

The Day of 'Eid

Guidelines regarding preparing for Eid prayer, offering it, and how to celebrate the day

Preparing for the 'Eid Prayer

1.	<p>Perform ghusl (bath) on the morning of 'Eid.</p>	<p>A man asked Ali (ؓ) about the recommended ghusls, to which Ali (ؓ) replied, <i>"(They are performed on) the day of Jum'ah, the day of 'Arafah, the day of Nahr (sacrifice) and the day of Fitr."</i> [Reported by al-Bayhaqi, authenticated by Al-Albani]</p>
2.	<p>Adorn yourself with the best/new garment</p>	<p>Ibn Abbas (ؓ) reported: <i>"Allaah's Messenger (ﷺ) used to wear on 'Eid days a red over garment."</i> [At Tabarani, Verified to be authentic by Al-Albani]</p>
3.	<p>It is recommended to Eat early on the morning of 'Eid ul Fitr before the prayer, and for 'Eid ul Adha, eat after the prayer</p> <p>However, we note that nowadays it is not possible for us to eat from the sacrifice for breakfast due to distance of slaughtering grounds. Hence, we need not unnecessarily stress ourselves, as it is not obligatory.</p>	<p>Buraydah ibn al-Hasib (ؓ) reported: <i>"Allaah's Messenger (ﷺ) would not go out (to the 'eid prayer) on 'Eid ul-Fitr until he ate; and he would not eat on 'Eid ul-Adha until he returned (from the prayer)."</i> [Recorded by Ahmad, Tirmidhi, verified to be authentic by Al-Albani]</p>

4.	Pray at Musalla (outdoor prayer place)	Abu Sa'id al-Khudri (رضي الله عنه) reported: <i>"On the day of al-Fitr and al-Adha, the Prophet (ﷺ) used to go out (from his house) to the musalla, and the first thing that he did was perform the prayer."</i> [Bukhari, Muslim]
5.	Walk to the Musalla, unless it is too far	Ibn Umar (رضي الله عنه) reported: <i>"Allaah's Messenger (ﷺ) went to the 'Eid prayer walking and returned walking."</i> [Ibn Majah, Verified to Hasan by Albani]
6.	Go early to the Musalla	Imam al-Baghawi said: <i>"It is recommended for the people, as soon as they complete the morning prayer, to head toward the musalla and sit in their places, saying the takbir. As for the Imaam, he should arrive just at the time of the prayer."</i> [Sharh us-Sunnah 2:603]
7.	<p>Words of Takbir during the two 'Eids</p> <p>Takbir is the distinctive celebrations of 'Eid.</p> <p>Timing of the Takbir</p> <p>1. Eid ul-Fitr: The time of the takbir starts from the morning of 'Eid until the prayer is performed.</p> <p>2. Eid ul-Adha: Takbir starts from the fajr on the day of 'Arafah (9th Dhul Hijjah) and until the days of tashriq (13th of Dhul Hijjah)</p> <p>However, Takbir at an individual level starts from the 1st of Dhul Hijjah</p>	<p>Az Zuhri reported: <i>"Allaah's Messenger (ﷺ) would leave his house on the day of Fitr, saying takbir until he reached the Musalla to perform the prayer. Once he had performed the prayer, he would stop saying the takbir."</i> [Recorded by Ibn Abi Shaybah, verified by al Albani]</p> <p>Al Bukhari reported: <i>"During the ten days, Ibn Umar and Abu Hurayrah would walk through the market place, saying takbir. Other people would then follow them in saying the takbir."</i> [Bukhari, verified to be authentic by Al-Albani]</p> <p>Nafi reported: <i>"Ibn Umar used to say the takbir at Mina throughout these days (of</i></p>

	<p>Errors and Innovations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adding unauthentic wording to the takbir. Even though it has good meanings, it should be avoided, as it was not the practice of the Sahabahs 2. Saying the takbir in unison 3. Fixing a time for the beginning of takbir 4. Restricting the takbir immediately after each jam'ah prayer 	<p><i>Tashriq): after the prayers, in his bed, in his tent, in his sittings, and while walking.</i>" [Bukhari]</p>
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The 'Eid Prayer and Khutbah

