



# NOTABLE MINORITIES WHO CHANGED HISTORY

## December 24, 2007

Featuring  
Christmas Around the  
World



*Happy Holidays*

### Snowflakes

Snowflakes spill from heavens hand  
Lovely and chaste like smooth white sand.  
A veil of wonder laced in light  
Falling gently on a winters night.  
Graceful beauty raining down  
Giving magic to the lifeless ground.  
Each snowflake like a falling star  
Smiling beauty that's spun afar.  
Till earth is dressed in a robe of white  
Unspoken poem the hush of the night.



By Linda A. Copp

### DECEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 2 - First Day of Advent
- 4 - Hanukkah begins at sundown
- 5 - Hanukkah
- 7 - Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 10 - Columbia State Classes End
- 11-15 Columbia State Final Exams
- 12 - Virgin of Guadalupe (Mexico)
- 17 - Columbia State Grades Due
- 20 - (Eid) al Adha
- 22 - Winter begins
- 25 - Christmas
- 26 - Boxing Day (Canada)

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Columbia State is an AA/EOE Educational Institution.



### Christmas

Christmas is celebrated by Christians as a time to remember the birth of their savior, Jesus Christ. This holiday is celebrated by the giving of gifts, fellowship with friends and family, attending special church functions and plays, and being of good cheer. The star on top of the tree symbolizes the star that guided the wise men to the baby Jesus.



### Hanukkah

Hanukkah is the annual Jewish festival celebrated on eight successive days beginning on the 25th day of Kislev, the 3rd month of the Jewish calendar. Candles are lit in a special candleholder called a menorah. On Hanukkah, they eat special potato pancakes called latkes, sing songs, and spin a top called a dreidel to win chocolate coins, nuts, or raisins.



### Kwanzaa

Kwanzaa which means "First Fruits," is based on ancient African harvest festivals and celebrates family life and culture. This holiday is celebrated December 26 to January 1. People dress in special clothes, decorate their homes with fruits and vegetables, and light a candleholder called a kinara. Kwanzaa is based on seven guiding principles: Unity, Self-Determination, Work & Responsibility, Cooperative economics, Purpose, Creativity, and Faith.



### Chinese New Year

Many Chinese children dress in new clothes to celebrate the Chinese New Year. People carry lanterns and join in a huge parade led by a silk dragon, the Chinese symbol of strength. According to legend, the dragon hibernates most of the year, so people throw firecrackers to keep the dragon awake.



### St. Lucia Day

To honor this third-century saint on December 13, many girls in Sweden dress up as "Lucia Brides" in long white gowns with red sashes and a wreath of burning candles on their heads. They wake up their families by singing songs and bringing them coffee and twisted saffron buns called "Lucia Cats."

Source: (teacher.scholastic.com)

**Did You Know?** The Hope House is holding it's Annual Reverse Raffle on February 9, 2008 at the National Guard Armory. The entertainment this year will be provided by Natalie Stovall. Tickets will be \$100 which gets 2 people in the door, and the amenities of the evenings program. Contact Angela M. Slack, Executive Director, at 840-0916 ext. 100 to buy tickets or for more information. Only 300 tickets will be sold!