

Astronomical calculations

The month of Dhu al-Qa'dah 1444/2023

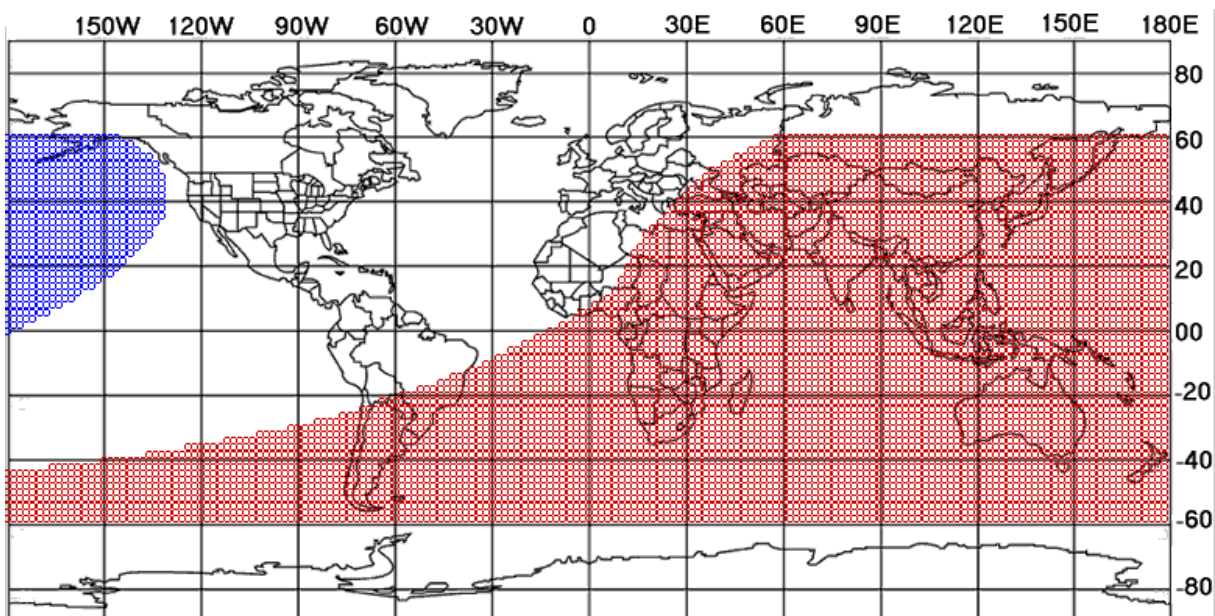
Many Islamic countries have adopted April 21st, 2023, as the beginning of the month of Shawwal 1444. Therefore, the day for moon sighting of the month of Dhu al-Qa'dah 1444 would correspond to Friday, May 19th, 2023. The central conjunction of the moon occurs on the same day at 3.53 pm GMT (or 4.53 pm Tunisian time).

It is not possible to observe the crescent moon either with a telescope or the naked eye in most countries in North and Central America, Northeastern Africa, Southern Europe, and both the Australian and Asian continents, as well as Central and Southern Africa. Hence, it is probable that Saturday, May 20th, 2023, will complete the month of Shawwal 1444, and Sunday, May 21st, 2023, will mark the beginning of the month of Dhu al-Qa'dah 1444.

For Tunisia, based on astronomical calculations, the moon sighting for Dhu al-Qa'dah 1444 would occur on Friday, May 19th, 2023. The sun sets at 7.24 pm, followed by the moon at 7.31 pm, which is 7 minutes after sunset. The moon's altitude is estimated to be 1 degree and 9 seconds above the horizon, with an angular separation from the sun of approximately 2 degrees and 36 seconds. At sunset in the capital city of Tunis, the moon's age will be 2 hours and 31 minutes. In that case, it is impossible to observe the crescent. Therefore, it is likely that Saturday, May 20th, 2023, will complete the month of Shawwal 1444, and Sunday, May 21st, 2023, will mark the beginning of the month of Dhu al-Qa'dah 1444.

The Diwan of Fatwa in the Tunisian Republic remains the only authority responsible for announcing the beginning of the Islamic months and religious occasions.

Map of the crescent moon visibility for the month of Dhu al-Qa'dah 1444 on Friday, May 19th, 2023



-Crescent visibility is impossible in the regions indicated in red.

-Crescent visibility is not possible, neither with the naked eye nor with a telescope, in the non-colored regions.

-Crescent visibility is only possible using a telescope in the regions indicated in blue.