

## Diversity Thoughts: Muslim Holy Day coming up

August 7, 2018

Be aware that the Holiest Holiday in Islam is fast approaching August 21st:

"**Eid al-Adha** (**Arabic**: عيد الأضحى, **translit.** *ʿīd al-ʿaḍḥā*, **lit.** 'Feast of the Sacrifice', [ʕiːd ælˈʔadˤħæː]), also called the "**Festival of Sacrifice**", is the second of two **Islamic holidays** celebrated worldwide each year (the other being **Eid al-Fitr**), and considered the holier of the two. It honors the willingness of **Ibrahim (Abraham)** to sacrifice his son as an act of obedience to **God's** command. Before Abraham sacrificed his son, God provided a male goat to sacrifice instead. In commemoration of this, an animal is sacrificed and divided into three parts: one third of the share is given to the poor and needy; another third is given to relatives, friends and neighbors; and the remaining third is retained by the family.

In the **Islamic lunar calendar**, *Eid al-Adha* falls on the 10th day of **Dhu al-Hijjah**. In the international (**Gregorian calendar**), the dates vary from year to year drifting approximately 11 days earlier each year. Eid al-Adha is the latter of the two Eid holidays, the former being **Eid al-Fitr**." ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eid\\_al-Adha](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eid_al-Adha); retrieved 8/6/18)

Eid al-Fitr marked the conclusion of the Holy month and fast of Ramadan. Eid al-Adha celebrates a biblical account shared between Jews, Christians and Muslims: the almost-sacrifice of Isaac (Ishak in Arabic) by Abraham (Ibrahim in Arabic). It is traditional to sacrifice a goat for this holiday, which can be celebrated for up to 4 days.



Part of a series on  
**Islamic culture**

### Architecture

AzerbaijaniIndo-IslamicMoorishMoroccanMughalOttomanPakistaniTatarPersianSomaliSudano-Sahelian

### Art

CalligraphyMiniatureOriental rugArab carpetPersian carpetTurkish carpet

### Dress

AbayaAgalBoubouBurqaChadorJellabiyaNiqābSalwar kameezSongkok (Peci)TaqiyaKeffiyeh (Kufiya)ThawbJilbabHijab

### Holidays

AshuraArba'eenaal-GhadeerChaand Raatal-Fitral-**Adha**mamat DayNew YearIsra and Mi'rajal-QadrMawlidRamadanMid-Sha'ban

### Literature

ArabicAzerbaijaniBengaliIndonesianJavaneseKashmiriKurdishMalayPashtoPersianPunjabiSindhiSomaliSouth AsianTurkishUrdu

### Music

DastgahGhazalMadih nabawiMaqamMugamNasheedQawwaliSufi

### Theatre

BangsawanJemKaragöz and HacivatSamaTa'zieh

 **Islam portal**

## Eid al-Adha



Blessings for Eid al-Adha

**Official name** الأضحى عيد

**Observed by** [Muslims](#) and [Druze](#)<sup>[1]</sup>

**Type** Islamic

**Significance**

- Commemoration of [Ibrahim \(Abraham\)](#)'s willingness to sacrifice his son in obedience of a command from [God](#)
- End of the annual [Haji](#) to [Mecca](#)

**Observances** [Eid prayers](#), [animal sacrifice](#), charity, social gatherings, festive meals, [gift-giving](#)

**Begins** 10 [Dhu al-Hijjah](#)

**Ends** 12 Dhu al-Hijjah

**Date** 10 Dhu al-Hijjah

**2018 date** 21 August<sup>[2]</sup>

**2019 date** 11 August<sup>[2]</sup>

**Related to** [Haji](#); [Eid al-Fitr](#)