# Texts for Eid ul-Fitr: Festivals

# **Qur'an and Hadith**

The word 'Eid' appears only once in the Qur'an, here:

The word 'fitra' appears only here:

Surah 30, Ar-Rum

30. So set thou thy face Steadily and truly to the Faith: (Establish) God's handiwork according To the pattern on which He has made mankind: No change (let there be) In the work (wrought) By God: that is The standard Religion: But most among mankind Understand not.

31. Turn ye back in repentance To Him, and fear Him: Establish regular prayers, And be not ye among those Who join gods with God,—

32. Those who split up Their Religion, and become (Mere) Sects,—each party Rejoicing in that which Is with itself!

Here are some verses about Ramadan and its end, and some Hadith with some specific instructions about how to keep Eids.

## Surah 2, Al-Bagara

183. O ye who believe! fasting is prescribed to you as it was prescribed to those before you that ye may (learn) self-restraint.

184. (Fasting) for a fixed number of days; but if any of you is ill or on a journey the prescribed number (should be made up) from days later. For those who can do it (with hardship) is a ransom the feeding of one that is indigent. But he that will give more of his own free will it is better for him and it is better for you that ye fast if ye only knew.

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١٨٥- شَهْرُ رَمَضَانَ الَّذِي أُنزِلَ فِيهِ الْقُرْآنُ هُدًى لِّلنَّاسِ وَيَيِّنَاتٍ مِّنَ الْهُدَىٰ وَالْفُرْقَانِ ۚ فَمَن شَهِدَ مِنكُمُ الشَّهْرَ فَلْيَصُمْهُ ۖ وَمَن كَانَ مَرِيضًا أَوْ
عَلَىٰ سَفَرِ فَعِدَّةٌ مِّنْ أَيَّامٍ أَخَرَ ۗ يُرِيدُ اللَّهُ بِكُمُ الْيُسْرَ وَلَا يُرِيدُ بِكُمُ الْعُسْرَ وَلِتُكْمِلُوا الْعِدَّةَ وَلِتُكَبِّرُوا اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ مَا هَدَاكُمْ وَلَعَلَكُمْ وَشَكُرُونَ ﴿
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185. Ramadan is the (month) in which was sent down the Qur'an as a guide to mankind also clear (Signs) for guidance and judgment (between right and wrong). So everyone of you who is present (at his home)

during that month should spend it in fasting but if anyone is ill or on a journey the prescribed period (should be made up) by days later. God intends every facility for you He does not want to put you to difficulties. (He wants you) to complete the prescribed period and to glorify Him in that He has guided you; and perchance ye shall be grateful.

## Hadith

"When the Holy Prophet came to Madinah, the people had two days in which they used to entertain and amuse themselves. He asked: "What are these two days?" They said: "We used to amuse ourselves and take pleasure in these two days during the Days of Ignorance (jahiliyyah). The Messenger of Allah said, "Allah has substituted for you something better than these two; the Eid of Adha (sacrifice) and the Eid of Fitr." [Sunan Abi Dawood]

A collection of Hadith from Follow The Sunnah: 10 Ahadith About Eid al-Fitr | Muslim Memo

