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FOOTBALL IS LIFE



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FOOTBALL IS LIFE

A Universal Story of Beauty and Belonging

WRITTEN BY ANDREW DANSBY

In urban centers and tiny villages, amid plains, deserts, forests, rainforests, coastal areas and any other habitat on our spinning sphere, football found a formidable foothold. “Is there any cultural practice more global than football?” author David Goldblatt asks at the outset of *The Ball Is Round: The Global History of Soccer*.

Well, is there?

Birth, death, taxes—all are imbued with what we might call universality, but as Goldblatt points out, differing rituals greet these occasions from place to place. Though styles of play can vary based on culture, history, innovation, daring, success and failure, commonality lies in the rules and rudiments of the game, which are uniform across six of seven continents.

Its greatest event, the FIFA World Cup, returns in 2026, and the culture that surrounds the everyday game will rush anew into our collective conscious. Before and during play, football’s history, soundtracks, technical advancements and more will dominate conversations both on and off the pitch. To seek connective threads among disparate cultures is to find them in this game that feels bigger than a game. As is life, football is hope, excitement, anguish and disappointment. It is preparation and improvisation. It is learning and applying that learning.

Even earlier—before we walk, before we talk, before we leave the womb—we kick.

This beautiful game awaits us.

Do we find football, or does it find us? Probably both. It’s passed down from parents, it’s shared with siblings,

it connects to friends. All this occurs before our experience is formalized into something requiring a kit and boots, a pitch, four vertical posts and two crossbars and the ball. The fervor spills into cultures around the world in football-centric rites and rituals: It’s found in jerseys worn year-round; in giant murals that celebrate the game’s finest practitioners; in the game-day flags, hats, noisemakers. Football fandom isn’t about restraint. Among all social rituals, this one is meant to be celebrated radiantly. It’s a melted crayon box of expression.

At the outset, though, football requires the development of that invisible string that ties one’s foot to the ball, a counterintuitive practice that makes no use of those thumbs that distinguish our species.

MATH ON STAGES BIG AND SMALL

Football possesses its own sacred geometry. Take the ball itself, a sphere, with all the perfection that connotes. The game spans a flat plane where arcs and angles feel as mystical as mathematical. Players plot these lines and parabolas, sometimes while moving 20 mph (32 kph).

The World Cup awakens every four years—with the cicada-like hum of the plastic horns known as vuvuzelas that gained fame during the 2010 tournament in South Africa—and has for nearly a century. Eighty nations have vied for 22 World Cups, not quite half the countries of the world.

Football’s global scale speaks to its nearly ubiquitous appeal. Consider the 2026 Men’s World Cup, when 48

teams—upped for the first time from 32—will compete in 16 cities across Mexico, the United States and Canada. This follows the 2022 event with Qatar as the first Arab host country. The event’s name is not a misnomer. With apologies to American baseball and its World Series, the Cup truly belongs to the world.

That’s the cultural phenomenon in its grandest setting. But football didn’t reach global renown because of this tournament. Rather, the game flourishes for its ability to function in nearly any setting. Two traffic cones, fence posts, a couple of trash cans, chalk marks on the side of a house: The makings of a roughshod goal are always at hand.

Equipment is minimal. Boots and shin guards offer a degree of comfort and protection. But in towns around the world, barefoot children chase a ball or, absent financial resources, duct tape around a wad of fabric. Whatever the setting, the ball has a magnetic pull. Soccer in the sand will set one’s calf muscles screaming, yet beaches everywhere offer ample space for impromptu play. Two young friends in Morocco can do drills in a nook by their home. Concrete and blacktop aren’t optimal for the game, yet footballs skitter across these surfaces just the same as in a 1930s photo from London, where kids prepare to play outside Lyons, a purveyor of pastries and tea.

