Eid Mubarak!

Eid-ul-Fitr Announcement
Fiqh Council of North America has announced, the first of Shawwal (Eid-ul-Fitr) will be on Wednesday, July 06, 2016, Insha’Allah. Prayer timings are available on the ISGVF website: www.isgvf.com.

Eid prayer timings
Insha’Allah. Eid prayer timings are 6:30 am, 7:30 am, 8:30 am, 9:30 am & 10:30 am, Takbeerat will start 15 minutes before each prayer.

Zakat-ul-Fitr
Zakat-ul-Fitr is recommended $10/person. You may wish to give more. This year, ISGVF will be collecting Zakat-ul-Fitr to distribute to needy. As a reminder, Zakat-ul-Fitr is due before the Eid Salaah. You are responsible to pay for every person in your household including new born or guests.

Additional parking and Breakfast
A Summer Camp program is being offered at ISGVF starting July 11th through August 19th. Activities include -
- Archery training and instructions (Ages 7 & up)
- Quranic recitation
- Arts and crafts
- Reading, Writing, and Math enrichment
- Swimming
- Leadership development
ISGVF pleased to announce that additional praying and breakfast arrangements are at Wilson Farm Park 500 Lee Road, Chesterbrook, PA - 19087 (Picnic Pavilion) with shuttle buses starting at 8:00 am. Providing transport to and from masjid every 10 minutes.

Cost is $150 per week per child (must sign up for a 2, 4 or 6 week session). Price includes breakfast, lunch, snacks, and activities and trips. $35.00 application fee and completed application due by May 30th, 2016 (we fill on a first come first served basis). For more information, you may contact Sr. Inshirah at (215)275-4063.

June Month Events
Alhamdolillah ISGVF has hosted educational/informational program on Friday June 03, 2016 “How to fast safely in Ramadan” by guest speaker: Dr. Tipu Faiz M. Saleem (MD, FACP, FACE)

Iftar Arrangement
Alhamdulillah, ISGVF community hosted number of iftars that were well attended.

Sharing Ramadan
June 21st - ISGVF invited our non-Muslim neighbors and friends as part of Sharing Ramadan Iftar and dinner program. Alhamdulillah, about 70 people attended and it was a great interactive session.

June 10th - Abdul Nasir Jangda visit to ISGVF
Abdul Nasir Jangda has visited ISGVF as a part of his “Orphan sponsorship drive program” in Ramadan, Alhamdolillah ISGVF community actively participated in this program.

ISGVF Eid Bazar
Alhamdolillah, ISGVF Eid Bazaar was successfully held on Sunday June 26, 2016 in activity hall between 2pm to 6pm. Both vendors and community members actively participated and have enjoyed this social
2016 Ramadan Fundraising Campaign goal to raise $150,000 was met. ISGVF would like to thank you for your generous contributions and May Allah (SWT) help us all to spend more in the cause of Allah and May He reward you and your family for your support. JazakaAllahuKhairun! For supporting and maintaining of a mosque, or contributing towards it, is one of the most virtuous forms of Sadaqah Jariyah (continuous charity) that Allah SWT has bestowed upon us.

**ISGVF Updates**

**Main Masjid building’s front step work has been completed, Appreciate all you cooperation and we apology for any inconvenience you may have encountered during construction period**

**Self service card machine**: Alhamdolilah ISGVF is pleased to announce that serf service credit & debit card machine is ready and available for use to make Masjid donations, Zakat, Sadaqa or Fitra etc. Please see any management team member for more info or assistance.

**Tarbiyah Program**: Weekly Tarbiyah Summer program to develop creative thinking, responsibility, competence, confidence, connections, character and caring based on Islamic background and the teachings of Prophet Muhammed (PBH) will start at 5:00 PM till 8:00 on every Saturday from July 9th to Sep 3rd, 2016. Registration is open during Ramadan for student ages between 14 and 24.

**IQAMAH TIMES**

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<tr>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>FAJR (AM)</th>
<th>ZUHR (PM)</th>
<th>ASR (PM)</th>
<th>MAGHREB (PM)</th>
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* Fajr Iqamah on Weekends – 30 Min. before Sunrise 1st Jumma Salah 1:15 PM 2nd Jumma Salah 2:20 PM

**Around ISGVF**

**IQRA INSTITUTE**

July 16th - 3rd annual Eid festival

Sunday July 10, IQRA is hosting open house for new program 'Structured After School Program' and 5 year - Boys and Girls Hifdh Program

Additional details are in IQRA’s website

**BAYYINAH**
Students attending grade 8 for the year 2016-2017 will also be eligible for the program. This is a pilot program and will be free of cost. For more information or details, please contact Br Zakir Syed at zakirsyed2016@gmail.com, or call at 484-321-6786 after 5:00 PM or Weekends.

