

Islam Question & Answer

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628 - Eid al-Adhaa (The Festival of Sacrifice)

the question

what is Id al-Adha, The festival of sacrafice. my daughter is doing a homework assignment I need as much info or where else to look as soon as possible?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

Eid al-Adhaa is the tenth day of Dhoo'l-Hijjah, the last (twelfth) month of the Hijri or Islamic calendar. It is, as the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: "The greatest day in the sight of Allaah, may He be blessed and exalted, the Day of Sacrifice . . ." (Reported by Abu Dawud; see also Saheeh al-Jaami', 1064).

It is also the greatest day of Hajj, as the Prophet (peace be upon him) told us. (Reported by al-Tirmidhi, see Saheeh al-Jaami', 8191).

The reason why it is described as the greatest day of the year is that it combines so many acts of worship which are not combined on any other day, such as the Eid prayer, offering the sacrifice, reciting Takbeer (glorifying Allaah), and widespread remembrance of Allaah. For the pilgrims in Makkah, it also includes offering a sacrifice, stoning the pillars representing Shaytaan (the devil), shaving the head (for men only; women merely cut a little off their hair), and performing Tawaaf (circumambulation of the Ka'bah) and Sa'ee (running between the two hills of Safaa and Marwa).