HEROES, VILLAINS AND RITUALS

Style quickly finds its way into the experience. No brand or garment can communicate something about the self the way a football jersey does. A jersey can indicate friend or foe. More basically, it can cross over the game’s tribalism and overcome any barrier of language. The jerseys, in this sense, are a friendly flag: They signal an affinity for a particular club or country but also affection for the

The Hijri Calendar

In 638 CE, six years after the death of the Prophet Muhammad, Islam's second caliph, 'Umar, recognized the need for a calendar to govern the affairs of Muslims. The Qur'an, in Chapter 10, Verse 5, states that time should be reckoned by the moon. Calendars of the era were identified with other religions and cultures. He therefore decided to create a calendar specifically for the Muslim community. It would be lunar, and it would have 12 months, each with 29 or 30 days. This gives the lunar year 354 days, 11 days fewer than the solar year. 'Umar chose as the epoch for the new Muslim calendar the Hijra, the emigration of the Prophet Muhammad and 70 Muslims from Makkah to Madinah, where Muslims first attained religious and political autonomy. The Hijra thus occurred on 1 Muharram of the year 1 according to the Islamic calendar. This date corresponds to July 16, 622 CE, on the Gregorian calendar. Today in the West, it is customary, when writing hijri dates, to use the abbreviation AH, which stands for the Latin *anno hegirae*, "year of the Hijra." Because the Islamic lunar calendar is 11 days shorter than the solar, it is not synchronized to the seasons. Its festivals, which fall on the same days of the same lunar months each year, make the round of the seasons every 33 solar years. This 11-day difference between the lunar and the solar year accounts for the need to convert dates from one system to the other.

—PAUL LUNDE

Converting years and dates

The following equations convert roughly from Gregorian to hijri and vice versa. However, the results can be slightly misleading: They tell you only the year in which the other calendar begins. For example, 2026 Gregorian begins in Rajab, the seventh month of hijri 1447, and ends in the month of Rajab 1448.

Gregorian year =

$$[(32 \times \text{hijri year}) \div 33] + 622$$

Hijri year =

$$[(\text{Gregorian year} - 622) \times 33] \div 32$$

Online calculators can be found by searching

"Gregorian-hijri calendar calculator" or similar terms.

game at-large. En masse they are radiant, mostly primary colors with the brightest of secondary colors also invited. Football is not for muted earth tones. These garments are not camouflage for wallflowers. They are the plumage of exotic birds.

From professional players youths form allegiances, defined by proximity, nationality or some other factor. And they learn the intricacies of rivalry—that heroes and villains wear the bright colors they know so well. On the pitch heroism and villainy are often painted in shades of gray. Football allowed the Argentinian Diego Maradona, who hoisted the World Cup trophy in 1986, to become *El Pibe de Oro*, or the Golden Boy, whose short and stocky build accommodated twists and turns and advanced ball handling that made him one of the greatest players of the 20th century. His two World Cup goals versus England speak to the breadth of his persona, one a dazzling display of skill as he dribbled past England's helpless defenders for a goal that appeared impossible. The other is just as famous, or perhaps infamous. It felt like divine intervention as his fist, rather than his feet, played the part of scorer, undetected by the game's officials.

Football certainly plays host to hopes and prayers. Yet even if prayers go unanswered as we hope, we use the game as a form of fellowship and communion, as evidenced by two Iraqi girls sitting together

To seek connective threads among disparate cultures is to find them in this game that feels bigger than a game.

after play. One can do drills alone, but add a second person and it starts to take shape as a familiar dance that feels like football. This engagement and interactivity nourish, whether it's two friends passing back and forth or a nation with high hopes that an impending World Cup will be its year.

The encircled joining of hands before players take the pitch spirals like the Caracol, the snail-like swirl the Maya regarded as sacred. Like that shape, football feels like a series of spirals, of near repetitions where ritual and familiarity exist but with slow incremental change. So the sun rises, and somewhere kids gather to kick a ball around. The same ritual takes place at dusk. Good luck estimating how many times this has been repeated.

