

- 1 What Eid al-Adha traditions do Muslims have? Read the text to find out.

Eid al-Adha

Eid al-Adha is an important Islamic celebration that takes place every year on the 10th day of Dhu al-Hijjah, the final month in the Islamic calendar. It is known as 'The Festival of the Sacrifice' as it commemorates a story in the Quran about Ibrahim who was willing to sacrifice his son to God. However, in the story, God stopped the sacrifice and gave Ibrahim a ram or sheep to sacrifice instead. Eid al-Adha takes place over four days and during this time, Muslims all over the world carry on special Eid al-Adha traditions.

GHUSAL – Before going to the mosque for the Salat al-Eid prayer on the first day of Eid al-Adha, all Muslims must be very clean and wear clean or new clothes. Muslims believe that ghusal, or the ritual bath, is a way of purifying themselves to show devotion to God and make sure that their prayers will be heard. It is very important for everyone to look their best and to be fresh and clean. In fact, some Muslim men choose to use perfume, or Attar, to smell pleasant.

MISWAK – Most people use a toothbrush and toothpaste to clean their teeth each morning and evening. However, at Eid al-Adha, lots of Muslims choose to buy Miswak, a type of wooden stick with antibacterial properties that can be used as a brush and is thought to whiten teeth. When using miswak to clean their teeth, some people choose to dip the stick into rosewater to get fresh-smelling breath.

SALAT AL-EID – The 'Salat al-Eid', or the Eid prayer, takes place at the mosque. On the first day of Eid al-Adha, 10-15 minutes after sunrise, Muslim communities gather to pray together. After the Salat al-Eid, they greet one another and wish each other a happy Eid al-Adha by saying 'Eid Mubarak' which means 'Have a blessed Eid'.

QURBANI – This is the ritual sacrifice of an animal during Eid al-Adha to represent that sacrificed by Ibrahim in the Quran. Usually, the chosen animal is a sheep or goat, but cows and camels can also be sacrificed. The meat is then divided into three parts. One for the family to prepare at home, one for friends or neighbours and a final part which is distributed among people who can't afford to buy their own meat.

EIDI – During the four days of Eid al-Adha, Muslims visit their family and friends. They eat together and give Eidi to the children. Common Eidi include clothes, toys, books, sweets and money.

- 2 For questions (1-4), choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

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| 1 What is ghusal?
A A clean outfit to wear to the mosque.
B A fragrance worn by men.
C A cleansing ritual. | 3 'Eid Mubarak' is an Eid al-Adha ...
A greeting
B prayer
C song |
| 2 Why do some muslims use rosewater with miswak?
A It is an antiseptic.
B It whitens the teeth.
C It has a pleasant aroma. | 4 The third part of meat is ...
A eaten at home
B given to friends
C shared with the poor |

- 3 **ICT** In groups, create your own Eid al-Adha quiz and give it to another group to complete. How did they do?

