

AUGUST 2015

August 9

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Celebrates the richness of indigenous cultures and recognizes the challenges indigenous peoples face today, ranging from poverty and disease to dispossession, discrimination and denial of basic human rights.

August 12

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

Celebrates young people and the integral role they play in helping to create a world fit for children.

August 15

OBON • Buddhist

Also known as *Bon*, the Japanese Buddhist festival honors the spirits of past ancestors.

August 23

**INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE REMEMBRANCE
OF THE SLAVE TRADE AND ITS ABOLITION**

Memorializes the tragedy of the transatlantic slave trade, coinciding with the anniversary of the uprising in Santo Domingo (today Haiti and the Dominican Republic) that initiated its abolition.

August 28

ULAMBANA • Buddhist

Buddhist Ghost Festival. The unsettled spirits of dead ancestors are calmed with chanting and offerings to enable them to pass peacefully into the next world.

August 29

RAKSHA BANDHAN • Hindu

Also called *Rakhi*, this festival celebrates the protective relationship between brothers and their sisters.