It's no different than steps taken, meals eaten, air breathed. Because here, there and everywhere, football is life. **AW**

Andrew Dansby is a freelance writer who worked as a senior reporter for the *Houston Chronicle* and a reporter and news editor for *Rolling Stone*. His work has also appeared in *MOJO*, *NME*, *URB*, *XXL* and other publications.

FRONT COVER: Friends practice headers in the space they find available in 2022 in Chefchaouen, Morocco.

BACK COVER: When a three-dimensional goal isn't available, a two-dimensional one will suffice. Two Iraqi girls take a break from practice.

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January

Banners in the Breeze Outside a shopping center in Baku, Azerbaijan, brightly colored football jerseys hang like flags.

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY					
NOTES: _____ _____ _____				December 2025				February 2026				112		213		314	
				1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31				1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28						Author David Goldblatt's The Ball is Round: A Global History of Soccer published 2008			
				415		516		617		718		819		920		1021	
						First FIFA Futsal World Championship of men's national teams held in Netherlands 1989											
1122		1223		1324		1425		1526		1627		1728					
1829		1930		201		212		223		234		245					
												Irish team Bohemian FC launches Bob Marley jersey to mark 1980 show at the club's stadium 2022					
256		267		278		289		2910		3011		3112					



CHILDREN ON A BICYCLE

February

Jersey, Size Small A young football fan seems like he would rather be on the pitch than accommodating his mother for a photo in Penang, Malaysia.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
113	214	315	416	517	618	719
820	921	1022	1123	1224 World's largest artificial leather football (5 m in diameter) unveiled in Doha, Qatar 2022	1325	1426
1527	1628	1729	181	192	203 Statue of Pelé unveiled in Rio de Janeiro, honoring legendary Brazilian footballer's impact 2021	214
225	236	247	258	269	2710	2811 FIFA World Football Museum opens in Zurich, showing sport's history, culture and impact 2016
January 2026 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	March 2026 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	NOTES: _____ _____ _____				



Ramadan – Shawwal

March

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Nimble Athleticism Girls from the Yuwa School take part in a practice session in 2015 in Jharkhand, eastern India.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 12	2 13	3 14 Ricky Martin releases "The Cup of Life (La Copa de la Vida)" 1998	4 15	5 16	6 17	7 18
8 19	9 20	10 21 "Modern Football Boot" statue honoring German footwear innovation unveiled in Berlin 2006	11 22	12 23	13 24	14 25
15 26	16 27	17 28	18 29	19 30	20 1 Eid al-Fitr	21 2
22 3	23 4	24 5 Alphonso Davies of Canada first player named a UN Refugee Agency goodwill ambassador 2021	25 6	26 7	27 8	28 9
29 10	30 11 3-2-1 Qatar Olympic and Sports Museum opens in Doha 2022	31 12	February 2026 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	April 2026 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	NOTES: _____ _____ _____	





Shawwal – Dhu-al-Qa`dah

April

Play in “Little Italy” Tweed-clad football enthusiasts in a neighborhood of 1930s London show their skills against the backdrop of Lyons, a tea and pastry shop.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
NOTES: _____ _____ _____			113 "Hayya Hayya (Better Together)" released on World Cup soundtrack 2022	214 Comedy film "Shaolin Soccer" released 2001	315	416
517 Easter	618	719	820 "We Are One (Ole Ola)" by Pitbull, Jennifer Lopez and Claudia Leitte released as FIFA World Cup song 2014	921	1022	1123
1224	1325 "The World's Game: Fútbol and Contemporary Art" temporary exhibition opens in Miami 2018	1426	1527	1628	1729	181
192	203	214	225 Brazilian Cássio Brandão sets record for largest collection of football shirts (6,101) 2024	236	247	258 Saudi Aramco and FIFA announce global partnership 2024
269	2710	2811	2912	3013	March 2026 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	
					May 2026 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	



