

A Brief Guide To The Etiquettes Of 'Eedul-Fitr

Call To Islam Research

It Is Obligatory For All To Attend The 'Eed Prayer

The Messenger of Allaah ﷺ said:

"Let the free women, the virgins, and the menstruating women attend the 'Eed prayer, and witness the good and the supplications of the believers. As for the menstruating women, they should stay away from the Musallaa (i.e. should not participate in the prayer itself)." ¹

Bathing Before The 'Eed Prayer

Imaam Ibn Qudaamah ﷺ said: "It is preferred to purify oneself by bathing for 'Eed. Ibn 'Umar ﷺ used to bathe on the day of Fitr..." ²

Beautification And Adornment

Ibnul-Qayyim ﷺ said: "He ﷺ would wear his best clothes when proceeding to the two 'Eeds and the day of Jumu'ah." ³

One should also apply perfume if he has his own, (otherwise, he may use his wife's perfume) and use the tooth-brush (miswaak) before going to the musallaa.

Eating Dates Before Setting Out To The Musallaa

Anas ﷺ said: "The Messenger of Allaah ﷺ would not set out in the morning of 'Eedul-Fitr until he had eaten some dates." ⁴

Imaam al-Muhallab ﷺ said: 'The wisdom behind eating before the 'Eed prayer is so that no person with doubt in his mind thinks that the fasting remains until after the prayer. So it is as if he ﷺ wanted to stop this from occurring.'" ⁵

Proceeding To The Musallah And Returning By Different Routes

Imaam Ibnul-Qayyim ﷺ said: "The Prophet ﷺ used to change his route on the days of 'Eed, such that he went by one route and returned by another." ⁶

The Time For The 'Eed Prayer

Shaykh Aboo Bakr al-Jazaa'iree said: "It's time is from the sun rising a spear's length up until zawaal (midday). It is best to pray the 'Eedul-Adhaa Prayer at it's earliest possible time, so that people will be able to go and offer their

¹ Saheeh al-Bukharee and Saheeh Muslim

² al-Mughnee (2/370)

³ Zaadul-Ma'aad (1/441)

⁴ Reported by al-Bayhaquee (3/315) and it has an authentic chain of narration

⁵ Fathul-Baaree (2/447) Refer to what the author has said regarding the wisdom in preferring dates

⁶ Zaadul-Ma'aad (1/449)

sacrifices and to delay the Prayer of 'Eedul-Fitr, so that the people will be able to give their sadaqah." ⁷

The Manner Of The Takbeeraat

Ibn 'Umar  would leave (his house) on the morning of 'Eedul-Fitr and Adhaa saying the takbeer aloud until he reached the musallaa and then make takbeer until the Imaam came. ⁸ Ibn Mas'ood  used to say:

"Allaahu Akbar, Allaahu Akbar, Laa ilaaha illallaah,
Allaahu Akbar, Allaahu Akbar wa lillaahil-hamd." ⁹

(Allaah is the Greatest, Allaah is the Greatest, There is none Who has the right to be worshipped except Allaah. Allaah is the Greatest, Allaah is the Greatest and to Allaah belongs all praise.)

Description Of The 'Eed Prayer

1 - The 'Eed Salaah consists of two Raka'ahs. Umar  said: "The traveller's prayer is two raka'ah; the Adha prayer is two Raka'ah; and the Jumu'ah prayer is two Rak'ah; this is their full length as came from the Messenger of Allaah."  ¹⁰

2 - The 'Eed Salaah is not preceded by the adhan (the call to announce the prayer time) or Iqaamah (the call to start prayer). Jaabir bin Samurah  said: "I prayed the 'Eed prayer with Allah's Messenger,  on more than one occasion, without adhan or Iqamah." ¹¹

3 - No Sunnah prayer may precede or follow the 'Eed prayer, except if it is performed in a Masjid instead of a Musallah, in which case one must pray two raka'hs before sitting down. Ibn Abbaas  reported: "The Prophet  went out (of his house) on the day of Fitr, prayed two raka'hs and did not pray before or after it." ¹²

4 - Like any other deed in Islam, the prayer must be preceded with a true intention of worshipping Allah alone in the heart.

