

## Country Profile: Jamaica



Jamaica is an island country of the West Indies. It is the third largest island in the Caribbean Sea, after Cuba and Hispaniola. Jamaica is about 146 miles (235 km) long and varies from 22 to 51 miles (35 to 82 km) wide.

The island was discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1494 and was settled by the Spanish early in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The native Taino, who had inhabited Jamaica for centuries, were gradually exterminated and replaced by African slaves. England seized the island in 1655 and established a plantation economy based on sugar, cocoa, and coffee. The abolition of slavery in 1834 freed a quarter million slaves, many of whom became small farmers.

Jamaica gradually increased its independence from Britain. In 1958, it joined other British Caribbean colonies in forming the Federation of the West Indies. Jamaica withdrew from the Federation in 1961 and gained full independence in 1962.

Jamaica is known to be the birthplace of reggae, Bob Marley, world's fastest sprinters, Blue Mountain coffee, Red Stripe beer, Jamaican rum, beautiful beaches, jerk dishes, luxurious all-inclusive resorts and majestic waterfalls. On November 29, 2018, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) designated reggae music as an ["intangible cultural heritage of humanity."](#)

Although reggae music and athletic successes have earned Jamaica worldwide fame over many years, the island paradise has contributed much more to the international community. Jamaicans have excelled in various fields at home and abroad and are credited with some genius inventions that are being used all around the globe. The following are [five notable inventions](#) that Jamaicans had a hand in creating: A cure for prostate cancer, Canasol eye drop for glaucoma, The ortanique fruit (a hybrid between an orange and a tangerine), disease resistant papaya, and the JaipurKnee prosthetic for amputees.

The island is dominated by mountains with only a narrow band of coastal plains. Jamaica is slightly smaller than the state of Connecticut, USA. The longest river in Jamaica is Rio Minho with 92 km/57 miles and the longest mountain range is the Blue Mountains. The highest peak is the Blue Mountain Peak at 2,256 m/ 7,402 ft. Below are some quick facts about Jamaica:

- \* **Population:** 2.8 million people live in Jamaica (2020)
- \* **Capital:** Kingston with about 591,000 inhabitants
- \* **Government:** Parliamentary democracy
- \* **Motto:** "Out of Many, One People"
- \* **Language:** English, English Patois
- \* **Currency:** 1 Jamaican dollar = 100 cents
- \* **National Symbols:** green-and-black streamertail (national bird) Guaiacum (national flower), green, yellow, and black (national colors)
- \* **National Anthem:** "Jamaica, Land We Love"
- \* **National Day:** August 6<sup>th</sup> (Independence Day)



The Jamaican economy is heavily dependent on services, which accounts for more than 70% of GDP. The country derives most of its foreign exchange from tourism, remittances, and bauxite/alumina. Earnings from remittances and tourism each account for 14% and 20% of GDP, while bauxite/alumina exports have declined to less than 5% of GDP.

We look forward to celebrating Jamaica's 60<sup>th</sup> Independence Day festivities on August 6, 2022 with the Honorable Oliver R. Mair, Consul General of Jamaica in Miami and with our Jamaican friends in the Diaspora.

**JULY 2022**

Division Director's Message



**U. Desmond Alufohai**  
Director

Protocol & International Affairs Division  
Miami-Dade Aviation Department

The month of July was named after the Roman general Julius Caesar. July is in the summer season in the northern hemisphere and one of the warmest months. However, July in the southern hemisphere is one of the coldest. Early July historically is called the dog days of summer because it's the beginning of the hot summer days. However, the month is full of pool days, beach days, vacations, and lazy days of summer.

Senior Protocol Coordinator Israel Avila and I joined the more than 142 protocol professionals from 16 nations at PDI-POA's 21<sup>st</sup> Annual International Protocol Education Forum in San Antonio, TX from July 18 – 21, 2022 to learn, network and exchange ideas and gain new inspiration from the array of experienced and subject matter expert speakers and topics presented. We returned from San Antonio, recharged, reinvigorated and more excited about the professional development pathways in the field of International Protocol & Diplomacy.

