

# 2007



foto:Vlado Kiprijanovski

The Macedonian Center for International Cooperation (MCIC), is an organization of the civil society, whose goal is to encourage, support and develop local, regional and international initiatives for promotion of sustainable development of human resources in Macedonia and beyond.

Since 2003, MCIC is implementing joint activities with the Churches and religious communities, through its programme Bridging Religions in Macedonia (MSM). They are including: exchange visits (between Theological Faculties, as well as to religious objects) and lectures; trainings (basic skills, like English language and computer courses; project cycle management; organisational strengthening), information (comparative studies; bulletin of inter-religious cooperation, directory of religious communities, calendars).

The goal of the program is to enrich mutual cooperation of religious communities and improve the understanding about them among the entire public in Macedonia.

The specific target group are members and activists of all religious communities in Macedonia, with a focus on students from their respective educational institutions (Theological High Schools and Faculties).

The program came as a result of the initiative for cooperation expressed by the representatives of the religious communities in Macedonia, as well as students and professors of the two faculties of theology (Faculty of Theology and Faculty for Islamic Sciences) in Macedonia.

MCIC is implementing this program together with the Macedonian Orthodox Church; Islamic Religious Community in the Republic of Macedonia; Catholic Church; Evangelist-Methodist Church; Jewish Community in the Republic of Macedonia, as well as other registered religious communities in Macedonia.

This Calendar is part of the activities in the MSM program. It contains holidays, fasts and commemoration days of the religions practiced in Macedonia. Main motive for this concrete calendar is emphasising the joint cultural heritage on these territories, through comparative display of similarities in certain elements of religious objects of different religious communities. That is the contribution of MCIC and partners in the program to the inter-religious cooperation in Macedonia and we believe it would be also useful for you.

The Program is financially supported by the Danish and Norwegian Governments, in cooperation with the DanChurchAid (DCA) and Norwegian Church Aid (NCA).



The church St. Panteleimon, 19 century, work of Andreja Damjanov, the famous builder and panorama of Veles

# January

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Let us love one another, for love is of God; and every one that loves is born of God, and knows God. He that loves not knows not God, for God is love.

(1 John. 4,7-8)

And with those who believe in the Book speak as it should, and therefore say: "We trust in what we are told and in what you are told, that our and your God is - One and we give ourselves to Him"

(Koranm el-Ankebut, 29:46)

- 01.01.2007 Holy Mother - celebration in commemoration of Mary, who through the Holy Spirit become Holy Mother
- 06.01.2007 Epiphany - this is the day when the Holy Three Tzars are celebrated: Gaspar, Melhior and Baltazar who came from East to bow before Christ in the Vetleem Cave
- 07.01.2007 Christs - Christ's Birth - the birth of our Seviour, God Jesus Christ is celebrated. People greet with „Christ is born” and respond with „Indeed he is born”. tex
- 14.01.2007 Circumcision - celebration in commemoration of the circumcision of Lord Jesus Christ in the Jerusalem temple on the eight day of His birth. This day is also dedicated to the Saint Basil the Great, and marks the beginning of the new year according to Julijan Calendar.
- 19.01.2007 Epiphany - The Holy Water Day - The feast is established in commemoration of the baptism of Christ. On this day the God Jesus Christ was baptized by the Saint John the Baptist in the River Jordan, when the whole Holy Trinity is announced. On this day the cross is tossed into the River, and the water that is blessed is healing and is kept during the whole year.
- 20.01.2007 (01 Muharram 1428) Hidret - emigration of Muhammad a.s. with his followers from his birth place Mecca to Medina. For the Moslems, the day of Muhammad's emigration a.s indicates the beginning of Moslem New Year. This event happened 623 years after Isa's birth a.s.
- 29.01.2007 (10 Muharram 1428) Ashure Day - the tenth day of the first month of Hidret New Year. According to Worshipped Koran, the month of Muharram is one of the four great months, while the night of Ashure is the greatest night in this month. At the same time it is the day of the death of Muharram's grandson a.s. and son of Hazreti Aliah, Hussein r.a.
- 02.02.2007 Appearance of God - the fourteenth day of the birth of Jesus Christ is celebrated, when Mary and Joseph brought him to the temple to present him to the Heavenly Father.
- 03.02.2007 - Hammisha asar Bishvat - (tu bishvat) feast of the Trees.
- 15.02.2007 Appearance of God - the feast marks the encaunter of God with the righteous old Man Simeon and the Profet Ana in the temple on the fortieth day of the birth of Jesus Christ.
- 15.02.2007 Appearance of God - the fortieth day of the birth of Jesus Christ is celebrated, when Mary and Joseph brought him to the temple to present him to the Heavenly Father.
- 21.02.2007 Beginning of the Esterin Lent - The Ash.

