



Dear Woolf Friends,

This year we have the rare occasion that major festivals of the three Abrahamic faiths align: Easter, Passover and Ramadan. Such a concurrence last happened in 1991 and is brought about by the different calendar systems coinciding despite each religion following a different pattern throughout the year.

The Muslim calendar is a purely lunar one. This means that the Muslim year is 355 days long. As a result, Ramadan – a month of fasting, prayer and reflection – wanders through the solar year, completing the cycle every thirty years or so.

Passover celebrates the exodus of Israelite slaves from Egyptian captivity and begins on the 15th day of Nissan, the first month of the Jewish lunisolar calendar. The Hebrew lunar year is about 11 days shorter than the solar year and uses leap months to bring it back into line. An extra month is added every two or three years, for a total of seven times in a 19-year cycle.

Easter marks the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ and is celebrated on the first Sunday following the first full moon on or after the Spring equinox every solar year.

This year, these calendar events all occur together in Spring and we see the convergence of festivals. To mark the occasion, we are celebrating the Abrahamic festivals with a programme of social media activity. The **#WOOLFspringseries** highlights the anticipation and joy felt across communities as festivals return in person to holy

Upcoming Events

26 April @17:00

Mobility, Belonging
and Community in
the Mediterranean
City



9 May @17:00

The Five Pillars of
Islam – A Jewish
Perspective



10 May @18:00

Reading Group:
Qur'an and Bible
(By invitation only)



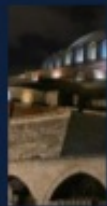
12 May

London Research
Day
(By invitation only)

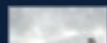


1 - 5 June

Patrons' Tour -
Istanbul
(By invitation only)



7 June @14:00



spaces after two years of restricted celebrations.

This is also a good opportunity to introduce one of our latest staff members, Seherish Abrar, our new Research Assistant and Social Media Manager. Seherish joins us from the Centre for the Study of Islam in the UK at Cardiff University. As well as managing our social media, Seherish is developing new research into mental health and interfaith with a policy focus on British Muslim communities.

Best wishes,

Dr Esther-Miriam Wagner
Executive Director, Woolf Institute

Jubilee Garden
Party
(By invitation only)



7 June @17:00
Archives and
record-keeping in
medieval Eastern
Mediterranean



12 June @17:00
Art of the Book:
Arabic and Hebrew
Calligraphy
Exhibition



This Week At Woolf

CLICK ON THE LINKS FOR OUR CURATED
COLLECTION

FESTIVAL SEASON



LISTEN: WHERE DO RELIGIOUS
BELIEFS COME FROM?

LISTEN: REFLECTING ON
MULTICULTURALISM

LISTEN: DOES INTERFAITH WORK?

LISTEN: HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL





LOOK BACK ON IFTAR

On Monday the Woolf Institute hosted an iftar meal. We welcomed many new friends to the Institute in our beautifully decorated KC Shasha Suite, thanks to our PhD Scholars Dunya and Mohammed. Prayers were led by Mohammed followed by a lovely meal prepared by our friends at Damasbridge.

THE WOOLF INSTITUTE WELCOMES

SEHERISH ABRAR

**RESEARCH ASSISTANT &
SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER**



[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)

COMING SOON

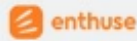
Naked Reflections Podcast x The Woolf Institute

SEX

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