

Hi all.

In considering calendar reform one of the issues calendrists have to address is the 'starting date' of this Epoch. The beginning of a Global Epoch most certainly must be neutral in terms of any religious, philosophical, or mythological bent.

Rather than debating which hard scientific criteria it should be based on such as astronomical, archaeological, or anthropological data, a consensus based on a non-incident closer to the beginning, roughly 11,700 years ago, of the Holocene period should be acceptable to all.

Cesare Emiliani proposed it first in 1993 making this year 12019 by adding 10,000 years to the beginning of the Christian era.

I think Sepp or Amos suggested simply using the beginning of this millennium (2000) as the 10000 year Before the Present (BP) base-line mark and counting backward and forward from there thus making this year 10019. This would bring the beginning of this Secular Epoch further back than any religious or cultural epoch, thus enfolding them all. This could solve one of the calendric reform issues.

But the major concern of many people on this list is making the calendar fit a continuous seven day week come hell or high water. They also have a requirement that a Calendar year have no null day(s) which causes a major problem in Calendar Reform.

Also using a leap week and leap month, relatively quickly puts the Calendar out of sync with the seasons.

If we want calendar reform within the next 50 years, we must at this point in history concede and except and only for the sake of expediency, the current temporary need of the clumsy seven day week. But in return we also must demand the concession of at least one intercalary day, call it whatever we may.

We must simplify the calendar soon but we cannot project, stipulate, and decide now, any major changes to the make-up of the calendar for those living in 2582 or 563 years hence, never mind 4, 5, or 10,000 years from now. Nothing is static and forever, everything is dynamic and constantly changing.

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