

The declining moon
As seen just before sunrise, looking in the direction from where the sun rises

On Thursday 30 June 2016



On Saturday 2 July 2016



The old moon is *ahead* of the sun and is leading it in the sky.

Each day the old moon gets smaller than it was the day before, and closer to the rising sun. On Sunday it will probably be too small and too close to the sun to be seen.

Then the moon will cross the sun, and will be *following* it, instead of leading it. It is then the new moon, which will appear at sunset. As it will be following the sun, the sun sets first, and then the moon. That is the short interval in which you see the new moon at sunset time.

Zahid Aziz.