31	Trinidad Independence Day	Commemorating independence from Britain in 1962

September		
7	Brazil Independence Day	Celebrating Brazil's Declaration of Independence from the United Kingdom of Portugal, Brazil and the Algarves in 1822
18	International Equal Pay Day	Highlighting the efforts towards the achievement of equal pay for work of equal value
October		
–	Black History Month	Celebrating, remembering and reflecting on the contributions of African and Caribbean heritage people to the British economy, culture and history
1	Nigeria Independence Day	Commemorating independence from Britain in 1960
9	Uganda Independence Day	Commemorating independence from Britain in 1962
10	World Mental Health Day	Raising awareness of mental health issues around the world
18	Anti-Slavery Day	Raising awareness of human trafficking and modern slavery
20	Show Racism the Red Card's 'Wear Red Day'	Utilising the high-profile status of football and other sports players to help tackle racism in society
24	Zambia Independence Day	Commemorating independence from Britain in 1964
November		
1	Antigua Independence Day	Commemorating independence from Britain in 1981
1	Algeria Revolution Day	Commemorating the start of the Algerian War of Independence, a pivotal moment in the nation's history that led to the liberation from French colonial rule
9	Nepal Constitution Day	Commemorating the 2015 constitution of Nepal, which signified the country's shift from being ruled by a constitutional monarchy to becoming a federal republic
11	Remembrance Day	Celebrating the contributions from people of colour throughout the diaspora including the British West Indies Regiment (BWIR) who were a black battalion who supported the WW1 effort
16	UK Disability History Month (until 16 December)	Focusing on the history of the struggle for equality and human rights for people with disabilities
30	Barbados Independence Day	Commemorating independence from Britain in 1966
December		
2	International Day for the Elimination of Slavery	Celebrating the ends of slavery and remembering the victims
3	International Day of Persons with Disabilities	Promoting the dignity, rights and wellbeing of people with disabilities
9	Tanzania Independence Day	Commemorating independence from Britain in 1961



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