Dhu-al-Qa`dah – Dhu-al-Hijjah

May

Getting in the Spirit

With flags to wave and vuvuzelas to blare, fans in Johannesburg, South Africa, enjoy the 2010 FIFA World Cup.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
NOTES: _____ _____ _____			April 2026 <div>1234 567891011 12131415161718 19202122232425 2627282930</div>	June 2026 <div>123456 78910111213 14151617181920 21222324252627 282930</div>	114 King Abdullah Sports City opens in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia 2014	215
316	417 Diego Maradona's 1986 World Cup QF shirt sells for USD \$8,958,124, most expensive ever 2022	518	619	720 "Waka Waka (This Time for Africa)" released as FIFA World Cup song 2010	821 First FIFA Beach World Cup held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil 2005	922
1023	1124	1225	1326 Biopic "Pelé: Birth of a Legend" premieres in US 2016	1427	1528	1629
1730	181	192	203	214 Fédération Internationale de Football Association— FIFA—founded in Paris 1904	225	236
2431 714	258 UN declares annual World Football Day 2024	269	2710 Eid al-Adha	2811	2912 German Football Assoc. (DFB) Women's National Team launches Frida Kahlo Collection 2025	3013 World's largest football museum Legends: The Home of Football opens in Madrid 2023





A Sport for All Indonesia's national amputee football team cheers becoming the only one from Southeast Asia to qualify for the final round of the 2022 Amputee Football World Cup, hosted by Türkiye.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div>May 2026</div> <div>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</div>	115	216	317	418	519	620
721	822 <div>First match of 2026 FIFA World Cup</div>	923	1024	1125	1226	1327 <div>The Beatles' "Hey Jude" figures prominently in campaign film for UEFA Euro 2024</div>
1428	1529 <div>Pelé Museum opens as tribute to legendary footballer in Santos, Brazil 2014</div>	161 <div>Largest World Cup crowd, 173,850, watches final at Maracanã Stadium in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil 1950</div>	172	183	194	205
216 <div>The National Football Museum officially opens in United Kingdom 2001</div>	227 <div>Argentina's Diego Maradona scores "Goal of the Century" against England 1986</div>	238	249 <div>Women play highest-altitude game (5,714 m) at Mount Kilimanjaro, Tanzania 2017</div>	2510	2611	2712
2813	2914	3015 <div>Museum of Michel Platini in Cyprus records most football memorabilia (40,669 items) 2017</div>	<div>July 2026</div> <div>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</div>	NOTES: _____ _____ _____		



Muharram – Safar

July

Flipping Over the Win Fans share in the joy of a somersaulting Salem Al-Dawsari of Saudi Arabia after he scored the winning goal against Argentina during the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Doha, Qatar.

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
NOTES: _____ _____ _____				June 2026 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		1 16 FIFA announces offside tracking technology, using sensor inside the ball, to debut at World Cup 2022		2 17		3 18		4 19	
		5 20		6 21		7 22 Modern World Cup Trophy, designed by sculptor Silvio Gazzaniga, debuts in Munich, Germany 1974		8 23		9 24		10 25	
		12 27		13 28 First World Cup match, between France and Mexico, held 1930		14 29		15 1		16 2		17 3	
		19 5 First halftime show at a FIFA Club World Cup final 2025		20 6		21 7		22 8		23 9		24 10	
26 12		27 13		28 14		29 15		30 16		31 17		August 2026 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	