# February

2007

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Mosque of Mustafa Pasha (15th century), building of Turkish Telegraphana (19 century), overview of old parts of Skopje

# March

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**For this world is property, and the best property is the good wife. The best wife is the one, when you look at her, she makes you happy, when you order her, she obeys you, and when you go away, she keeps the property and possessions.**

(Proverb by Mohamed a.s.)

**Jeuda Ben Tema says: Be brave as a leopard, light as an eagle, fast as a deer and strong as a lion whenever you are to endure the will of Thy Father who is in haven.**

(Mishna, Avot, 5:20)

- 01.03.2007 Esterin Lent – Lent at the beginning of the feast Purim.
- 02.03.2007 World Pray Day of Women – This feast is an international movement of Christian women for mitigation of poverty and introduction of signs of solidarity through prayer and action.
- 04.03.2007 Purim – salvation of Jews in Persia from the slaughter planned by Aman.
- 05.03.2007 Shushan Purim.
- 11.03.2007 Commemoration Day of 7230 Macedonian Jews taken to the concentration camp – Treblinka.
- 25.03.2007 Holy Annunciation – how the Holy Virgin Mary concieved Jesus Christ begotten by the Holy Spirit.
- 30-31.03.2007 (11/12 Rebiu'l-Ewel 1428) the Day of Mevlud – the day of the birth of Prophet Muhammed a.s, according to Hidjhret Calendar.
- 01.04.2007 Palm Sunday – it is celebrated one week befor Easter in commemoration of Christ's triumphant entry in Jerusalem.
- 01.04.2007 Palm Sunday – it is celebrated one week befor Easter in commemoration of Christ's triumphant entry in Jerusalem.
- 03-10.04.2007 Pesach – liberation from slavery and departure of Jews from Egypt before 3319 years.
- 07.04.2007 Annunciation – on this day Archangel Gabriel called Virgin Mary and announced that she is chosen to be tha Mother of the Lord's Son. In commemoration of this good news that the angel announced to the Holy Mother, the Church introduced the feast Holy Annunciation or Good News, and is celebrated exactly nine months before Christmast.
- 08.04.2007 Resurrection of Jesus Christ (Easter) – The Day of rising of Christ from the dead is the biggest Christian Feast. The resurrection of Christ is the essence of Christianity and the basis of the feith, as the Holy Apostle Paul said: „if Christ had not risen from the dead our faith would have been empty“. From resurrection to assurrection people greet with „Christ is risen“ respond with „Indeed he is risen“.
- 15.04.2007 Jom Hashoa – Commemoration Day of the insurrection in the Warsaw Ghetto in 1943 and Commemoration Day of 6 million Jewish victims during the Fascist terror.
- 22.04.2007 Joma Hazikaron – Day of the Veterans who died for the independence of the State of Israel.
- 23.04.2007 Joma Hatzmazut – Independence Day of the State of Israel.

# April

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Catholic Church Skopje

# May

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Though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have no charity, I am nothing.

(1. Corinth. 13,2)

Whoever follows the road of knowledge, Allah makes easier his road to heaven.

(Proverb by Mohamed a.s.)

