



JANUARY

This Month in Black History

Fact Sheet

January 1	Kwanzaa Ends President Abraham Lincoln signs the Emancipation Proclamation (1863) Congress bans slave trade (1808) Haiti Independence Day New Year's Day
January 2	William Lloyd Garrison began publishing , "The Liberator", slave abolitionist newspaper, in Boston, Massachusetts (1831) John Hope Franklin , historian, born (1915)
January 3	William Tucker , first person of African ancestry born in the America, baptized in Jamestown, Virginia (1624) Shirley Anita Chisholm began her initial term as the first African American woman in the U.S. Congress (1977)
January 4	The first Black baseball league, National Negro Baseball League , organized 1920
January 5	George Washington Carver , scientist and inventor, died (1943)
January 6	Mamie Till Mobley , mother of lynched Emmett Till, dies at age 81 (2003)
January 7	William B. Purvis , inventor and businessman, patented the fountain pen 1890 Marian Anderson became the first African-American to perform at the Metropolitan Opera House (1955)
January 8	Fannie Jackson Coppin who was an American educator, lecturer, missionary to Africa and a lifelong advocate for female upper education born (1837)
January 9	Edward W. Brooke III , first African American to the U.S. Senate by popular vote, took office (1967)
January 10	George Washington Carver , scientist and inventor, born (1864) George Foreman , former heavyweight boxing champion of the world, born (1949)
January 11	Rueben V. Anderson became the first African American judge appointed to the Mississippi Supreme Court (1985)
January 12	Congressional Black Caucus established (1971) Mordecai W. Johnson , first president of Howard University, born (1890)
January 13	L. Douglas Wilder of Virginia inaugurated as the first African American governor to be elected in the United States (1990)
January 14	John Oliver Killens , author and founder of the Harlem Writer's Guild, born (1917) Ernest Everett Just , pioneering African-American biologist, born (1883)
January 15	Martin Luther King, Jr , civil rights pioneer, born (1929)
January 16	Lucious D. Amerson , first Black sheriff in the South since Reconstruction, of Macon County, Alabama sworn into office (1967)
January 17	Paul Cuffee , businessman, sea captain and abolitionist, born (1759)

January 18	Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday Daniel Hale Williams , an African American general surgeon who performed the first successful open-heart surgery, born (1856) Robert C. Weaver served as the first African American presidential cabinet member when sworn in as the Secretary of Housing and Urban Affairs in Johnson Administration (1966)
January 19	John H. Johnson , publisher of Ebony and Jet magazines, born (1918)
January 20	Barak H. Obama , first African American president of the United States, takes oath of office (2009). Kamala Harris , first female, first African American and first South Asian vice-president of the United States, takes oath of office (2021) William R. Pettiford , founder of the Alabama Penny Savings Bank, born (1847)
January 21	Eric H. Holder , first African American to hold the position of U.S. Attorney General, born (1951)
January 22	Hazel O'Leary became the first woman and first African American to hold the position of U. S. Secretary of Energy (1993)
January 23	Daniel Hale Williams , an African American general surgeon, founded Provident Hospital in the United States (1889) Paul Robeson who was an athlete, lawyer, and singer, died in Philadelphia (1976)
January 24	Martin R. Delaney was an African American abolitionist, journalist, physician, soldier, and writer died (1885) Jackie Robinson became the first Black elected to the Black Hall of Fame (1962)
January 25	Sojourner Truth addressed the first Black Women's Rights Convention, Arkon, Ohio (1851)
January 26	54th Massachusetts Regiment (Black) infantry Regiment formed (1863) Executive Order 9981 , the end segregation in the U.S. Armed Forces by President Truman (1948)
January 27	Mahalia Jackson , legendary gospel singer, died (1972)
January 28	John Brown organized raid on Arsenal at Harper's Ferry (1858)
January 29	Francis L. Cardoza , the first African American to hold a statewide office in the United States, elected in South Carolina as Secretary of State (1868)
January 30	William Wells Brown published first Black drama, "Leap to Freedom" (1858)
January 31	Thirteenth Amendment passed Congress which on ratification abolished slavery in America (1865) Jackie Robinson , legendary baseball player, born (1919)