We welcome the Honorable Rudy William Grant, Consul General of Barbados to our community. We salute our Jamaican friends on the country's 60<sup>th</sup> Independence and we also salute all nations celebrating their National Day or Independence in July and August. As we have done since 2019, we shall skip the month of August, but we look forward to returning in September. Please be safe as always.

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# DIPLOMATIC & CONSULAR RELATIONS

## New Consul General of Barbados Arrives in Miami, Florida



**The Honorable Rudy William Grant** was appointed as Barbados' Consul General in Miami on July 1, 2022. He was born on December 31, 1964. Consul General Grant spent his first ten years living at Roberts Road, Haggatt Hall, St. Michael before moving with his parents to Hythe Gardens, Maxwell, Christ Church.

His early education was at Belmont Primary School and St. Giles Boys' School. In 1975 Mr. Grant passed the Common Entrance Examination for The Lodge School. In addition to his academic studies, he represented his schoolhouse "Emptage" in athletics and Chess. He joined the Boys' Scouts during his first year at The Lodge School and thereafter joined the Cadets.

While in Fifth Form, he developed an interest in drama and participated in numerous productions. Mr. Grant fondly reminisce on those previously mentioned activities; however, it is his dancing and performing of magic tricks that stimulates unforgettable memories of his fantastic student days at The Lodge School. Consul General Grant has a diverse background in academics and employment. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree specializing in Economics from Mount Allison University (Canada), a Graduate Diploma in Management and Administration from Bradford University (England) and a Bachelor of Laws Degree from the University of London, England. He also has Life and General Insurance certifications.

His work experience has spanned both the public and private sectors. He taught Economics, Commerce and Principles of Business at Urban Adult College, was Vice President and Network Administrator for Grants Group of Companies and General Manager for various private sector companies.

Mr. Grant is a former Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Tourism and International Transport and a former Senator. Prior to taking up the position of Consul General in Miami he was the Chief Executive Officer of the Barbados Hotel and Tourism Association (BHTA). He has also worked outside of Barbados as an Associate Consultant with Cave Hill School of Business and was the first Chief Executive Officer of the Grenada Tourism Authority.

Mr. Grant is a former Chairman of the National Conservation Commission (NCC) and the Sanitation Service Authority (SSA). He was also a Director of Grantley Adams International Airport (GAIA) Inc., Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI), Barbados Tourism Product Authority (BTPA), Barbados Conference Services Ltd (BCSL), Tourism Development Corporation (TDC) and Spicemas Corporation (Grenada).

Mr. Grant noted that he is enthusiastic and excited about his recent appointment as Consul General. He stated that "...the opportunity to collaborate with Barbadians in the diaspora and to engage in meaningful programs and activities that are beneficial to Barbados, Barbadians and their communities is a strong motivating factor." In addition, he stated that he "...eagerly anticipates meeting with Barbadians, their families as well as the numerous officials and business persons throughout the eleven States which constitute the jurisdiction which the Consulate General of Barbados in Miami is responsible for." However, as he commits to working hard to facilitate positive changes, he also welcomes the opportunity to make new friends, share enjoyable fun-filled occasions and to build lasting relationships.

A promotional banner for the AfriCaribbean Trade and Investment Forum 2022. The banner features a blue and yellow color scheme with a geometric pattern of lines. The text is arranged in several sections: a large yellow box on the left contains the title 'AFRICARIBBEAN TRADE AND INVESTMENT FORUM 2022' in bold blue letters. Below this, a smaller blue box contains the tagline 'ONE PEOPLE. ONE DESTINY. UNITING AND REIMAGINING OUR FUTURE'. On the right side, there are two white boxes with blue text: the top one lists the dates 'September 01, 2022 - September 03, 2022' and the location 'Bridgetown, Barbados'; the bottom one lists the dates 'September 1 - 3, 2022' and the venue 'Lloyd Erskine Sandiford Centre Bridgetown, Barbados'. The overall design is modern and professional.

