

MEANING

- “Rejoicing of the Torah.”
- It is a joyful holiday that marks the completion and the restarting of the annual Torah reading cycle. The Torah is the principal scripture of the Jewish religion.

GREETINGS

- Chag Sameach (“A good holiday!” – Hebrew).
- Gut Yontif (“A good holiday!” - Yiddish).

WHEN

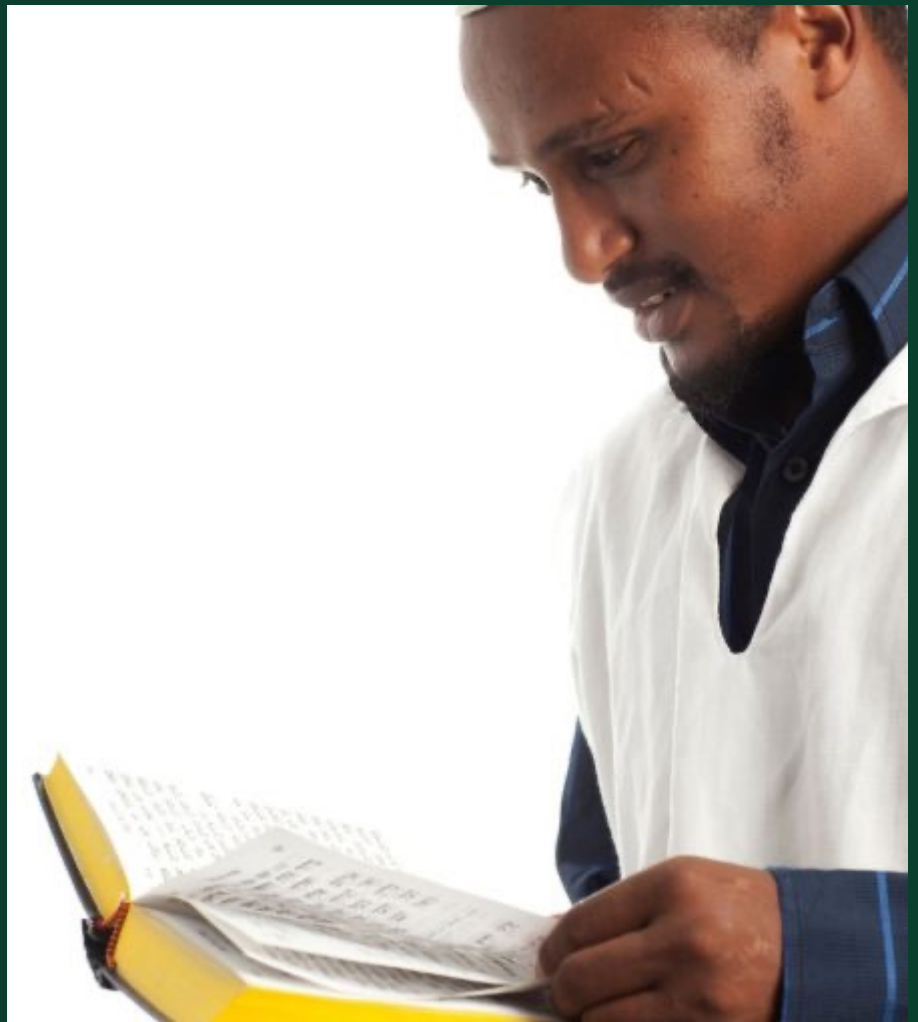
- Hebrew Calendar: 23 Tishrei.
- Western Calendar: September or October.
- Simchat Torah begins at sundown, at the conclusion of the holiday of Shemini Atzeret. It concludes at sundown the next day.

COMMON PRACTICES

- The completion of the annual cycle of Torah readings is celebrated by dancing and parading the Torah through the synagogue. The last verses of the last book of the Torah and then the first verses of the first book of the Torah are read with great joy, and the giving and receiving of special blessings.
- Simchat Torah is considered a “holy day” when work is prohibited in Jewish law.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?

Email: inclusion@msu.edu



Simchat Torah

Hebrew

[Sim·chat Toh·ruh](#)



- Some Jewish students, staff, and faculty will observe Simchat Torah as a time when work is prohibited by Jewish law, meaning that they will not be able to use electricity, answer phone calls or text messages, respond to emails, drive, take tests or exams, write, or attend work or work-related events.
- Jewish students, staff and faculty may need to travel during this time to spend the holiday with family or friends.
- Students, staff and faculty should be given the opportunity to reschedule any tests, exams, or study or work activities that must be scheduled on Simchat Torah.

Type of Calendar:

Hebrew (lunisolar)



FOR MORE INFO VISIT:

provost.msu.edu

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