- 06.05.2007 Lag ba Omer (33-ird day of the counting of Omer) - Feast of the Youth and the Day of Joy.
- 13.05.2007 Mother's Day, it is celebrated as a day on which emphasis is given to the role of the mother in the spiritual education of children and care for every abandon child, irrespective of the reason.
- 16.05.2007 Jom Jerushalaim - Jerusalem Day.
- 17.05.2007 Assurrection of Christ- Ascension Day - the feast is establish in commeroration of Christ's ascension. It is celebrated 40 days after Easter and is always on Thursday. This feast is also called Savior Day because it celebrates the day of the Savior of the world Lord Jesus Christ.
- 17.05.2007 Assurrection of Christ - Ascension Day - the feast is establish in commeroration of Christ's ascension. It is celebrated 40 days after Easter and is always on Thursday.
- 23-24.05.2007 Shavuot - Feast of acceptance of Torah and Feast of the Harvest, 49-th day of Omar.
- 27.05.2007 Pentecost ( Holy Trinity) - it is celebrated ten days after the Savior Day. On this day the Holy Spirit in the form of fire flames descend on the Apostles, and after that the Apostles started speaking in different tongues, and people gathered although coming from different parts of the country, undestood what was said. The second and the third day of this feast are dedicated to Holy Trinity, because the promise of the Son given to the Apostles that he will send the Holy Spirit was fulfilled with the blessing by the Father.
- 27.05.2007 Pentecost - it commemorates the descend of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and the foundation of the Church - Christ Kingdom of Earth.
- 28.05.2007 Holy Trinity - is commemorated in honor of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- 03.06.2007 Holy Trinity - is commemorated in honor of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- 07.06.2007 Corpus Christi (Holy Evharistia) - as our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave us Evharistia, an expresion of his immense love.
- 15.06.2007 Holy Jesus Heart - Feast of the immense God's love with us.

# June

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Evangelical Methodist Church in Skopje

# July

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**All flesh is grass, and all the goodness thereof is as the flower of the field. The grass withered, the flower faded, but the word of our God shall stand for ever.**  
(Isaiah 40, 6+8)

**“The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few; pray you therefore the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth labourers into his harvest”.**  
(Luke. 10,2)

- 03.07.2007 Shiva asar be Tammuz (Lent).
- 16.07.2007 (01.Rajab 1428) The beginning of the month of Rajab – the day when the three months in which the God mercy is more abundant towards believers begin.
- 19-20.07.2007 (4/5 Rajab 1428) The night of Rajab – the eve before the first Friday of the month of Rajab. The night when the prophet Muhammad a.s. is conceived in the womb of his Mother Amina.
- 24.07.2007 Tish Beav (Lent) – The Day of distraction of the First and Second temple in Jerusalem.
  
- 06.08.2007 Transfiguration of God – The Church celebrates this feast in commemoration and memory of Christ's transformation in the forest of Tavor.
- 10-11.08.2007 (26-27 Redheb 1428). The night of Miragh – the night of the Assumption of the Prophet Mohammad a.s. to Heaven.
- 15.08.2007 Ascension of Holy Lady – how our Lord Jesus Christ took his Mother, Virgin Mary to heaven with her soul and body.
- 19.08.2007 Transfiguration of God – the Church celebrates this Feast in commemoration and memory of Christ's transformation in the forest of Tavor.
- 27-28.08.2007 (14/15 Shaban 1428). The night of Berat – the fifteenth night of the month of Shaban when the Koran is transferred from heaven to the earth, and then from there transferred within 23 years to the Prophet Mohamed a.s. by Jhebrail.
- 28.08.2007 Ascension of Holy Lady – the feast is established in commemoration of the ascension of Holy Mary. According to the tradition, on the third day after her burial, the Lord Jesus Christ resurrected her ascending her to heaven.
- 28.08.2007 Ascension of Holy Lady – how our Lord Jesus Christ took his Mother, Virgin Mary to heaven with her soul and body.

# August

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St.Pantelejmon church and the mosque in village Nerezi, Skopje (photo R.Mitrev)

# September

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If we forget our brothers, we are not to expect God to remember us.

St. John Eloquent

Oh God, lead me to thy justice, because of my enemies, clear thy road before me.

(from Prayer Book "Bene Clon" in Macedonian)