5 - The first raka'h is initiated with Takbeer al-ihram, then followed by seven Takbeers. The second rak'ah has five takbeers after getting up from completing the first rak'ah. Aa'ishah  said: "Allah's Messenger  would say Takbeer in both Fitr and Adha: seven in the first and five in the second, other than the two

⁷ Minhaajul-Muslim (no. 278)

⁸ Related by ad-Daaraqutnee and Ibn Abee Shaybah and others with an authentic chain of narration. Refer to Irwaa'ul-Ghaleel (no. 650)

⁹ Reported by Ibn Abee Shaybah with an authentic chain of narration

¹⁰ Saheeh Musnad Ahmad, Nisa'ee, Baihaqee and others

¹¹ Saheeh Muslim

¹² Zaad al-Maad (2/443)

Takbeers of Ruku (bowing).”¹³ It has not been authentically reported from the Prophet ﷺ that he used to raise his hands with the takbeers of ‘Eed.¹⁴

6. The remainder of the prayer is performed in the same manner as any other prayer, without any difference.

The ‘Eed Khutbah

The Sunnah of the ‘Eed Khutbah is that it should be delivered after the ‘Eed Salaah. Ibn Abbaas رضي الله عنه said: “I attended the ‘Eed with Allah's Messenger, صلى الله عليه وسلم Abu Bakr, Umar, and Uthman; رضي الله عنهم all of them would pray before the Khutbah.”¹⁵

Listening To The ‘Eed Khutbah Is Not Wajib

Abdullah bin as-Sa'ib رضي الله عنه reported that he attended the ‘Eed prayer with the Prophet; صلى الله عليه وسلم and when he صلى الله عليه وسلم finished the prayer, he said: “We shall have a Khutbah; so let whoever wishes to sit for the Khutbah do so, and whoever wishes to leave, may leave.”¹⁶

If The ‘Eed Falls On Jumu’ah

In this case it becomes optional for men to attend the Jumu'ah prayer. Abu Hurayrah رضي الله عنه reported that on such occurrence, the Messenger of Allaah صلى الله عليه وسلم said: “Two ‘Eeds have coincided on this day of yours; thus whoever wishes, is exempted from attending the Jumu'ah prayer. Yet, we shall hold it.”¹⁷

It should be noted that if one does not attend the Jumu’ah prayer, then it becomes obligatory on him to offer the Dhuhr prayer.

If One Missed The ‘Eed Congregational Prayer

One who missed the ‘Eed Prayer in congregation should pray two rak’ahs. Imaam al-Bukhaaree, رحمته الله said: “Chapter: If one misses the ‘Eed (Prayer) he should pray two rak’ahs.”¹⁸

Greetings

Ibn Qudaamah رحمته الله mentioned that Muhammad Ibn Ziyaad said: “I was with Abee Umaamah al-Baahilee and other Companions of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم and when they returned from the ‘Eed they said to each other: ‘Taqabballallaah minnaa wa minkum.’¹⁹

¹³ Saheeh - Abu Dawood (1150) and others

¹⁴ It is essential to refer to Irwaa al-Ghaleel (3/112-114)

¹⁵ Saheeh al-Bukharee

¹⁶ saheeh) Abu Dawood

¹⁷ Authenticated by Shaikh al-Albanee in Irwa ul-Ghalil

¹⁸ Related by al-Bukhaaree (1/134-135)

¹⁹ al-Mughnee (2/259)

Joyfulness Whilst Keeping The Commandments Of Allaah

'Eed celebrations are religious occasions, but the joy that occurs on the 'Eed, has made many people forget or become negligent of the Deen and Islamic regulations. Whilst enjoying and celebrating this great day of 'Eed one should avoid celebrating the 'Eed in a way similar to the Kuffar, who overstep Allaah's boundaries when they rejoice. They indulge in various acts of disobedience, such as mingling of men and women, wearing improper clothes, dancing, listening to music, drinking alcohol etc. Also, Muslims must avoid performing unjustified practices and Bid'ahs, like spending the night preceding the 'Eed in extended worship, visiting the graves etc.

Finally, We ask Allah to give us the correct understanding of His Deen and make all our worships sincerely for His Face. Ameen!