

HISTORY RECALLS

May 22

1901–present

- 1905 – The [Sultan of the Ottoman Empire Abdul Hamid II](#) establishes the [Ullah millet](#) for the [Aromanians](#) of the empire. For this reason, the [Aromanian National Day](#) is sometimes celebrated on this day,^[8] although most do so on [May 23](#) instead, which is when this event was publicly announced.^[9]
- 1906 – The [Wright brothers](#) are granted U.S. patent number 821,393 for their "[Flying-Machine](#)".
- 1915 – [Lassen Peak](#) erupts with a powerful force, the only volcano besides [Mount St. Helens](#) to erupt in the contiguous U.S. during the 20th century.
- 1915 – Three trains collide in the [Quintinshill rail disaster](#) near [Gretna Green](#), Scotland, killing 227 people and injuring 246.
- 1916 – A [British army](#) defeats a force of the [Darfur Sultanate](#) under Sultan [Ali Dinar](#) due to

its superior firepower in the [battle of Beringia](#).^[10]

- [1926](#) – [Chiang Kai-shek](#) replaces the communists in [Kuomintang](#) China.^[vague]
- [1927](#) – Near [Xining](#), China, an 8.3 magnitude [earthquake](#) causes 200,000 deaths in one of the world's most destructive earthquakes.
- [1939](#) – [World War II](#): Germany and Italy sign the [Pact of Steel](#).
- [1941](#) – During the [Anglo-Iraqi War](#), British troops take [Fallujah](#).
- [1942](#) – [Mexico](#) enters the [Second World War](#) on the side of the Allies.
- [1943](#) – [Joseph Stalin](#) disbands the [Comintern](#).
- [1947](#) – [Cold War](#): The [Truman Doctrine](#) goes into effect, aiding Turkey and Greece.
- [1948](#) – Finnish President [J. K. Paasikivi](#) releases [Yrjö Leino](#) from his duties as [interior minister](#) after the [Finnish parliament](#) adopted a motion of censure of Leino in connection with his illegal handing over of nineteen people to the [Soviet Union](#) in 1945.^{[11][12][13]}
- [1957](#) – South Africa's government approves of [racial separation](#) in universities.
- [1958](#) – The [1958 riots in Ceylon](#) became a watershed in the race relations of various ethnic communities of Sri Lanka. The total deaths are estimated at 300, mostly [Tamils](#).

- 1960 – The Great Chilean earthquake, measuring 9.5 on the moment magnitude scale, hits southern Chile, becoming the most powerful earthquake ever recorded.
- 1962 – Continental Airlines Flight 11 crashes in Unionville, Missouri, after bombs explode on board, killing 45.
- 1963 – Greek left-wing politician Grigoris Lambrakis is clubbed over the head, causing his death five days later.
- 1964 – U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson launches his Great Society program.
- 1967 – Egypt closes the Straits of Tiran to Israeli shipping.
- 1967 – L'Innovation department store in Brussels, Belgium, burns down, resulting in 323 dead or missing and 150 injured, the most devastating fire in Belgian history.
- 1968 – The nuclear-powered submarine USS Scorpion sinks with 99 men aboard, 400 nautical miles (740 km) southwest of the Azores.
- 1969 – Apollo 10's Lunar Module flies within 8.4 nautical miles (16 km) of the Moon's surface.
- 1972 – Ceylon adopts a new constitution, becoming a republic and changing its name to Sri Lanka.
- 1972 – Over 400 women in Derry, Northern Ireland, attack the offices of Sinn Féin following

the shooting by the [Irish Republican Army](#) of a young British soldier on leave.

- [1987](#) – [Hashimpura massacre](#) occurs in [Meerut](#), India.
- [1987](#) – The first-ever [Rugby World Cup](#) kicks off with [New Zealand](#) playing [Italy](#) at [Eden Park](#) in [Auckland](#), New Zealand.
- [1990](#) – [North](#) and [South Yemen](#) are [unified](#) to create the Republic of [Yemen](#).
- [1992](#) – [Bosnia and Herzegovina](#), [Croatia](#) and [Slovenia](#) join the [United Nations](#).
- [1994](#) – A worldwide trade embargo against [Haiti](#) goes into effect to punish its military rulers for not reinstating the country's ousted elected leader, [Jean-Bertrand Aristide](#).
- [1996](#) – The Burmese military regime jails 71 supporters of [Aung San Suu Kyi](#) in a bid to block a pro-democracy meeting.
- [1998](#) – A U.S. federal judge rules that [U.S. Secret Service](#) agents can be compelled to testify before a [grand jury](#) concerning the [Lewinsky scandal](#) involving President [Bill Clinton](#).
- [2000](#) – In [Sri Lanka](#), over 150 [Tamil](#) rebels are killed over two days of fighting for control in [Jaffna](#).
- [2002](#) – [Civil rights movement](#): A jury in [Birmingham, Alabama](#), convicts former [Ku Klux Klan](#) member [Bobby Frank Cherry](#) of the [1963](#)

murder of four girls in the [16th Street Baptist Church bombing](#).

- [2010](#) – [Air India Express Flight 812](#), a [Boeing 737](#), crashed over a cliff upon landing at [Mangalore](#), India, killing 158 of 166 people on board, becoming the deadliest crash involving a Boeing 737 until the crash of [Lion Air Flight 610](#).
- [2010](#) – [Inter Milan](#) beat [Bayern Munich](#) 2–0 in the [UEFA Champions League](#) final in [Madrid](#), Spain, to become the first, and so far only, Italian team to win the historic treble (Serie A, Coppa Italia, Champions League).
- [2011](#) – [An EF5 tornado](#) strikes [Joplin, Missouri](#), killing 158 people and wreaking \$2.8 billion in damages, the costliest and seventh-deadliest single tornado in U.S. history.
- [2012](#) – [Tokyo Skytree](#) opens to the public. It is the [tallest tower in the world](#) (634 m), and the second tallest man-made structure on Earth after [Burj Khalifa](#) (829.8 m).
- [2012](#) – [SpaceX COTS Demo Flight 2](#) launches a [Dragon capsule](#) on a [Falcon 9](#) rocket in the first commercial flight to the [International Space Station](#).^[14]
- [2013](#) – [Fusilier Lee Rigby](#) is murdered by 2 Islamic extremists in [Woolwich, Southeast London](#)

- 2014 – General [Prayut Chan-o-cha](#) becomes interim leader of Thailand in a military [coup d'état](#), following six months of political turmoil.
- 2014 – An [explosion](#) occurs in [Ürümqi](#), capital of China's far-western [Xinjiang](#) region, resulting in at least 43 deaths and 91 injuries.
- 2015 – The [Republic of Ireland](#) becomes the first nation in the world to utilise a public referendum to [legalise gay marriage](#).
- 2017 – Twenty-two people were killed at an [Ariana Grande](#) concert in the [2017 Manchester Arena bombing](#).
- 2017 – United States [President Donald Trump](#) visits the [Church of the Holy Sepulchre](#) in [Jerusalem](#) and becomes the first sitting U.S. president to visit the [Western Wall](#).
- 2020 – [Pakistan International Airlines Flight 8303](#) crashes in [Model Colony](#) near [Jinnah International Airport](#) in [Karachi](#), Pakistan, killing 98 people.^[15]
- 2021 – Hypothermia kills 21 runners in the 100 km (60-mile) [Gansu ultramarathon disaster](#) in China.^[16]