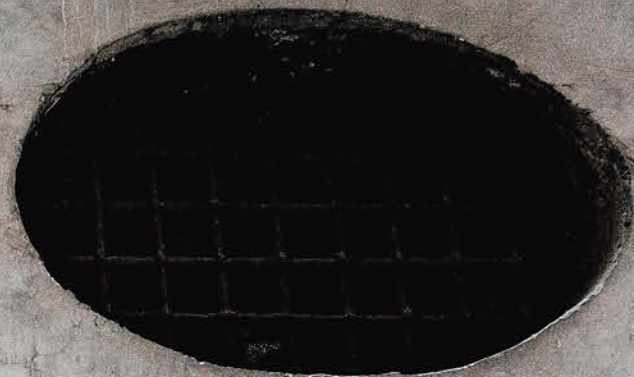
August

High Time for Fun Children send footballs aloft at Dolphin Beach in Cape Town, South Africa.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
NOTES: _____ _____ _____				<div>July 2026</div> <div>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</div>	<div>September 2026</div> <div>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30</div>	<div>118</div> <div>First women's Olympic football tournament final held (US beats China) 1996</div>
<div>219</div>	<div>320</div>	<div>421</div>	<div>522</div>	<div>623</div>	<div>724</div>	<div>825</div> <div>287 participants take part in largest blind soccer lesson in Tokyo 2018</div>
<div>926</div>	<div>1027</div>	<div>1128</div>	<div>1229</div>	<div>1330</div>	<div>141</div>	<div>152</div>
<div>163</div>	<div>174</div>	<div>185</div>	<div>196</div>	<div>207</div>	<div>218</div>	<div>229</div>
<div>23301017</div>	<div>24311118</div>	<div>2512</div> <div>FC Barcelona fans set record for largest flag flown in football stadium (113 m by 116 m) 2010</div>	<div>2613</div>	<div>2714</div>	<div>2815</div>	<div>2916</div>



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div>August 2026</div> <div>1</div> <div>2345678</div> <div>9101112131415</div> <div>16171819202122</div> <div>23242526272829</div> <div>3031</div>	<div>October 2026</div> <div>123</div> <div>45678910</div> <div>11121314151617</div> <div>18192021222324</div> <div>25262728293031</div>	<div>1</div> <div>19</div>	<div>2</div> <div>20</div>	<div>3</div> <div>21</div>	<div>4</div> <div>22</div>	<div>5</div> <div>23</div>
<div>6</div> <div>24</div>	<div>7</div> <div>25</div>	<div>8</div> <div>26</div>	<div>9</div> <div>27</div>	<div>10</div> <div>28</div>	<div>11</div> <div>29</div>	<div>12</div> <div>1</div>
<div>13</div> <div>2</div>	<div>14</div> <div>3</div>	<div>15</div> <div>4</div>	<div>16</div> <div>5</div> <div>BBC transmits first live televised soccer broadcast 1937</div>	<div>17</div> <div>6</div>	<div>18</div> <div>7</div> <div>CONCACAF founded in Mexico 1961</div>	<div>19</div> <div>8</div> <div>San Siro Stadium, noted for multitiered Art Nouveau design, opens in Milan, Italy 1926</div>
<div>20</div> <div>9</div> <div>First official men's football match held at Paris Olympics 1900</div>	<div>21</div> <div>10</div>	<div>22</div> <div>11</div> <div>Largest football sculpture (24 m in diameter) built on South African broadcast tower 2009</div>	<div>23</div> <div>12</div>	<div>24</div> <div>13</div>	<div>25</div> <div>14</div>	<div>26</div> <div>15</div>
<div>27</div> <div>16</div>	<div>28</div> <div>17</div>	<div>29</div> <div>18</div>	<div>30</div> <div>19</div>	<div>NOTES: _____</div> <div>_____</div> <div>_____</div>		



October

Football and Street Art A dramatic mural in a neighborhood of Naples, Italy, celebrates legendary Argentinian footballer Diego Maradona.