The African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank), Export Barbados (BIDC) and Invest Barbados have the pleasure of inviting interested participants to the inaugural AfriCaribbean Trade and Investment Forum (ACTIF), taking place from September 1 - 3, 2022 in Bridgetown, Barbados. The theme is – 'One People. One Destiny. Uniting and Reimagining Our Future'. The event is intended to help strengthen relations between the private sectors of the two regions to advance trade and investment. [Click here](#) to learn more about the Forum objectives and to register.

# BRIEFS & NOTES

## 21<sup>st</sup> Annual International Protocol Education Forum



PROTOCOL & DIPLOMACY INTERNATIONAL  
PROTOCOL OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

Photos from the recently concluded PDI-POA Forum in San Antonio, TX.



L-R: Israel Avila, Sr. Protocol Coordinator for MIA's Protocol & International Affairs Division, Catherine Wilson, in-coming President of PDI-POA, and U. Desmond Alufohai.



L-R: U. Desmond Alufohai, Juanita Harvey, EurWay Tours, Navarre, FL., Alexandra Castillo Escobar, Consulate General of The Netherlands in Miami, Israel Avila, and James "Reggie" Colimon, City of Boston.

[The Protocol & Diplomacy International – Protocol Officers Association](#) (PDI-POA) held its 21<sup>st</sup> Annual International Protocol Education Forum in San Antonio, Texas from July 18 – 21, 2022. PDI-POA Forums draw protocol professionals from around the world and from a wide variety of fields, including national, state/provincial, regional, city governments, NGO's, intergovernmental agencies, cultural and academic institutions, public and private corporations as well as training and consulting practices.

PDI-POA reported that 142 participants from the following countries attended the San Antonio Forum: Barbados, Cameroon, Canada, Germany, Ghana, Ireland, Mexico, The Netherlands, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Senegal, Sudan, Trinidad & Tobago, United Arab Emirates, United States, and Zambia. During the Forum, participants attended both plenary and breakout sessions featuring leaders from local government, the field of protocol, and industry professionals such as Mayor Ron Nirenberg of San Antonio, TX, Ambassador Rufus Gifford, Chief of Protocol of the United States, etc. Participants also engaged in networking, professional development, partnerships and gained access to valuable professional resources provided by the speakers, and ideas and inspiration from fellow protocol professionals about how to work with our principals, team members, and each other to build and nurture relationships around the world. Some of the sessions/topics featured at the Forum included: "Diplomatic Gifts and the Meaning," Cultural Diplomacy at the Highest Level—State Visits by Royalty," Protocol through Culinary Diplomacy," Names, Titles, and Forms of Address," Protocol and the Armed Services: The Importance of Ceremonies," Identifying the Transferrable Skills of the Protocol Officer," etc.



L-R: Mr. Alufohai and Ambassador Rufus Gifford, Chief of Protocol of the United States, Office of the chief of Protocol, U.S. Dept. of State.

One of the highlights of the Forum was the passing of the gavel from out-going president Melissa Goitia Werner, Office of University Events & Protocol, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, to in-coming president Catherine Wilson, Protocol, Stewardship, and Partnerships Program Director, University of Notre Dame, Indiana. PDI-POA's next three Forums will be held in the following cities: **Washington, D.C.** (July 24-27, 2023); **Montreal, Canada** (July 16-19, 2024); and **Miami, Florida** (July 22 – 25, 2025).

The Mission of Protocol & Diplomacy International – Protocol Officers Association (PDI-POA) is to provide the highest level of collective expertise and training, information, and advice regarding international and nationally accepted rules of protocol. PDI-POA is committed to facilitating communication, understanding, and cooperation between individuals, governments, and cultures.