- 08.09.2007 Birth of Holy Virgin - in honor of the day of Virgin Mary birth by the righteous Joakim and Anna, the Christian Church established this feast, known as Little Virgin.
- 13.09.2007 (1. Ramadan. 1427) - first day of the holy month of the Ramadan Lent.
- 13.09.2007 Rosh Hashanah 5768 - Jewish New Year - 1 day.
- 14.09.2007 Rosh Hashanah 5768 - Jewish New Year - 2 day.
- 14.09.2007 Reposition of the Holy Cross - it is celebrated in honor of the discovery of the Cross on which God Jesus Christ was crucified. The Holy Cross was found by Empress Elena and her son Emperor Constantin in the 4-th century.
- 16.09.2007 Com Gedaqa (Lent).
- 21.09.2007 Birth of Holy Virgin - in honor of the day of Virgin Mary birth by the righteous Joakim and Anna, the Christian Church established this feast, known as Little Virgin.
- 22.09.2007 Jom Kipur (Lent) - The Day of the Forgiveness and Repentance.
- 27.09.2007 Reposition of the Holy Cross - it is celebrated in honor of the discovery of the Cross on which God Jesus Christ was crucified. The Holy Cross was found by Empress Elena and her son Emperor Constantin in the 4-th century. (strict lent).
- Sukot - commemorative festivity, lasting 8 days to mark 40-year journey of Jews through the desert. It is also day of celebrating fruits harvesting.
- 29.09.2007 (17 Ramadan 1428) The day of Bedr - on 17 Ramadan, two years after Mohammad emigrated from Mcca to Medina or 624 years after Isa's birth a.s in the place Bedr, the first battle between Moslems and Polietheists, that is, the battle between belief and disbelief between good and evil, in which Moslems are victorious.
- 05.10.2007 Simhat Torah - Feast of Torah.
- 08-09.10.2007 (26-27 Ramadan 1428) Lejletul Kadr - the night between 26-27 Ramadan, during night named Lejletul Kadr, or 610 years after Isa's birth, began the announcement of Koran. Koran speaks about the importance of this night. Koran describes this night as more valuable than 1 000 months.
- 12-14.10.2007 (1-3 Shawwal 1428) Ramadan Bayram - after the end of the month of Ramadan, Muslems celebrate Ramadan or Fitr Bajram. The celebration of Bayram dates back from the time when Mohamed a.s. emigrated from Mecca to Medina. During the Bayram days, Moslems pay a visit to their relatives.
- 14.10.2007 Patronage of Holy Mother - the feast is establish in commemoration of the lasting patronage of Holy Mother and the help she gives to all who sincerely pray for her.
- 28.10.2007 Christ the Tzar - by celebrating this feast, the Church reminds us that one day our life on earth will come to an end.

# October

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The church St. Dimitrija 19 century, Museum of Holocaust being built in the former Jewish neighbourhood, Skopje Fort with remnants of Roman, Byzantine, Medieval and Islamic period. The silhouette of the tower of Mustafa Pasha Mosque, Daut Pasha Amam (Turkish baths) from 16 century, Mosaic of different cultures and civilizations and art understanding in one place, Chamber of cultural values, example for understanding and cooperation of people from different ethnic and religious beliefs.

# November

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Support the weak and be patient toward all men.

(1. Thessalonians 5,14)

“From the end of the earth, will I cry unto thee, when my hart is overwhelmed. Lead me to the rock that is higher than I“.

(Ps. 60,2)

- 01.11.2007 All Sainity - according to the Chatolic teaching, all who are in heaven are saintly and they are much more numerous than those in the Calendar and therefore the Church introduced this feast in honor of all of them.
- 25.11.2007 Christ the Tzar - by celebrating this feast, the Church reminds us that one day our life on earth will come to an end.
- 04.12.2007 Presentation of Honorable Lady (Pure) - Honorable Virgin Mary was betrothed by her parents to serve the God, and therefore, when she reached the age of three, her parents Joakim and Ana took her to the Jerusalem temple. In commemoration of this event, the presentation of the three years old Mary in the temple, the Holy Church introduced the feast of Presentation, known as Holy Pure.
- 04.12.2007 First Week of Advent - Advent is the time which every men should use to prepare spiritually for the coming on Earth of our Saviour Jesus Christ, that is, his birth. The Advent lasts for four weeks.
- 04 - 12.12.2007 Hanuka - feast that lasts and is celebrated for 8 days in commemoration of the liberation war of Jews and dedication of the Temple before 2170 yeras.
- 19.12.2007 (9. Dhu'l-Hijja) The Day of Arife - the day of preparing the Great feast Kurban Bayram and the day when the pilgrims go to the valley of Arfat as one of the basic duties of pilgrimage in Islamic Feith.
- 19.12.2007 Asar be Tebet (Lent).
- 20-23.12.2007 (10-13 Zu'l-Hijja 1428) Kurban Bayram - one of the two greatest Islamic feasts. On this day, Moslems who have finacial possibility sacrifice Kurban in the name of Alah a.s.
- 25.12.2007 Christmas (Christ's Birth) - how Virgin Mary gave birth to Jesus Christ in the Vetleem cave.

# December

2007

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Christian: ■ Orthodox ■ Chatolic (western rite) ■ Chatolic (eastern rite) ■ Evangelist-mathodist ■ Islamic ■ Jewish