

M E C A

Muslim Educational and Cultural Association
CORNELL UNIVERSITY

NIYYAH FOR FASTING. Recite your intention to fast for the month once Ramadan is announced. You can also recite the following before every fast (at *Sehri/Suhoor*):

بِصَوْمِ عَدِّ نَوَيْتُ

bi-sawmi ghadin nawaytu
"I intend to fast tomorrow"

DU'A FOR IFTAAR (Breaking fast). Recite the following when breaking the fast:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي لَكَ صُمْتُ وَبِكَ آمَنْتُ وَ عَلَى رِزْقِكَ أَفْطَرْتُ

Allahumma inni laka sumtu wa-bika amantu wa- 'ala rizqika aftartu

"O God, I fasted for you, believing in you, and I break it through your bounty"

IFTAAR. Daily Iftaars in Anabel Taylor Hall. Iftaars will be followed by Maghrib, 'Isha, and Taraweeh prayers in the One World Room.

POTLUCKS. There will be community potlucks every Saturday night. Please cook or bring something to share if you can.

'ISHA & TARAWEEH. The first Taraweeh prayer is on Tuesday 10 August. Timing as follows: from 1 to 8 Ramadan, 'Isha will be at 9:45 pm; from 9 to 15 Ramadan at 9:30 pm; from 16 to 22 Ramadan at 9:15 pm and thereafter at 9:05 pm. Taraweeh is performed after the 'Isha prayer. There is great virtue in jama'at prayer but even if you cannot join us for Taraweeh, please remember (men & women both) to pray Taraweeh at home.

EID DAY

Please arrive at Anabel Taylor Hall, One World Room:

Takbeer at 7:15 am, Prayer at 7:30 am sharp.

Eid is likely to be on Friday 10 September.

Eid day festivities will be announced in due course.

For information, visit: www.cornellmuslims.org

Ramadan Mubarak!

Calendar

Taraweeh begins the night **before** the first fast
Stop all eating **by** Fajr time
Break fast **at** Maghrib time

Day	Date	Suhur	Iftaar	Isha	Hijri date
		Fajr	Maghrib		
Mon	9-Aug	4:39	8:16	9:45	29 Sha'ban
Tue	10-Aug	4:40	8:15	9:43	30th
Wed	11-Aug	4:42	8:13	9:42	1st Ramadan
Thu	12-Aug	4:43	8:12	9:40	2nd
Fri	13-Aug	4:45	8:11	9:38	3rd
Sat	14-Aug	4:46	8:09	9:36	4th
Sun	15-Aug	4:48	8:08	9:34	5th
Mon	16-Aug	4:49	8:06	9:32	6th
Tue	17-Aug	4:50	8:05	9:31	7th
Wed	18-Aug	4:52	8:03	9:29	8th
Thu	19-Aug	4:53	8:02	9:27	9th
Fri	20-Aug	4:55	8:00	9:25	10th
Sat	21-Aug	4:56	7:59	9:23	11th
Sun	22-Aug	4:57	7:57	9:21	12th
Mon	23-Aug	4:59	7:55	9:19	13th
Tue	24-Aug	5:00	7:54	9:17	14th
Wed	25-Aug	5:02	7:52	9:15	15th
Thu	26-Aug	5:03	7:51	9:13	16th
Fri	27-Aug	5:04	7:49	9:11	17th
Sat	28-Aug	5:06	7:47	9:09	18th
Sun	29-Aug	5:07	7:46	9:08	19th
Mon	30-Aug	5:08	7:44	9:06	20th
Tue	31-Aug	5:10	7:42	9:04	21th
Wed	1-Sep	5:11	7:41	9:02	22th
Thu	2-Sep	5:12	7:39	9:00	23th
Fri	3-Sep	5:14	7:37	8:58	24th
Sat	4-Sep	5:15	7:35	8:56	25th
Sun	5-Sep	5:16	7:34	8:54	26th
Mon	6-Sep	5:18	7:32	8:52	27th
Tue	7-Sep	5:19	7:30	8:50	28th
Wed	8-Sep	5:20	7:29	8:48	29th
Thu	9-Sep	5:21	7:27	8:46	30th
Fri	10-Sep	5:23	7:25	8:44	EID
Sat	11-Sep	5:24	7:23	8:42	2nd Shawwal
Sun	12-Sep	5:25	7:21	8:40	3rd
Mon	13-Sep	5:26	7:20	8:38	4th
Tue	14-Sep	5:28	7:18	8:36	5th
Wed	15-Sep	5:29	7:16	8:34	6th
Thu	16-Sep	5:30	7:14	8:33	7th

RAMADAN. The Prophet, *sallallahu 'alayhi wa-sallam*, has said that the month of Ramadan is divided into 3 parts. In the first ten days descends God's mercy (*rahmah*), in the second ten days descends God's forgiveness (*maghfirah*), and in the last ten days is deliverance from the fire (*'itq min al-nar*).