PDI-POA is the only international professional membership association for protocol professionals. The organization promotes the protocol profession and raise awareness of its central role in business and diplomacy through education and networking. Membership in PDI-POA is open to professionals in the field of protocol who currently serve, or have served in the past, as protocol officers for any level of government, museums or cultural institutions, international corporations, international trade organizations, seats of higher education, corporations, or other diplomatic organizations, and those who currently serve, or have served in the past, as professionals in allied professions, organizations, and services.

# BRIEFS & NOTES

## The Napoleonic Code (Code Napoléon)



In France July 14<sup>th</sup> is the national holiday, the **French National Day** is internationally known as [Bastille Day](#). But behind fireworks, parades and celebrations, public balls, what does it mean and what happened on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July back then? July 14<sup>th</sup> in France commemorates the storming of the Bastille in 1789, the start of the French revolution that would last 10 years before the Napoleon Bonaparte's coup. The Bastille was a fort, a national prison and an arms storage depending on the time. Under King Louis XVI, the last king of France, the Bastille was a State Prison, a symbol of the monarch's absolute power and tyranny.

There were both high-level prisoners threatening the king's power and common prisoners. The Bastille which was the symbol of tyranny was demolished. More than any other event of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the French Revolution changed the face of modern politics

across Europe and the world. It overturned the longstanding French system of monarchical government and introduced the ideas of liberty, equality, fraternity, and human and civil rights to modern political practice.

“Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité” is the national motto of France and of the Republic of Haiti. Ten (10) years after, Napoléon Bonaparte became the highest political figure in November of 1799. After an overthrow of the French Directory (which at the time was the government that was put in place after the Revolution), Napoleon established the [Napoleonic Code of Laws](#), many of which are still in use today, known as the Civil Code of the French people. The Napoleonic code was based on the three ideals of French Revolution: Laws should be based on reason and common sense; All men should be treated equal under law; And people should have certain freedoms.

The codes clarified and made uniform the private law of France and followed Roman law in being divided into three books: the law of persons, things, and modes of acquiring ownership of things. In Louisiana, the only civil-law state in the U.S., the civil code of 1825 (revised in 1870 and still in force) is closely connected to the Napoleonic Code.

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## World Population Day – July 11, 2022

World Population Day on July 11 is a holiday that is dedicated to focusing on the importance of population issues. The day was established by the United Nations because of the massive interest people had in Five Billion Day in 1987. World Population Day was established in 1989 by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Program — UNDP. World Population Day serves to highlight the growing problems that come with a growing global population. Overpopulation is a crucial issue, especially considering that world resources are depleting at an unsustainable rate. Awareness about the effects of overpopulation on development and nature is emphasized.

## Unimwane Day – July 15, 2022

Unimwane Day is celebrated on July 15 of every calendar year in Kiribati. ‘Unimwane’ means ‘elder man’, while ‘elder women’ are called ‘unaine’. Unimwane Day honors the male elders of the village since a council of them used to administer the communities and make decisions on social, political, and economic issues in the past. Because they were made after thorough consideration by the community's oldest, wisest, and most experienced members, their decisions were regarded to be the best. While there is still an Unimwane Association that advises on crucial matters, the system is mostly extinct.

## World Day for International Justice – July 17, 2022

The day of many names — World Day for International Justice, Day of International Criminal Justice, or International Justice Day — is held each year on July 17 as part of an effort to recognize the system of international justice. These celebrations highlight how international justice tribunals and courts have brought and continue to bring justice for the victims of war crimes and crimes against humanity. It also commemorates the day the Rome Statute was adopted globally and ensures member nations of the International Criminal Court live up to their expectations.

## Nelson Mandela International Day – July 18, 2022

Nelson Mandela had many accolades. He was an iconic figure that triumphed over South Africa's apartheid regime. He was also a human rights lawyer, a prisoner of conscience, and an international peacemaker. He was the first democratically elected president of a free South Africa. The Day is commemorated on July 18 — Nelson Mandela's birthday. Nelson Mandela International Day celebrates the idea that everyone has the power to transform the world and the ability to make an impact.

