



EID DURING THE PANDEMIC



alkhaadem

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Eid ul-Fitr is a day that marks the successful completion of the sacred month of Ramadan. Allah says in the Qur'an:

ذَٰلِكَ وَمَنْ يُعَظِّمْ شَعَائِرَ اللَّهِ فَإِنَّهَا مِنْ تَقْوَى الْقُلُوبِ

“That [is so]. And whoever honours the symbols [i.e., rites] of Allah – indeed, it is from the piety of hearts.” [Al-Hajj, 22 : 32]

However, this year is going to be very different given the global situation with COVID-19.

In order to keep you and your family and friends safe, here's how you can celebrate Eid safely while observing the Sunnah of the Prophet ﷺ.

ETIQUETTES BEFORE EID PRAYER

1 Reciting the takbeer

وَلِتُكَبِّرُوا اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ مَا هَدَيْكُمۡ وَلَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ

“ ... (He wants that you) must complete the same number (of days), and that you must magnify Allah [i.e. to say Takbeer (Allahu Akbar: Allah is the Most Great)] for having guided you so that you may be grateful to Him”
[Al-Baqarah, 2: 185]

The time of takbeer:

The time for takbeer on Eid ul-Fitr starts from the night before Eid until the imam enters to lead the Eid prayer. [Sunan Ad-Darqutni no. 1712]

Description of the takbeer:

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ
اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ وَلِلَّهِ الْحَمْدُ

Allahu akbar, Allahu akbar, La ilaha illallah, Wallahu akbar, Allahu akbar wa lillahil hamd

“Allah is the greatest, Allah is the greatest, there is no god but Allah. And Allah is the greatest, Allah is the greatest and to Allah belongs all praise.” (Sunan Ad-Darqutni no. 1737)

The takbeer is prescribed that each Muslim should say it by himself on his own. There is no evidence to support takbeer in unison.

2 Cleanliness and wearing one's best for Eid

- Make a complete bath (ghusl)
- Wear one's best clothes [Sahih Al-Bukhari no. 948]
- Apply fragrance (for the men) (Musannaf Abdur Razzaq no. 5752)

3 Eating before Eid prayer. [Sahih Al-Bukhari 953]

THE EID PRAYER AND SERMON

Offering prayer while keeping safe:

- Perform the Eid prayer at home.
- Those present in each household are sufficient to make up the numbers, on the condition that at least three men are present.

Description of the Eid prayer:

- There is no adhan or iqamah in the Eid prayer.
- It consists of two rakaah. The sermon comes after the prayer.
- It is done in congregation
- In the first rakaah, takbeer 7 times including takbeeratulihram and then recite the iftitah. After the takbeer to stand up into the second rakaah, recite 5 more takbeerat.
- In the first rakaat, you can recite Surah Al-Fatihah + Surah Al-A'la, followed by Surah Al-Fatihah + Surah Al-Ghasyiyah in the second rakaah. [Sahih Muslim no. 878]

Or, Al-Fatihah + Surah Al-Qamar in the first rakaah, Al-Fatihah + Surah Al-Qaf in the second rakaah. [Sahih Muslim no. 891]

Or, you can recite any other surah. [Sunan Abi Daud no. 857]

- No specific supplication in between the Eid takbeerat has been authentically reported from the Prophet ﷺ.
- After the prayer, the imam will ascend the mimbar to begin his sermon.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SERMON

- Give salaam and begin with 9 takbeerat
- Praise Allah and send blessings and salutations to Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.
- Recite the verses on taqwa.
- Provide reminders for Eid.
- Sit down for a moment or two.
- Begin the second sermon with 7 takbeerat.
- Praise Allah and send blessings and salutations to Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.
- Continue with your sermon and reminders.
- End the sermon with a general du'a for the congregation.
- Give a final message of reminder.