<p>1.</p>	<p>Attending Musalla of 'Eid is obligatory upon all including women, virgins and menstruating women except the latter should stay away from Salah</p>	<p>Umm 'Atiyyah (رضي الله عنها) narrated that the Prophet (ﷺ) commanded: "Take out the young women, the virgins and the menstruating women (to the musalla) on the day of 'Eid, to attend the blessings (in the prayer and khutbah) and the believers' supplication. As for the menstruating women, they should stay away from the musalla (i.e. not participate in the prayer) and should sit behind other women, so as to say takbir with the people." [Bukhari, Muslim]</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>Date and Time of the 'Eid Prayer</p> <p>'Eid ul-Fitr falls on the 1st of Shawwal</p> <p>'Eid ul-Adha falls on the 10th of Dhul Hijjah</p> <p>Time of the 'Eid Prayer is in its morning and the best time is shortly after sunrise</p>	<p>Allaah says, "They ask you (O Muhammad) concerning the crescents. Say, "They are measurements of time for the people and for Hajj." [Qur'aan 2:189]</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>No Preceding or Succeeding</p>	<p>Ibn Abbas (رضي الله عنه) reported: "The Prophet (ﷺ) went</p>

	Voluntary Prayers	<i>out (to the musalla) on the day of Fitr and prayed two rak'at, not praying before or after them.</i> [Abu Dawud, An Nasai, verified to be authentic by Al-Albani]
4.	No Athan or Iqamah	Ibn Abbas (رضي الله عنه) reported: "Allaah's Messenger (ﷺ), Abu Bakr, Umar and Uthman (رضي الله عنه) prayed the 'Eid prayer without athan or Iqamah." [Abu Dawud, Ahmad verified as authentic by Al-Albaani]
5.	Number of Rak'at:2	Umar (رضي الله عنه) said, "The travelers' prayer is two rak'at, the Adha prayer is two rak'at, the Fitr prayer is two rak'at, and the Jum'ah prayer is two rak'at: this is their full length as came upon the tongue of Muhammad." [Ahmad, declared authentic by Al-Albani]
6.	Additional Takbirs First Rak'at: 7 takbirs are said after the takbirat ul-ihram and the opening supplication, before the recitation. Second Rak'at: 5 takbirs is said after the takbir from rising up from the sujood, before the recitation.	'Aishah (رضي الله عنها) reported: "In both al-Fitr and al-Adha prayers, Allaah's Messenger (ﷺ) would say seven takbirs in the 1 st rak'ah, and five in the 2 nd rak'ah, other than the two takbirs for ruku'." [Abu Dawud, declared authentic by Al-Albani]
7.	One can raise the hands with each takbir or keep it as it is	There are no authentic reports saying that the Prophet (ﷺ) raised or did not raise his hands with these additional takbirs. However, Ibn Al Qayyim said "Ibn Umar (رضي الله عنه), who is known to adhere closely to the sunnah, used to raise his hands with every one of the takbirs." [Zad ul-Ma'ad]
8.	No specific dhikr between Takbir So, remain silent	Ibn al Qayyim said, "The Prophet (ﷺ) used to remain silent between every two takbirs, and nothing is reported from him regarding dhikr between them." [Zad ul-Ma'ad]
9.	If the 'Eid Prayer is missed: Voluntarily missing it is a sin, however, one should pray 2 rak'at	Imam al-Bukhari said, "Those who miss the 'Eid prayer should pray two rak'at. The same applies to women (who do not attend it), and to those who remain in their distant houses or villages."

<p>10.</p>	<p>Listening to the khutbah is optional</p>	<p>Abdullaah bin As-Sa'ib (رضي الله عنه) reported that the Prophet (ﷺ) after the 'Eid prayer said, "We will now deliver a khutbah. Whoever wishes to sit and listen to it may sit, and whoever wishes to leave may leave." [Abu Dawud, declared authentic by Al-Albani]</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>Take a different route while returning home</p>	<p>Abu Hurayrah (رضي الله عنه) reported, "When the Prophet (ﷺ) went out to the musalla, he took a different route (on the way back)." [Bukhari]</p>
<p>12.</p>	<p>When 'Eid coincides with Jum'ah, Friday prayer becomes optional</p>	<p>Abu Hurayrah (رضي الله عنه) reported that the Prophet (ﷺ) said, "Two 'Eids have coincided on this day. Anyone who wishes may consider that this ('eid prayer) suffices him from attending the Jum'ah prayer. As for us, we will surely gather for the jum'ah prayer." [Abu Dawud, declared authentic by Albani]</p>

General guidelines regarding celebration of 'Eid

1. Maintain the Islaamic spirit of 'Eid
2. Avoid extravagance
3. Remember the poor and needy, give charity
4. Maintain the jam'aah prayers during the 'Eid
5. Maintain the Islaamic boundary in dressing up
6. Visit other Muslims
7. Exchange greetings and gifts
8. Entertainment and activities should be within the boundary of sharee'ah
9. Do not waste food
10. No intermingling of opposite sex during celebrations
11. No music and movies

Reference:

Festivals and Celebrations by Shaykh Muhammad al Jibaly