## World Brain Day – July 22, 2022

People around the world celebrate World Brain Day on July 22 annually. It is one of the most important annual celebrations in the world, as it helps raise awareness on an increasingly significant health issue, especially in our modern age. Brain health can refer to many prevention methods designed to help preserve both mental health and brain neurological health. As people have become increasingly more vulnerable to neurological issues, raising awareness of the issue is as important.

# AUSTRALIA/OCEANIA CONTINENT



List of the seven continents - Ranked by Current Position

#	Continent	Population (2020)	Area (Km <sup>2</sup> )	Density (P/Km <sup>2</sup> )	Percentage of World Population
1	Asia	4,641 billion	31,033,131	150	59.54%
2	Africa	1,341 billion	29,648,481	45	17.20%
3	Europe	748 million	22,134,900	34	9.59%
4	North America	592 million	21,330,000	28	7.60%
5	South America	431 million	17,461,112	25	5.53%
6	Australia/Oceania	43 million	8,486,460	5	0.55%
7	Antarctica	0	13,720,000	0	0.00%

## Australia/Oceania Facts

Oceania is the smallest continent of our planet.

Australia which is part of Oceania is often referred to as the name of the continent, but we use Oceania/Australia to include also the islands surrounding Australia as they otherwise would not be included in the traditional 7-Continent model.

- ◆ Oceania is mostly “ocean” and spans a vast area.
- ◆ Oceania is in a continental group consisting of 14 countries and includes Pacific islands and Australia. Often Australia is named as a continent, but this means that the many islands and countries except Australia would not be included.
- ◆ The Oceania region includes the following 14 countries: Australia, Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.
- ◆ The largest island of Oceania is Australia.
- ◆ Oceania spreads over a vast area from 28 degrees North in the northern hemisphere to 55 degrees South in the southern hemisphere.
- ◆ Oceania's biggest and most populous city is Sydney. More than 5 million people live in Australia's biggest city. Sydney has the most diverse and multicultural population in Oceania. More than 250 languages are spoken here.
- ◆ Australia is the biggest and leading economy on the continent. New Zealand is the only other large economy on the continent. Mining, manufacturing, and tourism are the main economic sectors of the region.
- ◆ Highest mountain in Oceania: The highest mountain on land is Mount Cook in New Zealand. The mountain which is referred to also as Aoraki is 3,754 m/ 12,316<sup>ft</sup> high.

# INDEPENDENCE AND NATIONAL DAYS (JULY)

**July 1, 1867 – Canada:** With the passage of the British North America Act, the four separate colonies of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Upper Canada, and Lower Canada were united into the Dominion of Canada. Initially, the day was known as Dominion Day, but on October 27, 1982, it was officially changed to Canada Day.

**July 1, 1960 – Somalia:** On June 26, 1960, British Somaliland gained its independence from the United Kingdom, and on July 1, 1960, Italian Somaliland became independent from the Italian-administered UN trusteeship. Simultaneously to gaining independence, Italian Somaliland merged with British Somaliland to form the Somali Republic on July 1, 1960.

**July 1, 1962 – Burundi:** Gained independence from the Belgium-administered UN trusteeship.

**July 1, 1962 – Rwanda:** Just like its southern neighbor Burundi, Rwanda gained independence from the Belgium-administered United Nations trusteeship on July 1, 1962.

**July 3, 1944 – Belarus:** After a public referendum in 1996, Belarus's Independence Day was moved to July 3 to commemorate the day in 1944 that Minsk was liberated from German occupation.

