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EID-AL-FITR

Eid al-Fitr ([/iːd əl ˈfɪtər, -trə/](#) *EED əl FIT-ər, -rə*; **Arabic:** عيد الفطر, **romanized:** *ʿĪd al-Fitr*, **lit.** 'Feast of Breaking the Fast', IPA: [\[ʕiːd al ˈfitˤr\]](#)),^[3] is the earlier of the two official [holidays](#) celebrated within [Islam](#) (the other being [Eid al-Adha](#)). The [religious holiday](#) is celebrated by [Muslims](#) worldwide because it marks the end of the month-long dawn-to-sunset fasting of [Ramadan](#).^[4] It falls on the first day of [Shawwal](#) in the [Islamic calendar](#); this does not always fall on the same [Gregorian day](#), as the start of any lunar Hijri month varies based on when the new moon is sighted by local religious authorities. The holiday is known under various other names in different languages and countries

HISTORY

Eid al-Fitr was originated by the [Islamic prophet Muhammad](#). According to certain [traditions](#), these festivals were initiated in [Medina](#) after the [migration of](#)

around the world. The day is also called Lesser Eid, or simply Eid,^{[5][6]}

Eid al-Fitr has a particular [salat](#) (Islamic prayer) that consists of two [rakats](#) (units) generally performed in an open field or large hall. It may only be performed in congregation (*jamāʿat*) and features six additional [Takbirs](#) (raising of the hands to the ears while saying "Allāhu ʿAkbar", meaning "God is the greatest") in the [Hanafi](#) school of [Sunni Islam](#): three at the start of the first *rakat* and three just before [rukūʿ](#) in the second *rakat*.^[7] Other Sunni schools usually have 12 *Takbirs*, similarly split in groups of seven and five. In [Shia Islam](#), the *salat* has six *Takbirs* in the first *rakat* at the end of [qiraʿa](#), before *rukūʿ*, and five in the second.^[8] Depending on the

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juristic opinion of the locality, this *salat* is either [fard](#) (فرض, obligatory), [mustahabb](#) (strongly recommended) or *mandūb* (مندوب, preferable). After the *salat*, Muslims celebrate the Eid al-Fitr in various ways^[9] with food ("[Eid cuisine](#)") being a central theme, which also gives the holiday the nickname "Sweet Eid" or "Sugar Feast".

[Muhammad from Mecca](#). [Anas](#), a well-known companion of the Islamic prophet, narrated that, when Muhammad arrived in [Medina](#), he found people celebrating two specific days in

which they entertained themselves with recreation and merriment. At this, Muhammad remarked that Allah had fixed two days of festivity: Eid al-Fitr and [Eid al-Adha](#)

