



Eid Mubarak!

Eid al-Adha

Islam

[Eid ul-Ad-ha](#) 

Eid al-Adha, literally “Celebration of Sacrifice,” is the second of two religious holidays celebrated by Muslims worldwide. It honors the willingness of Prophet Abraham [peace be upon him] to sacrifice his son, Prophet Ishmael [peace be upon him], as an act of obedience to God’s command. Eid al-Adha is associated with Hajj, the annual pilgrimage to the Kaaba that Muslims must complete if they are physically and financially able at least once in their lifetime, which commemorates Prophet Abraham’s [peace be upon him] story, who is referred to as “father of prophets.” Millions of pilgrims from around the world make the pilgrimage each year.

Eid al-Fitr (known as “the little Eid” for three days) and Eid al-Adha (known as “the big Eid” for four days) are the only two holidays that are celebrated by all Muslims.



This collection of information sheets on major holidays and cultural events is a joint partnership of the School of Information staff, the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and the Office of the Provost. Facts have been vetted by U-M’s Association of Religious Counselors (ARC), and other campus groups. Public feedback is welcome; please email DEIHolidayFacts@umich.edu.

Date

- Eid al-Adha begins on the 10th of the 12th and final month of the Islamic (lunar) calendar, Dhul-Hijjah. It is often celebrated over four days.
- Check the [Calendar Index](#) for Religious Holidays during the current academic year for the exact date.

Greetings

To recognize the Eid with colleagues or friends, you can say, “[Eid Mubarak](#)”, the Arabic greeting which means “blessed Eid,” “[Eid Kareem](#),” which means “generous Eid,” or “Happy Eid.”

Common Practices and Celebrations

- In preparation to celebrate, people clean their homes and decorate them with lights, colorful lanterns and ornaments.
- It is common for celebrants to bathe and put on brand new outfits.
- Celebrants attend a morning prayer in congregation with the community.
- Muslims shower their loved ones with gifts.
- Those who are financially able to slaughter sheep, goats, cows, buffaloes, or camels and share the meat with the less fortunate.

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 first day of the celebration off. Colleagues and remote students in Muslim countries will likely have a national holiday.
- Link to [U-M Guidance Regarding Conflicts](#).

U-M Campus resources

- [Maize Pages - Muslim](#), U-M
- [Association of Religious Counselors](#), U-M
- [Reflection Rooms](#)

Information Resources

- [Wikipedia](#)

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