TARAWEEH. This is a *strongly* recommended prayer performed only in Ramadan. It is preferable to perform it in congregation; if one cannot then it is performed alone. It follows the 'Isha prayer but precedes Witr. It is a minimum of 8 rak'ahs and a maximum of 20, accomplished in 2-rak'ah cycles. Ideally, a *hafiz* will recite the whole Qur'an over the course of the month. This is an important component of Ramadan, please do not neglect it.

SADAQAT-UL-FITR. This charity is an obligation on all Muslims before the Eid prayer; anyone accepting zakat is eligible to accept Sadaqat-ul-fitr. Please do not wait till minutes before the prayer, but rather make your payment (anywhere between \$7 and \$30) beforehand so that the money can reach the needy and they too can enjoy Eid. MECA will be collecting throughout the month (or see overleaf for other options).

ZAKAT. Zakat is not Sadaqat-ul-fitr and cannot replace it. Muslims often fulfill their required Zakat obligations in Ramadan. Please see overleaf for directions on how to calculate Zakat.

LAYLAT-UL-QADR. The Night of Power is the night on which the Quran was revealed. The Prophet, *sallallahu 'alayhi wa-sallam*, said that it was one of the odd nights of Ramadan (i.e. the eve of the 19th, 21st...29th). It is widely observed on the eve of the 27th. Supplementary (*nafil/nawafil*) prayers are recommended that night, as is the du'a (invocation):

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّكَ عَفُوٌّ ، تُحِبُّ الْعَفْوَ فَاعْفُ عَنِّي

Allahumma innaka 'afuwun tuhibbul 'afw fa'fu anni.

"O God, you are the All-Forgiving, you love forgiveness: do forgive me!"

EID-UL-FITR. 1 Shawwal. There are many recommended actions this day: please see overleaf for these. Most importantly, please be on time for this a once-a-year prayer. Takbeer will be at 7:15 am and Eid prayers will commence at 7:30 am *sharp*, so please plan to arrive well beforehand.

SHAWWAL FASTS. The Prophet, *sallallahu 'alayhi wa-sallam*, has praised the virtues of fasting 6 days in Shawwal after having fasted the month of Ramadan. Many Muslims fast from the 2nd (the day after Eid) to the 7th of Shawwal though it is also possible to fast any 6 days that month. Shawwal ends on October 8th.

NIGHTLY TARAWEEH PRAYERS

In addition to the normally prescribed, recommended and optional prayers, Taraweeh prayers follow 'Isha in Ramadan, beginning the very first night, i.e. the night before the first fast.

Taraweeh (between 8 and 20 rak'ahs in 2 rak'ah cycles) is ideally performed in congregation, and ideally involves the recitation of the entire Qur'an over the course of the month, roughly one juz' (1/30) per night. If no Hafiz is available, any portions of the Quran may be recited.

Worldwide practices include reciting from Sura Fil to Sura Nas in the first 10 rak'ahs and then repeating this for the next 10; and reciting Sura Duha and Sura Ikhlas, then Sura Inshirah and Sura Ikhlas, and so on. Those unable to attend the congregational prayers at Anabel Taylor should aspire to perform the Taraweeh in congregation at home.

Whether one performs in congregation or alone, 8 rak'ahs or 20 rak'ahs, the whole Qur'an or the short surahs, **the essential thing is to perform the Taraweeh prayer.** The Witr prayer is performed after Taraweeh.

SADAQAT-UL-FITR

* Sadaqat-ul-fitr must be paid by (and on behalf of) every living Muslim.

* Sadaqat-ul-fitr is sometimes called Zakat-ul-Fitr.

* Sadaqat-ul-fitr or Zakat-ul-fitr are *not* the same things as Zakat.

Please be sure to pay your Sadaqat-ul-fitr. The amount is anywhere between \$7 and \$30 per person. Every single person must pay this. The money must go to those who are needy and who are eligible to receive zakat.

It is far better if the Sadaqat-ul-fitr is collected well before Eid—that way the needy can receive the money before Eid.