MISTAKES MADE ON EID

- Visiting the grave. The purpose of Eid is to celebrate and be joyful. Visiting graves on this day is contrary to this purpose. It also falls under the Prophet's ﷺ general prohibition of assigning a specific day to visit the graves.
- Beautifying beyond what is permissible
 - Shaving of the beard for men.
 - Dressing up in clothes that do not cover the modesty.
 - Excessive makeup and fragrance for the women.
- Free mixing between the sexes
 - Shaking hands between men and women who are non mahram.
 - Crowding together with the opposite gender who are non mahram in the homes.
- Spending excessively on food and decorations that result in wastage, and playing firecrackers.
- Wasting time with impermissible entertainment:
 - Singing and dancing.
 - Playing games that emulate gambling even if no betting occurs.
 - Watching impermissible things on TV or the Internet.
- Using social media without wisdom
 - Sharing pictures that compromise the modesty (for women).
 - Inviting fitnah with free postings and sharing.

THE GREETINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS OF EID

While we may not be able to visit one another during these times, we can still greet and congratulate one another. Alhamdulillah, modern technology allows us to connect seamlessly with our families, relatives and friends near and far.

The Companions of the Prophet (radhiallahu ‘anhum) when they meet on the day of ‘Eid, they would say to each other:

تَقَبَّلَ اللَّهُ مِنَّا وَمِنْكُمْ

“May Allah accept from us and from you (good deeds)”.
[Syuab Al-Iman Al-Baihaqi no. 3446]



Many of us are complaining about having to celebrate Eid during lockdown. But let us look at how others celebrate it: there are among us whose Eid rains with bombs and bullets.

Let us reflect upon this day and the blessings in which He has bestowed upon us. To be able to celebrate in peace.

Instead of complaining, we should thank Allah for His blessings and reflect upon His ayat.

Allah says in the Qur'an:

وَإِذْ تَأَذَّنَ رَبُّكُمْ لَئِن شَكَرْتُمْ لَأَزِيدَنَّكُمْ وَلَئِن كَفَرْتُمْ إِنَّ عَذَابِي لَشَدِيدٌ

“And [remember] when your Lord proclaimed, 'If you are grateful, I will surely increase you [in favour]; but if you deny, indeed, My punishment is severe.'” [Surah Ibrahim, 14 : 7]

O Allah, forgive our sins, forgive the Muslim men and the Muslim women, the believing men and the believing women, the living among them and the dead, by Your mercy, O Most Merciful!

May Allah bless us all, make us steadfast on the his Deen, and may He accept all our deeds, siyyam and qiyaam from our Ramadhan. And He is All-Hearing and All-Knowing.

[Sit momentarily]

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، اللَّهُ
أَكْبَرُ، اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ

All praise be to Allah, blessings and salutations be upon the Prophet ﷺ, and upon his family and his Companions. Wa ba'du;

After worshiping for a whole month in Ramadan, let us together ask that Allah accepts all the good deeds we have done. What is the value of all the good deeds we do if they are rejected by Him?

Allah says in the Qur'an:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا
الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا

“Indeed, Allah confers blessing upon the Prophet, and His angels [ask Him to do so]. O you who have believed, ask [Allah to confer] blessing upon him and ask [Allah to grant him] peace.” [Al-Ahzab, 33 : 56]

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ
وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ. اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى
آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا بَارَكْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَآلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ

O Allah, bestow Your favour on Muhammad and on the family of Muhammad as You have bestowed Your favour on Ibrahim and on the family of Ibrahim, You are Praiseworthy, Most Glorious. O Allah, bless Muhammad and the family of Muhammad as You have blessed Ibrahim and the family of Ibrahim, You are Praiseworthy, Most Glorious.

O Allah! Protect your Deen and help the Muslims everywhere! Destroy the enemies of Islam and help anyone who helps your Religion.

O our Lord! Bring us good in this world and good in the Hereafter and protect us from the punishment of Hellfire.

O Servants of Allah,

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَايَ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَيَنْهَىٰ
عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ

“Indeed, Allah orders justice and good conduct and giving [help] to relatives and forbids immorality and bad conduct and oppression. He admonishes you that perhaps you will be reminded.” [An-Nahl, 16 : 90]

فَاذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوا لَهُ عَلَىٰ
عُمُومِ نِعَمِهِ يَزِدْكُمْ وَاسْأَلُوهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ يُعْطِيكُمْ
وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَصْنَعُونَ

So, remember Allah the Almighty, He will remember you. Give thanks to Him for all His favours, He will increase His favours upon you. Ask Him of His bounty, and He will bestow it upon you. Remember Allah the Greatest, and Allah knows what you do.

وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ



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