Community Update

Birth Announcement: Alhamdulillah, Br. Feroz Ahmed and Sister Huda Ahmed, were blessed with twin girls Asiya Ahmed and Haniya Ahmed on Friday June 10, 2016. May ALLAH (SWT) make them amongst the righteous and bless their family, Ameen!

Donate to ISGVF

Donate

ISGVF Reflections

Eid ul Fitr and the 6 Fasts of Shawwal

One of the meritorious aspects of Shawwal is that it has been chosen by Allah Almighty for the celebration of “Eid-ul-Fitr”, one of the only two annual festivals recognised by the Shariah. This happy day is designed by the Shari’ah as a sign of gratefulness by the Muslims on the accomplishment of Ramadhan, and as an immediate reward by Allah for those who spent the month of Ramadhan in fasting and performing other forms of ‘Ibaadah’.

Instead of commemorating an event from the past, the Shari’ah has prescribed the first of Shawwal as an annual festival for the Muslims at an occasion when they themselves accomplish a great ‘ibada’. This approach reminds the Muslims that they should not rely only on the accomplishments of their ancestors, rather, they should themselves perform meritorious acts to please their Creator.

In prescribing the ways to celebrate the happy day, Islam has adopted another unique approach. The festivals of other religions or nations normally comprise of some acts of rejoicing and enjoyment. The whole happy day is normally spent in dancing, drinking, singing and playing.

Islam has, conversely, prescribed a very simple, prestigious and more humane way to observe the happy day. First of all, it is mandatory on all the well-off Muslims to start their day by paying ‘Sadaqat ul-fitr’ to the poor of their society, so that they too may enjoy the day along with others, and may not be worried for earning their livelihood at least in that day of happiness.

After paying the ‘Sadaqat-ul-fitr’, the Muslims are required to proceed to an open place where they can offer ‘Eid prayer collectively. In this way, they are supposed to present themselves before their Creator and offer two rak’ats of this special type of Salaah, which makes them receive blessings from Allah and start their celebration by these divine blessings.

After the Salaah also, they are supposed to rejoice the day in a responsible manner, without violating the limits prescribed for them and never indulging in the acts prohibited by Allah.

Keeping this point in view, we will now discuss specific rules prescribed for observing the day of ‘Eid-ul-Fitr’.

The Night preceding ‘Eid-ul-Fitr’

It had been the practice of the Holy Prophet May Allah’s peace and blessings be upon him that he did not sleep in the night preceding the day of ‘Eid ul-Fitr’. This night has been named in a Hadith as, ‘THE NIGHT OF REWARD’. It means that Allah Almighty bestows his rewards to those who have spent the month of Ramadhan abiding by the dictates of Shari ‘ah, and all their prayers in this night are accepted. Therefore, it is desirable to perform nafl prayers in this night. The Holy Prophet May Allah’s peace and blessings be upon him is reported to have said:

Ustadh Nouman Ali Khan will be coming to Philadelphia on Friday July 15th at Masjid Hidaya. He will sharing a story night called “Accused” about the story of the ifq of Hazrat Aisha. The program will start at 6:00PM.

Additional details are in Bayyinah website.
“Whoever stands up (in worship) in the nights preceding the two Eids expecting rewards from his lord, his heart will not die when the other hearts will die.

To benefit from this opportunity, one should perform as much worship in this night as he can, and should pray for all his needs and desires.

Before going to ‘Eid Prayer

The following acts are prescribed as Sunnah at the beginning of the day of Eid-ul-Fitr before proceeding to the ‘Eid prayer:

1. To wake up early in the morning.
2. To clean one’s teeth with a Miswaak or a brush.
3. To have a bath.
4. To put on one’s best available clothes.
5. To wear perfume.
6. To eat a sweet food, preferably dates, before the ‘Eid prayer.
7. To recite the following Takbir in the low voice while going to the ‘Eid prayer:

    “Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, La ilaha ilal lahu wal allahu akbar, allahu akbar wa lilla hil hamnd.”

Sadaqat-ul-fitr

Sadaqat-ul-fitr is an obligation for every Muslim, male or female, who owns 613.35 grams of silver or its equivalent, either in the form of money, ornaments, stock-in-trade or in the form of some goods or commodities beyond one’s normal needs. Every person who owns such an amount has to pay Sadaqat-ul-fitr, not only on behalf of himself but also on behalf of his minor children. The prescribed amount of Sadaqat-ul-fitr is 1.75 kilograms of wheat or its value in money. This amount is prescribed for paying Sadaqat-ul-fitr for one person only. If a person has some minor children, the same amount has to be paid on behalf of each one of them separately. The following points must be remembered with regard to the payment of Sadaqat-ul-fitr.