MECA will collect Sadaqat-ul-fitr throughout the coming weeks, all the way up to Eid prayers.

LAYLATUL EID (NIGHT BEFORE EID)

The nights of both Eids are described in the Hadith as amongst the great and sacred nights in the Muslim calendar. Peace, prosperity and dignity will be granted to those who pass these nights in 'Ibadat (worship), Salat (prayer), Dhikr (remembrance), Tilawat (recitation) of the Qur'an, and Du'a (supplication).

EID-UL-FITR

The Prophet, *sallallahu 'alayhi wa-sallam*, has described the night before Eid as a great night and Eid-ul-Fitr as one of two high holidays for Muslims. Because Eid-ul-Fitr (1 Shawwal) marks the conclusion of Ramadan and of fasting, it is important to remember to eat something upon waking on Eid day: if available, a date is recommended. It is important also to remember to perform the Fajr prayer.

Recommended acts on Eid-ul-Fitr include:

To rise early—*and not neglecting the Fajr prayer.*

To make *ghusl*

To wear one's best or new clothes

To eat before proceeding to the Eid Prayers

To exceed the required amount of Sadaqat-ul-fitr according to one's status

To proceed to the Eid reciting *takbeer*

To return home using a different route

To show happiness and joy

TAKBEER

**Allahu akbar Allahu akbar Allahu akbar / La ilaha ill-
Allahu Allahu akbar / Allahu akbar wa lillahil Hamd**

Allahu Akbaru kabeera wal-Hamdu lillahi katheera
(Allah is the Greatest, all Praise due to Him)
wa SubhanAllahi bukratan wa-aseela

(And Glory to Allah, in the evening and in the morning)
La ilaha ill-Allah, sadaqa wa'dah wa-nasara 'abdah
(There is no deity but Allah, the Unique. He has fulfilled His promise, and made His servant victorious)

Wa-a'azza jundahu wa-hazama-l-ahzaaba wahdah
(made mighty His army and defeated the confederates)

La ilaha ill-Allahu wa-la na'budu illa iyaah
(there is no deity but Allah. He alone we worship)

Mukhliseena lahu-d-deena wa-law kariha-l-kaafiroon
(with sincere devotion even though the unbelievers decry it)

Allahumma salli 'ala sayyidina Muhammad
(O Allah, send blessings on our leader, Muhammad)

Wa-'ala aali sayyidina Muhammad / Wa 'ala as-haabi sayyidina Muhammad / Wa 'ala ansaari sayyidina Muhammad / Wa 'ala azwaaji sayyidina Muhammad / Wa 'ala dhurriyati sayyidina Muhammad

(and on the family... companions..., helpers..., wives..., descendants... of our leader, Muhammad)

Wa-sallim tasleeman katheera
(and bestow much peace upon them all)

ZAKAT

Zakat is one of the five pillars of Islam. It is an obligation on all Muslims who have accumulated certain goods, property and wealth to give a certain portion away to the needy. It is due once a year and is often paid in Ramadan (because of the blessings of that month). Below is a simple calculation chart.

Add up all cash, silver, commodities, stock, and real estate (not primary home) value that has been continuously in your possession for one whole year, then deduct debts, and then pay 2.5 % of that as zakat.

Cash	\$
Checking Account(s)	\$
Saving Account(s)	\$
Total Silver Value	\$
Business Bank Account	\$
Inventory of Merchandise	\$
Stocks	\$
Mutual Funds	\$
Real Estate* (Excluding personal residence)	\$
Sub Total	\$
Less immediate personal or business debt	\$
Total	\$
Total x 0.025 (Zakat you have to pay)	\$

* In case your real estate is on rent, zakat applies on rental income only. In case of real estate business (as merchandise), zakat is calculated as actual property value.

As always, consult an 'aalim for proper guidance.

THE SIX OPTIONAL FASTS OF SHAWWAL

The Prophet, *sallallahu 'alayhi wa-sallam*, said: "Whoever has fasted the (full) month of Ramadan, and then follows it with six fasts in Shawwal, is like the one who has fasted the full year."

These fasts can be kept continuously after Eid-ul-Fitr or separately during the month of Shawwal.

DAILY PRAYERS IN JAMA'AT

There are many blessings associated with performing prayers in jama'at. Daily prayers in jama'at will be held in Anabel Taylor Hall Room 218 at the start of each prayer, with the exception of Maghrib and 'Isha which will be held in the One World Room of Anabel Taylor Hall.