



# Eid Ul-Fitr

## FESTIVAL OF BREAKING THE FAST



Eid ul Fitr (Festival of Breaking the Fast) is the first day of the 10<sup>th</sup> lunar month, Shawwaal and marks the end of the Holy and blessed month of Ramadhan.

The word Eid literally means ‘recurrence’. Thus, Eid is an occasion which returns and recurs at specified times with renewed happiness and joy. Muslims will return to the gathering of Eid with renewed zeal and enthusiasm, and Allah returns to His servants with renewed bounties and rewards. Even the nights which precede the Days of Eid, have also been marked as a time of great virtue, and the scholars have considered it Mustahab (desirable) to do Ibaadah (worship) on these nights. In this regard, the Messenger of Allah (SA) said, *“The heart of the person who remains awake (in worship)- during the nights of Eid ul Fitr and Eid ul Adhaa will not die on the Day when hearts will be dead, i.e. the Day of Qiyaamah”* (Tabarani)

On the Day of Eid, Allah rewards the believers immensely for having fulfilled their duties to him by adhering to restraint and guarding against evil; who endeavored in acts of piety and righteousness; who became engrossed in dua, dhikr and recitation of Quraan; who displayed kindness, love and compassion to others, and who spent the month of Ramadhan seeking His pleasure.

The Day of Eid is spent in worship and thankfulness to Allah. Muslims will perform the Eid Salaah, which is Wajib (incumbent) and listen to the Khutba (sermon), which is Sunnah (commendable).

To give general charity on this day is commendable and rewarding. However, Sadaqatul Fitr (Charity of Eid) is Waajib (incumbent) and must be given before the Eid Salaah. It is specially meant for the poor and the needy so that they too can celebrate Eid. It becomes binding to be given by all adults on behalf of themselves and their dependents, when they possess wealth beyond their needs on the day of Eid.

### **SOME COMMENDABLE ACTS FOR THE DAY OF EID**

**To** rise early in the morning; **To** perform Ghushl (bath); **To** use miswaak; **To** apply ‘Itr (non-alcoholic perfume); **To** wear one's best clothes; **To** eat something sweet (such as dates) before departing for Eid Salaah; **To** give Sadaqatul Fitr before leaving for the place of Salah or Masjid; **To** walk to the place of Salah. However, there is no harm in using any means of conveyance to go to the place of Salah; **To** go to the place of Salah using one route and to return by another route; **To** recite the Takbeer while going for Eid Salah. The takbeer is:-

**Allaa hu akbar, Allaa hu akbar, laa ilaaha illallaahu  
wallaahu akbar, Allaahu Akbar wa lillaahil hamd**



# Sadaqatul Fitr

THE COMPULSORY CHARITY OF EID-UL-FITR



Zakaatul Fitr or Sadaqatul Fitr is the charity that is given on the day of Eid Ul Fitr, and is distributed to those who are poor and needy. It is permissible to be given in food/grains and in cash. If it is given in food/grains, then the following can be given: 1 Saa'a of dates or barley (Muslim Hadith No.2149); Half of a Saa'a of wheat (Muslim – Hadith No. 2151); One Saa'a of raisins or dried cottage cheese (Sahih Al Bukhari Hadith no. 1408).

Based on the above, Sadaqatul Fitr can be given in dates, barley, raisins, cottage cheese, wheat and flour. The Scholars have stated, 'If the staple food of a people is corn, pearl millet, thin husk barley, rice or any grain on which Zakaat is obligatory then they may give it as Zakaat Al Fitr.' With respect to the amount which must be given in these grains, many Scholars have stated that on behalf of a Muslim, One Saa'a of dates, barley, raisins, dried cottage cheese, wheat, corn or flour etc. will be given to the poor and needy. One Saa'a is equal to 2kg 174 grams or 4¾ lbs. Some other scholars have stated that if wheat is given, then half of a Saa'a of wheat will be given, and if barley, raisin or dates is given then One Saa'a will be given. According to these scholars, One Saa'a is equal to 3kg 240 grams or 7lbs 2 ounces.

The preferred view is that One Saa'a will be used as the measurement for any grain or the staple food of any community since One Saa'a has been clearly stated in authentic Ahadith for the calculation of Sadaqatul Fitr, and it is of precaution. Also, according to some scholars, the usage of half a Saa'a for wheat by the companions of the Prophet (S.A.S) was due to the reason that at that time, half of a Saa'a of wheat was equal in value to One Saa'a of other grains such as barley, dates or raisins. Therefore, with the preferred view, 4¾ lbs or 2kg 174 grams of wheat, barley, raisins, dates, flour or any staple food etc. will be given as Sadaqatul Fitr on behalf of a Muslim individual.

With respect to paying Sadaqatul Fitr in money, this is also permissible. The purpose of Sadaqatul Fitr is that this charity be given to the poor and needy so that it will be a help to them, particularly on the day of Eid where they can also enjoy themselves and have sufficient to eat on this day. It also serves as purification for the giver against mistakes made while fasting.

Seeing that Sadaqatul Fitr is to be given to help the poor and needy, consideration must be given to them, so that they will not be in a state of want and deprivation. In our times, dates, raisins, barley and wheat is not from the staple foods that many people consume. Although these are used, they are not from the food/meals that people eat on a daily basis. Therefore, one needs to consider whether the above-mentioned dry foods will help in satisfying the needs of the poor and needy today. In our times, fulfilling the needs of the poor and needy can be easily done with cash which they can use to purchase food and clothing on the day of Eid. When the cash value is given in Sadaqatul Fitr, then it will be equivalent to One Saa'a which is 4¾ lbs of wheat/flour.

**DARUL ULOOM TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LTD**

**TEL: 665-8868/1442 EMAIL: [darululoomtt@gmail.com](mailto:darululoomtt@gmail.com) Webpage: [darululoomtt.net](http://darululoomtt.net)**

**Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DarulUloomTT/>**

**Rashaad Avenue, Mon Plasir Road, Cunupia, Trinidad and Tobago, West Indies.**