1. Sadaqat-ul-fitr is obligated on each adult male or female separately, and the relevant adult person himself is responsible to pay it. The husband is not required to pay Sadaqat-ul-fitr on behalf of his wife nor is the wife supposed to pay it on behalf of her husband. Similarly, a father is not bound to pay Sadaqat-ul-fitr on behalf of his adult children or vice versa. However, if the head of the family, by his own free will, wishes to pay Sadaqat-ul-fitr for each one of the members of his family, he should seek their authorisation for that purpose. In this case the Sadaqat-ul-fitr paid by him will be valid on their behalf. If he did not pay Sadaqat-ul-fitr on behalf of his family, he will not be responsible for it. Rather, it is the duty of every adult member of the family to discharge his own obligation or request the head of the family to pay it on his or her behalf.

2. It is a Sunnah that the Sadaqat-ul-fitr is paid before performing the ‘Eid prayer. It can also be paid before the ‘Eid day, but it is not advisable to delay it up to the performance of ‘Eid prayer. However, if a person has failed to pay on its proper time, he should pay it as soon as possible, whereupon the obligation will stand discharged.

3. The Sadaqat-ul-fitr is not necessary on behalf of a child who has been born after the break of dawn in the ‘Eid day, nor is it necessary to pay Sadaqat-ul-fitr on behalf of person who dies before the dawn of the ‘Eid day.

4. Sadaqat-ul-fitr should only be paid to a person who is entitled to receive Zakah.

The Eid prayer

The second obligation on ‘Eid day is to perform the ‘Eid prayer. Some rules in this respect are mentioned hereunder:

1. The ‘Eid prayer is waajib (obligatory) on every male Muslim.
2. The ‘Eid prayer can be performed any time between the ishraq and zawal.
3. It is preferable that the ‘Eid prayer is performed at an open field and not in a mosque. However, if, it is difficult to perform it in an open field, it can also be performed in a big mosque.
4. It is not advisable to hold the ‘Eid prayer in every mosque, rather it is preferable that the people of several mosques either perform it in an open field or, in its absence, in a big mosque which can accommodate a large number of people.

5. No Nafl Salaah can be performed before the ‘Eid prayer, neither in ones home, nor at the place of ‘Eid prayer. Similarly, Nafl prayer cannot be performed after the ‘Eid prayer at the same place. However, it can be performed after one comes back to his home.

6. The ‘Eid prayer has neither Azaan nor iqamah.

7. The ‘Eid prayer has two rakaah to perform in the normal way with the only addition of six Takbirs, three of them in the beginning of the first rakaah, and three of them just before ruku in the second rakaah.

**Khutbah: The address of ‘Eid-ul-fitr**

In this Salaah, Khutbah is a Sunnah and is delivered after the Salaah, unlike the Salaah of Jumuah where it is farz and is delivered before the Salaah. However, listening to the Khutbah of ‘Eid Salaah is waajib or necessary and must be heard in perfect peace and silence.

It is a Sunnah that the Imam begins the first Khutbah by reciting Takbirs ‘Allahu Akbar’ nine times and the second Khutbah with reciting it seven times.

**Note:** The way of ‘Eid prayer described above is according to the Hanafi school of Muslim jurists. Some other jurists, like Imam Shafi, have other ways to perform it. They recite Takbir twelve times before beginning the recitations from the Holy Qur’an in both the rakaahs. This way is also permissible. If the Imam, being of the Shafi School, follows this way, you can also follow him. Both ways are based on the practice of the Holy Prophet May Allah’s peace and blessings be upon him.

**Six Fasts in the Month of Shawwal**

It is commendable to keep six fasts in the month of Shawwal. The Holy Prophet May Allah's peace and blessings be upon him has said:

“Whoever completes the fasts of Ramadhan then adds to them the fasts of six days in the month of Shawwal, it will carry the thawab of fasting for the whole year.” (Sahih Muslim)

This Hadith had described the great thawab of six fasts of this month. The scholars have interpreted this Hadith by saying that according to the recognised rules of Shari’ah, every good deed is rewarded ten times more thawab of its origin, therefore, the thawab of 30 days of Ramadhan amounts to the thawab for 300 days. If the fasts of Ramadhan are followed by six more fasts, they carry the thawab of 60 days more, raising the aggregate thawab to 360 which is the number of days in one year according to the Islamic calendar. Therefore, the Muslims should take this opportunity of acquiring such an enormous reward from Allah. It is more preferable to start these fasts from the 2nd of Shawwal and keep fasting up to the 7th of Shawwal. However, if they are kept in other days, it is hoped that the requirement of the above Hadith may also be fulfilled.