

HOT TOPICS – JULY 2021

EID-AL-ADHA

EID-AL-ADHA will be celebrated from the evening of Monday 19 July 2021 to Friday 23rd July 2021

Eid is a time for celebration in the Islamic faith – however, there is more than one Eid, there are actually two. The first – **Eid-al-Fitr** - follows Ramadan, where people undertake a month of fasting and prayer.

As well as Eid al-Fitr, Muslims also celebrate **Eid-al-Adha** each year. Eid al-Adha 2021 starts on the evening of July 19 and ends on July 23. The festival revolves around the story of Allah appearing to Ibrahim in a dream and asking him to sacrifice his son, Ishmael, as a sign of his faith. It has similarities to the Christian and Jewish tales where God asked Abraham to sacrifice Isaac but spared him from doing so. During Eid-al-Adha, some Muslims sacrifice animals, in Britain this is done in a slaughterhouse, and the meat is divided up among friends, family and donated to those in need [Source: [When is Eid al-Fitr 2021 in the UK and how is it celebrated? | Metro News](#)]

So, Eid-al-Adha is the latter of the two Islamic holidays celebrated worldwide each year



Children in Indonesia carry torches in a parade through the street to celebrate Eid as-Adha

[Source: [Eid al-Adha celebrations in pictures - CBBC Newsround](#)]

The dates for Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha are determined by the Islamic lunar calendar, meaning that like Easter, they will always take place at a slightly different time of the year. [What is the difference between Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha? | Metro News](#)

To summarise, here are the main differences between Eid-al-Fitr and Eid-al-Adha:

Eid al-Fitr means 'festival of the breaking of the fast' – as referred to earlier, it is celebrated at the end of Ramadan, the month during which many adult Muslims fast. Eid al-Adha is celebrated just over two months later – it means 'feast of the sacrifice' and takes place at the

same time as many Muslims perform the Hajj pilgrimage.

Devotees offer the Eid al-Adha prayers at the mosque. At the conclusion of the prayers and sermon, Muslims embrace and exchange greetings with one another (**Eid Mubarak**), give gifts and visit one another. Many Muslims also take this opportunity to invite their friends, neighbours, co-workers and classmates to their Eid festivities to better acquaint them about Islam and Muslim culture [Source: [Eid al-Adha - Wikipedia](#)]

According to MyLondonNews, in London alone there are over one million practising Muslims, but even that only accounts for a small fraction of the religions' estimated 1.8 billion followers [Source: [Eid ul Fitr 2021: What day is Eid in Saudia Arabia and UK? – MyLondon](#)]



How might this impact on your role as a police officer? Policing celebrations within our communities to keep everyone safe is very much part of your role. Take the time to learn more about these. Think about some of the challenges you may face or what you might have to consider. Discuss these with your PDC. To assist you, consider how your policing role sits with Human Rights and Equality legislation.



Further information can be accessed at:

[Eid al-Adha - Wikipedia](#)

[Islamic holidays - Wikipedia](#)

[Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha: Why are there two Eids? - CBBC Newsround](#)

If you have a Twitter account, you can follow details of Eid-al-Adha on Twitter at #EidAlAdha. You can also watch a short video message presented by Deputy Assistant Commissioner Matthew Horne from last year

ahead of Eid-al-Adha 2020

<https://twitter.com/i/status/1289148238638055424>