



The celebration of Eid al-Adha begins the evening of Saturday July 9th and ends the evening of Wednesday July 13th 2022.

It is an Islamic celebration, which honours the willingness of Ibrahim (Abraham) to sacrifice his son Ismail (Ishmael) as an act of obedience to Allah's command. Before Ibrahim could sacrifice his son, however, God provided him with a lamb, which he was supposed to kill in his son's place. In commemoration of this intervention, animals are ritually slaughtered. The meat from the sacrificed animal is preferred to be divided into three parts. The family retains one-third of the share; another third is given to relatives, friends, and neighbors; and the remaining third is given to the poor and needy. Sweets and gifts are given, and extended family members are typically visited and welcomed. The day is also sometimes called Big Eid or the Greater Eid.

In the Islamic lunar calendar, *Eid al-Adha* falls on the 10th day of Dhu al-Hijjah and lasts for four days. Eid al-Adha is celebrated in Muslim communities throughout Canada around the 10th to the 13th days of the Islamic month of Dhu al-Hijjah (or Dhul Hijja). It is a time marked by special prayers and many Muslims gather for special prayer services. Many people also visit family and friends, exchange greetings and gifts, and make donations to the poor and needy. Eid al-Adha is also a time for forgiveness and compassion.

The Muslim Association of Canada (MAC) holds Eid festivals to celebrate Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha. The Eid Festivals offer celebrations including a carnival of fun rides, shows, sport tournaments and various international cuisines. Thousands of people, including key leaders, often attend these events. Some politicians publicly announce their best wishes to those celebrating Eid al-Adha. Festivities can last for up to a few days.

Eid al-Adha follows from the annual pilgrimage to Mecca in Saudi Arabia. This pilgrimage applies to Muslims worldwide, as they are required to perform the Hajj once in their lives. Some Muslim Canadians may travel to Mecca prior to Eid al-Adha to make this pilgrimage.

On behalf of Mind Forward Brain Injury Services Ontario, the EDI Committee wishes our Muslim peers, clients, family and friends a Happy Eid-al-Adha!

**"May Allah bless you in all future endeavours and you get continued prosperity in every path of life.
Eid ul-Adha Mubarak!"**