Jumu‘ah Mubārak!

Jumu‘ah

Islam

Jumu‘ah means gathering in the Arabic language, and is used as the name for Friday due to people gathering for prayer in a special day of worship in the Islamic Hijri calendar. In addition to the midday prayer which is shorter, Friday services include a sermon calling upon the remembrance of Allah (God) and other themes from the Sunnah (Prophetic tradition). It is considered the holiest day in a week and has a special status that dates to the advent of Islam.

Date
- Jumu‘ah is celebrated weekly, from sunset on Thursday to sunset on Friday.
- Check the Calendar Index for Religious Holidays during the current academic year for the exact date.

Greetings
To recognize the Jumu‘ah with colleagues or friends, you can say, “Jumu‘ah Mubārak”, the Arabic greeting which means “blessed Jumu‘ah”.

Common Practices and Celebrations
- The Jumu‘ah prayer in congregation.
- Sweets and other foods are commonly eaten and distributed after prayers.
- Celebrants devote themselves to special supplications, praise of the Prophet Muhammad [peace be unto him], and visit their local mosque.
- It is common for celebrants to bathe and put on their best outfits.
- Recital of Surah Al-Kahf (The Cave), the 15th Chapter of the Qur‘an.
- It is etiquette in the Islamic tradition to distinguish prophets by referring to them with an immediate notation of respect following their names, as seen above with the bracketed phrase [peace be upon them].

Common Dietary Restrictions
- Many Muslims follow halal food guidelines, meaning food that is permissible by Islamic standards.
- Vegetarian meals prepared without alcohol meet halal standards.

Impact to U-M Community
- Muslim colleagues and students may request to take the day off or hours during the mid-day period. Colleagues and remote students in Muslim countries will likely have a holiday weekend.

U-M Campus Resources
- Maize Pages - Muslim Coalition, U-M
- Association of Religious Counselors, U-M

Information Sources
- Wikipedia

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