**July 4, 1776 – United States:** The United States declared independence from Great Britain.

**July 5, 1811 – Venezuela:** On this day, Venezuela gained independence from Spain.

**July 5, 1962 – Algeria:** Gained independence from France.

**July 5, 1975 – Cabo Verde (Cape Verde):** In December 1974, an agreement was signed between Portugal and the African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde that established a transitional government in Cabo Verde. On July 5, 1975, the newly elected National Popular Assembly declared Cabo Verde's independence from Portugal.

**July 6, 1964 – Malawi:** Gained independence from the United Kingdom. Since 1966, Independence Day is also known as Republic Day.

**July 6, 1975 – Comoros:** The Island of Comoros gained independence from France.

**July 7, 1978 – Solomon Islands:** Marks the day the Solomon Islands gained their independence from the United Kingdom.

**July 9, 1816 – Argentina:** On Revolution Day, May 25, 1810, the Primera Junta, Argentina's first independent government was formed, and on July 9, 1816, the Congress of Tucumán formally declared independence from Spain.

**July 9, 2011 – South Sudan:** The world's newest country, South Sudan, gained its independence from Sudan on July 9, 2011.

**July 10, 1973 – The Bahamas:** After 325 years of British rule, The Bahamas became a free and sovereign nation.

**July 12, 1975 – Sao Tome and Principe:** Marks the day Sao Tome and Principe gained independence from Portugal.

**July 12, 1979 – Kiribati:** Gained its independence from the United Kingdom.

**July 14, 1789 – France:** France's National Day, la Fête Nationale or le Quatorze Juillet, is celebrated annually on July 14 and commemorates the storming of the Bastille on July 14, 1789.

**July 19, 1949 – Laos:** The Franco-Lao General Convention granted Laos limited self-government and independence with the French Union. The Franco-Lao Treaty signed on October 22, 1953, recognized Laos's full independence.

**July 20, 1810 – Colombia:** Colombian Independence is celebrated annually on July 20. On this day in 1810, a group of patriots asked Spanish merchant Joaquín González Llorente for a flower vase. His refusal was enough to ignite simmering passions and stir the residents of Bogotá into protesting Spanish rule. This forced the Viceroy to decree limited independence. Once independence became permanent, Colombia gained its freedom from Spain.

**July 21, 1831 – Belgium:** Belgian Independence Day is celebrated annually on July 21. On this day in 1831, Leopold of Saxe-Cobourg swore allegiance to the new Belgian constitution and became Leopold I, first King of the Belgians. His vow marked the beginning of an independent Belgium under a constitutional monarchy and parliament.

**July 23, 1952 – Egypt:** Revolution Day, Egypt's National Day, commemorates the military-led revolution that began on July 23, 1952, and led to the proclamation of the Egyptian Republic on June 18, 1953.

**July 26, 1847 – Liberia:** Unlike other African countries, Liberia did not fall under European colonial rule. In the early 19th century, the United States began sending freed slaves and other people of color to Liberia to establish settlements. On July 26, 1847, the settlers declared independence from the United States and established Africa's first republic.

**July 26, 1965 – The Maldives:** The Maldives gained their independence from the United Kingdom.

**July 28, 1821 – Peru:** Peru's Independence Day, also known as Fiestas Patrias, is celebrated annually on July 28<sup>th</sup>. It commemorates the liberation of Peru from Spain by José de San Martín. On July 29th, the establishment of the Republic of Peru is celebrated.

**July 30, 1980 – Vanuatu:** The island nation achieved its independence from France and the United Kingdom on July 30, 1980.

# INDEPENDENCE AND NATIONAL DAYS (AUGUST)

**August 1, 1291 – Switzerland:** The Swiss Confederation was founded on August 1, 1291. Since 1891, August 1 is celebrated as Swiss National Day.

**August 1, 1960 – Benin:** On this day, the Republic of Benin achieved independence from France.

**August 3, 1960 – Niger:** While the Republic of Niger was founded on December 18, 1958, Niger gained formal independence from France on August 3, 1960.

**August 5, 1960 – Burkina Faso:** Upper Volta achieved independence from France. On August 4, 1984, the country was renamed Burkina Faso.

