

Major World Events of 2010

January 4 - The tallest man-made structure to date, the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, is officially opened.



January 12 - A 7.0-magnitude earthquake occurs in Haiti. With a confirmed death toll over 230,000 it is one of the deadliest on record.

February 12-28 - The 2010 Winter Olympics are held in Vancouver and Whistler, Canada.

February 27 - An 8.8-magnitude earthquake occurs in Chile, triggering a tsunami over the Pacific and killing 497.

March 16 - The Kasubi Tombs, Uganda's only cultural World Heritage Site, are destroyed by fire.

April 10 - The President of Poland, Lech Kaczynski, is among 96 killed when their airplane crashes in western Russia.

April 14 - Volcanic ash from one of several eruptions in Iceland, begins to disrupt air traffic across northern and western Europe.



April 20 - Oil platform explodes in the Gulf of Mexico, killing eleven workers. The resulting oil spill, one of the largest in history.

May 2 - The Eurozone and the International Monetary Fund agree to a 110 billion bailout package for Greece.

May 4 - Nude, Green Leaves and Bust by Pablo Picasso sells in New York for US\$106.5 million, setting another new world record.

May 19 - Protests in Bangkok, Thailand ends with a bloody military crackdown, killing 91 and more than 2,100 injured.

May 20 - Five paintings worth 100 million are stolen from the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris.

May 22 - Air India Express Flight 812 overshoots the runway at Mangalore International Airport in India, killing 158 and leaving 8 survivors.

May 31 - Nine activists are killed in a clash with soldiers when Israeli Navy forces raid and capture a flotilla attempting to break the Gaza blockade.

June 11 - July 11 - The 2010 FIFA World Cup is held in South Africa, and is won by Spain.



July 1 - Belgium takes over the Presidency of the Council of the European Union from Spain.

July 8 - The first 24-hour flight by a solar powered plane is completed by the Solar Impulse.

July 29 - Heavy rains begin to cause widespread flooding in the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan.

August 10 - The World Health Organization declares the H1N1 influenza pandemic over.

September 28 - Seven people are reported to have been killed and around 100 are missing after a landslide in Mexico.

October 13 - Thirty-three miners trapped 700 metres underground in Chile. They are brought back to the surface after 69 days.



October 25 - An earthquake and consequent tsunami off the coast of Sumatra, Indonesia, kills over 400 people and leave hundreds missing.

November 13 - Burmese opposition politician Aung San Suu Kyi is released from her house arrest.

November 28 - WikiLeaks releases a collection of more than 250,000 American diplomatic cables.

November 29 - The European Union agree to an 85 billion rescue deal for Ireland.

December 2 - NASA announces the discovery of a new arsenic-based life form in California.

