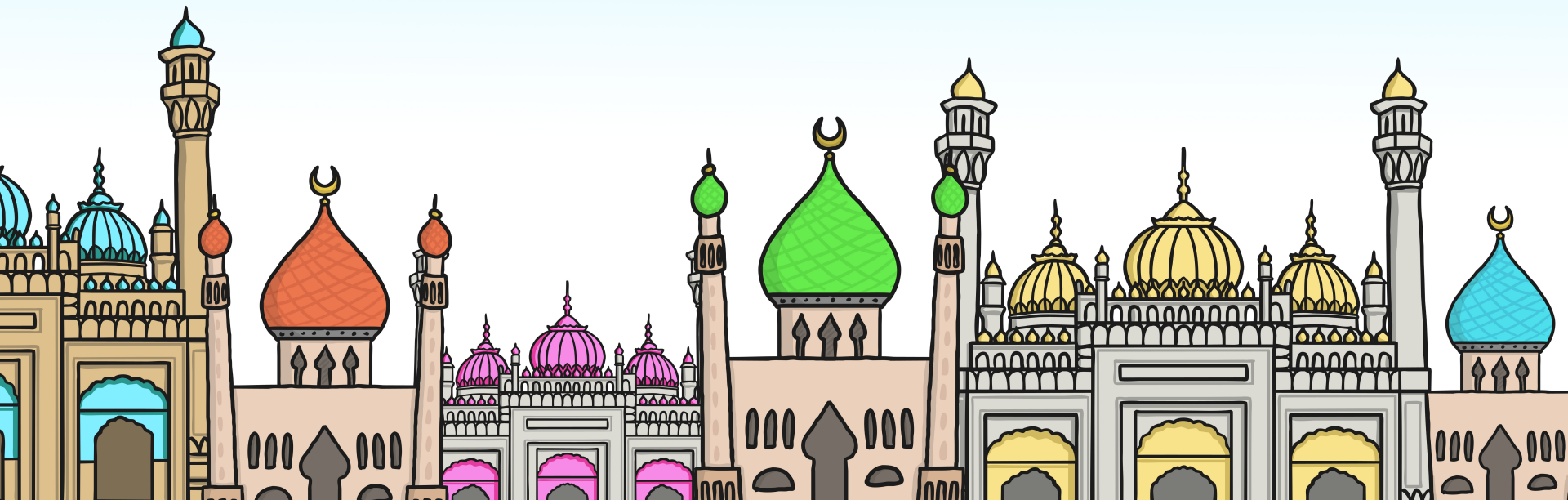


Eid-Al-Adha



What is Eid-Al-Adha?

Eid-al-Adha ('Festival of Sacrifice'), also known as the Greater Eid, is the second most important festival in the Muslim calendar. It is sometimes called 'Big Eid'.

Eid is a time to remember God's love and kindness and it is a time of sharing.



Eid-al-Adha takes place at the end of the annual pilgrimage to Mecca (Hajj). During the Hajj, Muslims remember the trials of the prophet Abraham, when he was asked to sacrifice for the sake of God.

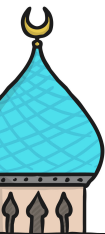
The festival remembers the prophet Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son when God ordered him to.

[Watch this video](#)

The Story of Ibrahim's Sacrifice

Eid-al-Adha celebrates the occasion when Allah appeared to Ibrahim in a dream and asked him to sacrifice his son Isma'il as an act of obedience to God.

The devil tempted Ibrahim by saying he should disobey Allah and spare his son. As Ibrahim was about to kill his son, Allah stopped him and gave him a lamb to sacrifice instead.



Eid-Al-Adha Celebrations

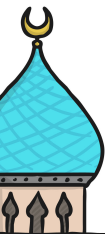
Eid-al-Adha is a public holiday in Muslim countries.

Muslims all over the world, who can afford it , sacrifice a sheep or goat, as a reminder of Ibrahim's obedience to Allah. In Britain, the animal has to be killed at a slaughterhouse. They share out the meat among family, friends and the poor, who each get a third share.

Eid usually starts with Muslims going to the Mosque for prayers, dressed in their best clothes, and give thanks to Allah.

It is also a time when they visit family and friends as well as offering presents.

At Eid it is obligatory to give a set amount of money to charity to be used to help poor people buy new clothes and food so they too can celebrate.

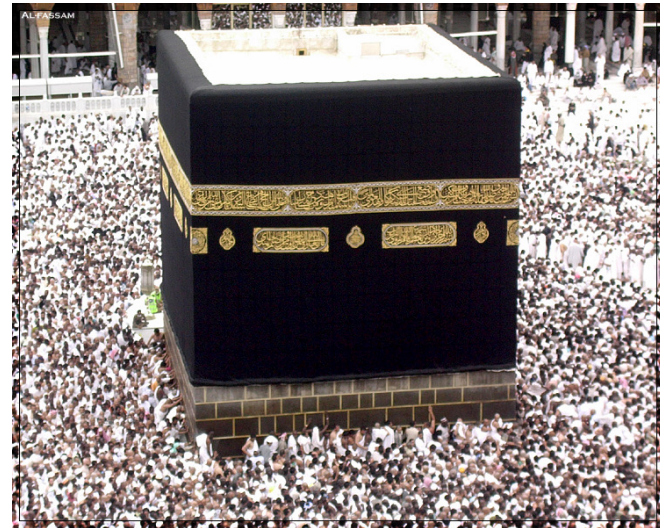


Eid-Al-Adha Celebrations

Muslim pilgrims pray towards the Ka'aba at Mecca on Eid day. The Ka'aba is a cuboid building at the centre of Islam's most sacred mosque. It is the most sacred site in Islam.



Girls decorate their hands with mehndi



The Ka'aba at Mecca.

Photo courtesy of mckaysavage, al-fassam (@flickr.com) - granted under creative commons licence - attribution

Eid-Al-Adha Food

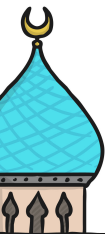
Eid-al-Adha is sometimes known as "Salty Eid" because a larger variety of dishes than those served during Eid-al-Fitr are savoury. These include beef or mutton depending on the animal slaughtered in celebration.

The presents offered to friends, relatives, and the poor include the meat of the animal. A barbecue is a must on the first day of Eid-al-Adha. The fried liver of the animal is used as breakfast and different dishes including varieties of kebabs, haleem and korma are also eaten. Rice dishes, including different forms of pulao and biryani, are also very popular in South Asia.



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Eid-Al-Adha