**August 6, 1825 – Bolivia:** Bolivia gained its independence from Spain on August 6, 1825.

**August 6, 1962 – Jamaica:** Became an Independent Nation and a member of the British Commonwealth.

**August 7, 1960 – Côte d'Ivoire:** Formerly known as Ivory Coast achieved full independence from France.

**August 8, 1949 – Bhutan:** Although Bhutan had been a unified kingdom since 1907, the Treaty of Friendship with India, signed on August 8, 1949, maintained Bhutanese independence.

**August 9, 1965 – Singapore:** On September 16, 1963, Singapore merged with Malaya, Sabah, and Sarawak to become part of Malaysia, ending 144 years of British rule. Since this union was fraught with internal friction, Singapore separated from Malaysia as an independent, sovereign nation on August 9, 1965.

**August 11, 1960 – Chad:** Chad became an autonomous republic within the French Community in November 1958. After further restructuring, complete independence was attained on August 11, 1960.

**August 13, 1960 – Central African Republic:** The French colony Ubangi-Shari, renamed the Central African Republic, was granted independence on August 13, 1960.

**August 14, 1947 – Pakistan:** In 1947, after the Indian Independence Act was passed by the British Parliament, British India was partitioned into two new independent dominions: India and Pakistan. Pakistan was the first of the two to gain independence on August 14, 1947.

**August 15, 1947 – India:** After the British Parliament had passed the Indian Independence Act, and Pakistan had gained independence on August 14, India became an independent, democratic nation at 12:02 AM on August 15, 1947.

**August 15, 1945 – North Korea:** On this day, North Korea gained independence from Japan.

**August 15, 1945 – South Korea:** National Liberation Day is celebrated annually and commemorates the day 35 years of Japanese occupation and colonial rule ended on the Korean Peninsula.

**August 15, 1960 – Republic of the Congo:** The former French region of Middle Congo achieved independence.

**August 15, 1971 – Bahrain:** Bahrain gained independence from the United Kingdom.

**August 16, 1960 – Cyprus:** On this day, Cyprus gained independence from the United Kingdom. Independence Day celebrations were moved to October 1, to avoid summer heat and the tourist season.

**August 17, 1945 – Indonesia:** Declared independence from the Netherlands. After an armed struggle against Dutch forces, the United States of Indonesia achieved formal independence on December 27, 1949.

**August 17, 1960 – Gabon:** Achieved independence from France.

**August 19, 1919 – Afghanistan:** After the Third Anglo-Afghan War, Afghanistan and Britain signed the Treaty of Rawalpindi on August 8, 1919. As a result, the British relinquished control over Afghan foreign affairs and recognized Afghanistan's independence. On August 19, 1919, Emir Amanullah Khan declared "independence" from British influence.

**August 25, 1825 – Uruguay:** After Uruguay had gained independence from Spain in 1811, it was annexed by Brazil. On August 25, 1825, Uruguay regained its independence from Brazil.

**August 27, 1991 – Moldova:** On this day, Moldova declared its independence from the Soviet Union. It was formally recognized on March 2, 1992, when it gained membership in the United Nations.

**August 30, 1991 – Azerbaijan:** Declared independence from the Soviet Union.

**August 31, 1957 – Malaysia:** On this date, Chief Minister of Malaya, Tunku Abdul Rahman read the Declaration of Independence of Malaysia from British imperial rule.

**August 31, 1962 – Trinidad and Tobago:** At midnight on August 30, 1962, the Union Jack was lowered, and the Trinidad and Tobago flag was raised for the first time, signaling independence from Great Britain.

**August 31, 1991 – Kyrgyzstan:** The Kyrgyz Republic declared independence from the Soviet Union.

## ABOUT US

The core mission of MDAD's Protocol and International Affairs Division is -

*To facilitate the movement of official guests, delegations, dignitaries and VIPs through MIA and support the airport's international programs and initiatives.*

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