

ABOUT RAMADAN & EID UL FITR



Ramadan, one of the five pillars of Islam, is the 9th month of the Islamic calendar and is observed by Muslims worldwide through fasting, prayer and charity. It's significant for Muslims as this is a time when they strengthen their devotion to god (Allah). During the last 10 nights of the month, the first chapters of the Quran were descended to the Prophet Muhammed from Angel Jibril (Gabriel) in Mecca, Saudi Arabia.

The observation of Ramadan lasts 29 to 30 days, from one sighting of the Crescent Moon to the next (i.e. 1 entire lunar month). This is why Muslims are unable to predict or confirm the exact date on which Ramadan begins or ends.

Ramadan Start Date:
11/12th March 2024

Eid Ul Fitr marks the end of Ramadan:
10/11th April 2024

Muslims typically celebrate the month of Ramadan in the following ways:



FASTING

Fasting is obligatory for all adult Muslims. Muslims fast by having a pre-sunrise meal (Suhoor) until their sunset meal (Iftar). Fasting forms part of the 'spiritual cleansing' involved across the month and Muslims refrain from eating, drinking, smoking and other habits. Females don't have to fast whilst they are menstruating, pregnant, or nursing.



PRAYER

There are 5 daily prayers, known as salah or namaz for Muslims to observe every day, in Ramadan an extra voluntary prayer called Tarawee, can also be prayed due to its spiritual significance. In Ramadan, more of a focus is made to ensure steadfastness with these prayers and more of an effort is made with prayers and reading the holy book, the Quran.



ZAKAT

Zakat is the Arabic word for charity and is one of the five pillars of Islam. Every Muslim should give 2.5% of their overall wealth each year but only if you are financially able to. Many Muslims choose to give their Zakat in Ramadan due to the higher spiritual reward of doing so and this is why a lot of charity is displayed within this month to remember those who are less fortunate.



EID UL FITR

The holiday 'Eid Ul Fitr' marks the end of Ramadan. Eid Ul Fitr is the first of two Eid celebrations in the Islamic calendar. Eid Ul Fitr marks the end of Ramadan. The day begins with a special Eid namaz (prayer) then Muslims get together with their friends, family and local communities.