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
NOTES: _____ _____ _____		September 2026		November 2026		120		221		322			
		1 2 3 4 5		1 2 3 4 5 6 7		Largest football shoe (5.35 m x 2.05 m x 1.70 m) displayed ahead of World Cup in Doha, Qatar 2022							
		6 7 8 9 10 11 12		8 9 10 11 12 13 14									
		13 14 15 16 17 18 19		15 16 17 18 19 20 21									
		20 21 22 23 24 25 26		22 23 24 25 26 27 28									
		27 28 29 30		29 30									
423 Mohamed Salah becomes first Arab footballer with wax likeness at Madame Tussauds London 2021		524		625		726		827		928		1029	
1130		121		132		143 First game played at night under artificial lights at Bramall Lane in Sheffield, England 1878		154		165		176	
187		198		209		2110		2211		2312		2413 World's first football club, Sheffield FC, founded 1857	
2514		2615 Football Association, oldest of sport's governing bodies, founded in United Kingdom 1863		2716		2817		2918		3019 Lionel Messi wins record-breaking eighth Ballon d'Or 2023		3120	



Jumada I – Jumada II

November

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Light It Up World Cup revelry always involves flags and noisemakers. Occasionally, fans also light flares, as these did in Paris after a victory by Morocco during the 2022 World Cup.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
121	222	323	424	525	626 <i>The Secret Footballer: What Goes on Tour</i> published anonymously 2012	727
828	929	1030	111 FIFA Museum opens exhibition "211 Cultures. One Game" from all member associations 2011	122	133	144
155	166 First FIFA Women's World Cup match held 1991	177	188	199	2010 Qatar hosts first World Cup in Arab world 2022	2111
2212	2313	2414	2515 Naples, Italy, unveils bronze Diego Maradona statue on first anniversary of his death 2021	2616	2717	2818
2919	3020 Scotland and England play first international football match 1872	October 2026 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	December 2026 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	NOTES: _____ _____ _____		





December

Defining Moment Fans, reporters and photographers surround Edson Arantes do Nascimento, better known as Pelé, in 1970 as he celebrates the record third time he led his native Brazil to a World Cup victory in Mexico City.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div>November 2026</div> <div>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</div> <div>8 9 10 11 12 13 14</div> <div>15 16 17 18 19 20 21</div> <div>22 23 24 25 26 27 28</div> <div>29 30</div>	<div>January 2027</div> <div>1 2</div> <div>3 4 5 6 7 8 9</div> <div>10 11 12 13 14 15 16</div> <div>17 18 19 20 21 22 23</div> <div>24 25 26 27 28 29 30</div> <div>31</div>	<div>121</div> <div>United Arab Emirates becomes first Arab country to host FIFA Club World Cup 2009</div>	<div>222</div>	<div>323</div>	<div>424</div>	<div>525</div>
<div>626</div>	<div>727</div> <div>Ithra launches "From Strike to Stroke" exhibit of NFTs matched to World Cup teams 2022</div>	<div>828</div>	<div>929</div>	<div>101</div>	<div>112</div> <div>Morocco, Spain and Portugal named 2030 World Cup hosts and Saudi Arabia as 2034 host 2024</div>	<div>123</div>
<div>134</div>	<div>145</div> <div>Santiago Bernabéu Stadium, host of Real Madrid, opens 1947</div>	<div>156</div>	<div>167</div>	<div>178</div>	<div>189</div> <div>World Cup final, Argentina vs. France, becomes most watched match ever (1.5B worldwide) 2022</div>	<div>1910</div>
<div>2011</div>	<div>2112</div>	<div>2213</div> <div>First live radio broadcast of a football match, Arsenal vs. Sheffield, is broadcast 1927</div>	<div>2314</div>	<div>2415</div>	<div>2516</div> <div>Christmas Day</div>	<div>2617</div>
<div>2718</div>	<div>2819</div>	<div>2920</div>	<div>3021</div>	<div>3122</div>	<div>NOTES: _____</div> <div>_____</div> <div>_____</div>	

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In November 1949, the Arabian American Oil Company (Aramco) published the first issue of an interoffice newsletter named *Aramco World*. Over the decades that followed, as the number of Americans working with Saudi colleagues in Dhahran grew into the tens of thousands, *Aramco World* grew into a bimonthly educational magazine whose historical, geographical and cultural articles helped those employees and their families appreciate an unfamiliar land.

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