



pivotal events in world history, as well as international holidays and observances, from the debut of Beethoven's first symphony to Evacuation Day commemorated in Egypt (celebrating the withdrawal of British colonial forces) to Respect for the Aged Day in Japan. A unique and useful reference, especially recommended for public, school, and private library collections, enhanced with appendices and a straightforward index.

The International Book of Days is a unique record of world history. For each of the 366 days of the year, including February 29, several substantial essays explore significant events through their anniversaries or through other relevant dates. The emphasis is typically on the anniversary of particular events, although in some cases, the birth dates or death dates of the individuals involved were used if necessity merited it. Religious events and secular holidays from virtually every country on Earth are also included.

From School Library Journal Grade 9 Up This companion to *The American Book of Days* (H.W. Wilson, 2000) includes more than 1500 political and cultural events, holidays and celebrations, and birthdays of individuals over the course of human history. A sampling of the entries, which are arranged by month and day, offers a look at the range of topics covered: League of Nations Is Established (January 10), Phagwah, Hindu Festival of Colors (March 11), First Use of Lunar Rover (July 31), and Marriage of Ferdinand and Isabella (October 18). Within a few paragraphs or half page, substantial biographical and historical information is provided. However, as with any book of this type, readers may wonder why some events and festivities were included and others omitted. Also, there is no explanation for including the full texts of the Charter of the UN, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and The North Atlantic Treaty. Overlap between *The International* and *The American Book of Days* is minimal. Helene Henderson's *Holidays, Festivals, and Celebrations of the World Dictionary* (Omnigraphics, 2005, 3rd ed.) is generally less detailed. Most libraries will want all three titles. Tina Hudak, St. Bernadette School, Silver Spring, MD Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.