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LibGuides: Holidays and Observances: Islam

Holly Hubenschmidt ⁝ 2-2 minutes

Islamic Holidays and Observances

Halal restrictions apply: Islamic dietary laws which apply throughout the year. These restrictions include alcohol and pork.

Note that all holidays begin at sundown on the evening before the date given.

Al-Hijra — Islamic New Year. Marks the end of Mohammad's journey from Mecca to Medina.

Eid ul-Adha — Festival of Sacrifice. This is a four day holiday marking the sacrifice of Abraham. It also highlights the end of the annual pilgrimage to Mecca, called Hajj. Prayer are held at the mosque followed by an evening feast.

Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines on these days. Employees may ask to take a vacation day.

Eid ul-Fitr — End of Muslim Month of Fasting (Ramadan). A celebratory meal on the evening of this day. It is a three day celebration and many will attend early morning prayers, affecting attendance.

Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events and activities on the first day.

Prophet's Birthday -- Celebration of the birth of the Prophet Muhammad. Celebrations, communal meals and discussions on Islam usually take place on this day.

Ramadan — Muslim Month of Fasting. Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset with the last ten days reserved for possible all night prayer vigils. Attendance should not be affected.

Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events and activities, if possible, on the first day of Ramadan. Be aware that students and employees will be fasting during the day for 30 days.
