MEANING

• “The festival of the sacrifice”
• Eid al-Adha is one of the two major Islamic holidays (the other being Eid al-Fitr). It largely overlaps with the annual Hajj (pilgrimage) to Mecca.

GREETINGS

• Eid Mubarak! (“A blessed Eid!” – Arabic)
• Eid Sa’eed! (“A happy Eid!” – Arabic)

WHEN

• Starts on the 10th day of the 12th month of the Islamic lunar calendar and shifts up roughly 11 days each year relative to the Gregorian calendar. Eid al-Adha lasts at least three and at most four days (the length varies due to different schools of thought and customs); however, the communal prayer and celebration are typically held on the morning of the first day.
• The start and end dates of this holiday may vary among Muslims by a day or two, depending on how and when the new crescent moon is ascertained.
• Eid al-Adha technically begins and ends at sunset.

COMMON PRACTICES

• To celebrate Eid al-Adha, many Muslims will partake in a special communal prayer the first morning and enjoy meals with friends and family throughout the day.
• In many cultures, Eid al-Adha is a day of exchanging gifts.
• Following the example of the early Muslims, many Muslims will fast the day preceding Eid al-Adha; some will even fast the nine days preceding the holiday.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?

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Eid al-Adha
Arabic
Eed al·aad·ha

• Eid al-Adha is one of the two most important holidays on the Islamic calendar. Many students, staff and faculty will travel to be with family or friends during this festive time. They may also need to leave campus early on the day that Eid al-Adha begins in order to prepare for the holiday before it starts at sundown. And many will attend the communal prayer the next morning.
• Instructors and supervisors should avoid scheduling required tests, exams or other activities on Eid al-Adha.
• Students, staff, and faculty should be given the opportunity to reschedule any tests, exams or study or work activities that must be scheduled on Eid al-Adha.