

YOM KIPPUR

Hebrew's Holiest Anniversary Began Tuesday Evening

Yom Kippur, the holiest day in the Jewish calendar, being the great annual feast by the people of Israel, which is known as the Day of Atonement, took place Tuesday and Wednesday, the tenth day of the Jewish month of Tishri. This 24 hours of fasting which is rigorously observed by devout Jews throughout the world, began at sunset Tuesday night and continued until the appearance of the evening star Wednesday.

Between Tuesday's sunset and Wednesday's, the observant Jew gave himself entirely to God and to the purifying of his soul by repentance. The day was spent in meditation, prayer and fasting. It is the Great White Fast, the most solemn day in all the year, and one in which the children of Israel "afflict their souls" for the sins of the last year. Yom Kippur completes the penitential period of 10 days, that began with Rosh Hashana, the New Year, on Monday of last week.

The origin of Yom Kippur is traced to the Biblical injunction that the 10th day of the seventh month shall be a Sabbath of Sabbaths, on which "ye are to afflict your souls." This affliction of the soul is traditionally interpreted to mean fasting and by repentance, prayer and good works.