

M E C A

Muslim Educational and Cultural Association

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 غَدٍ نَّوَيْتُ

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 وَعَلَى 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 **starting on August 17.** Iftaars will be followed by Maghrib, 'Isha, and Taraweeh prayers in the One World Room.

POTLUCKS. There will be community potlucks on Saturday, August 20 and August 27. Please cook or bring something to share if you can.

'ISHA & TARAWEEH. The first Taraweeh prayer is on Sunday, July 31. Timing as follows: from July 31 to August 9, 'Isha will be at 10:05 pm; from August 10 to August 19 at 9:45 pm; from August 20 to August 29 at 9:30 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 Tuesday, August 30, but could be the next day. Please check www.cornellmuslims.org on the night of Monday, August 29.

Free Parking is available at Willard Straight Hall until 9 am. Paid parking is also available at the Parking Garage on Hoy Road. Please do not park at Anabel Taylor, as you may receive a ticket.

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		
Sat	30-Jul	4:24	8:29	10:02	29 Sha'ban
Sun	31-Jul	4:25	8:28	10:01	30th
Mon	1-Aug	4:27	8:26	9:59	1st Ramadan
Tue	2-Aug	4:28	8:25	9:57	2nd
Wed	3-Aug	4:30	8:24	9:56	3rd
Thu	4-Aug	4:31	8:23	9:54	4th
Fri	5-Aug	4:33	8:22	9:52	5th
Sat	6-Aug	4:34	8:20	9:51	6th
Sun	7-Aug	4:35	8:19	9:49	7th
Mon	8-Aug	4:37	8:18	9:47	8th
Tue	9-Aug	4:38	8:16	9:45	9th
Wed	10-Aug	4:40	8:15	9:44	10th
Thu	11-Aug	4:41	8:14	9:42	11th
Fri	12-Aug	4:43	8:12	9:40	12th
Sat	13-Aug	4:44	8:11	9:38	13th
Sun	14-Aug	4:46	8:09	9:37	14th
Mon	15-Aug	4:47	8:08	9:35	15th
Tue	16-Aug	4:49	8:07	9:33	16th
Wed	17-Aug	4:50	8:05	9:31	17th
Thu	18-Aug	4:51	8:04	9:29	18th
Fri	19-Aug	4:53	8:02	9:27	19th
Sat	20-Aug	4:54	8:00	9:25	20th
Sun	21-Aug	4:56	7:59	9:23	21th
Mon	22-Aug	4:57	7:57	9:22	22th
Tue	23-Aug	4:59	7:56	9:20	23th
Wed	24-Aug	5:00	7:54	9:18	24th
Thu	25-Aug	5:01	7:53	9:16	25th
Fri	26-Aug	5:03	7:51	9:14	26th
Sat	27-Aug	5:04	7:49	9:12	27th
Sun	28-Aug	5:05	7:48	9:10	28th
Mon	29-Aug	5:07	7:46	9:08	29th
Tue	30-Aug	5:08	7:44	9:06	EID
Wed	31-Aug	5:09	7:43	9:04	2nd Shawwal
Thu	1-Sep	5:11	7:41	9:02	3rd
Fri	2-Sep	5:12	7:39	9:00	4th
Sat	3-Sep	5:13	7:38	8:58	5th
Sun	4-Sep	5:15	7:36	8:56	6th
Mon	5-Sep	5:16	7:34	8:54	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 (minimum \$8 per person) 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 عَفُوفٌ ، 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. Prayers will begin promptly, 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 September 28th.

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. Every single person must pay this. The amount is minimum \$8 per person. 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 Ramadan, 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 azwaaaji 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.