- 1. Narrated Abu Saeed al-Khudri (RA), Bukhari: *Allah's Messenger (PBUH) prohibited two fasts: Fasting the Day of al-Adha and the Day of al-Fitr.*
- 2. Narrated Jabir bin Abdullah (RA), Bukhari: On the Day of Eid, the Prophet (PBUH) used to return (after offering the Eid prayer) through a way different from that by which he went.
- 3. Narrated Ibn Abbas (RA), Bukhari: The Prophet (PBUH) offered a two Rakat prayer on the Day of Eid al-Fitr and he did not pray before or after it. Then he went towards women along with Bilal and ordered them to pay alms and so they started giving their earrings and necklaces (in charity).
- 4. Narrated Ibn Juraij (RA), Muslim: Atā informed me from Ibn Abbas (RA) and Jabir bin Abdullah al-Ansari (RA), who said: "There was no Adhan called on the day of al-Fitr or al-Adha, neither before the Imam came out nor afterwards, and there was no Iqamah or call or anything; no call on that day and no Iqamah."
- 5. Narrated Abdullah bin Umar (RA), Bukhari: Allah's Apostle (PBUH) used to offer the prayer of Eid al-Adha and Eid al-Fitr and then deliver the Khutba after the prayer.
- 6. Narrated Anas bin Malik (RA), Bukhari: Allah's Apostle (PBUH) never proceeded (for the prayer) on the Day of Eid al-Fitr unless he had eaten some dates. The Prophet (PBUH) used to eat odd number of dates.
- 7. Narrated Hz. Aisha (RA), Bukhari: Abu Bakr (RA) came to my house while two small Ansari girls were singing beside me the stories of the Ansar concerning the Day of Buath. And they were not singers. Abu Bakr (RA) said protestingly, "Musical instruments of Satan in the house of Allah's Apostle!" It happened on the Eid day and Allah's Apostle (PBUH) said, "O Abu Bakr! There is an Eid for every nation and this is our Eid."
- 8. Narrated Ibn Umar (RA), Bukhari: Allah's Messenger (PBUH) would order paying Sadaqah al-Fitr before going to Salat on the day of Eid al-Fitr.
- 9. Narrated Abdullah bin Umar (RA), Bukhari: Allah's Messenger (PBUH) mentioned Ramadan and said, "Do not observe fasting unless you see the crescent moon (of Ramadan), and do not give up fasting till you see the crescent moon (of Shawwāl); but if the sky is overcast and you can't see the moon, then act on estimation (ie. count 30 days each for Shaban and Ramadan)."
- 10. Narrated Yazid bin Khumair ar-Rahabi (RA), Abu Dawud: Abdullah bin Busr (RA), the companion of Allah's Messenger (PBUH), once went with the people on the day of Eid (al-Fitr or al-Adha). He criticized the delay of Imam and said, "We used to be finished at this hour (and that was the time one could pray voluntary prayers, ie. just after sunrise)."

## Torah

There is a LOT in the Torah about festivals and how they should be conducted. The following chapter gives a summary:

# **Leviticus 23**

<u>1</u>The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <u>2</u>"Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, These are the appointed feasts of the LORD that you shall proclaim as holy convocations; they are my appointed feasts.

## The Sabbath

<u>3</u>"Six days shall work be done, but on the seventh day is a Sabbath of solemn rest, a holy convocation. You shall do no work. It is a Sabbath to the LORD in all your dwelling places.

# The Passover

4"These are the appointed feasts of the LORD, the holy convocations, which you shall proclaim at the time appointed for them. 5In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at twilight, is the LORD's Passover. 6And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to the LORD; for seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. 7On the first day you shall have a holy convocation; you shall not do any ordinary work. 8But you shall present a food offering to the LORD for seven days. On the seventh day is a holy convocation; you shall not do any ordinary work."

# The Feast of Firstfruits

<u>9</u>And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <u>10</u>"Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, When you come into the land that I give you and reap its harvest, you shall bring the sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the priest, <u>11</u>and he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, so that you may be accepted. On the day after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it. <u>12</u>And on the day when you wave the sheaf, you shall offer a male lamb a year old without blemish as a burnt offering to the LORD. <u>13</u>And the grain offering with it shall be two tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil, a food offering to the LORD with a pleasing aroma, and the drink offering with it shall be of wine, a fourth of a hin. <u>14</u>And you shall eat neither bread nor grain parched or fresh until this same day, until you have brought the offering of your God: it is a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwellings.

# The Feast of Weeks

15"You shall count seven full weeks from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering. 16You shall count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath. Then you shall present a grain offering of new grain to the LORD. 17You shall bring from your dwelling places two loaves of bread to be waved, made of two tenths of an ephah. They shall be of fine flour, and they shall be baked with leaven, as firstfruits to the LORD. 18And you shall present with the bread seven lambs a year old without blemish, and one bull from the herd and two rams. They shall be a burnt offering to the LORD, with their grain offering and their drink offerings, a food offering with a pleasing aroma to the LORD. 19And you shall offer one male goat for a sin offering, and two male lambs a year old as a sacrifice of peace offerings. 20And the priest shall wave them with the bread of the firstfruits as a wave offering before the LORD, with the two lambs. They shall be holy to the LORD for the priest. 21And you shall make a proclamation on the same day. You shall hold a holy convocation. You shall not do any ordinary work. It is a statute forever in all your dwelling places throughout your generations.

22"And when you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, nor shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the LORD your God."

# The Feast of Trumpets

23And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 24"Speak to the people of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall observe a day of solemn rest, a memorial proclaimed with blast of trumpets, a holy convocation. 25You shall not do any ordinary work, and you shall present a food offering to the LORD."

# The Day of Atonement

26And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 27"Now on the tenth day of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement. It shall be for you a time of holy convocation, and you shall afflict yourselves and present a food offering to the LORD. 28And you shall not do any work on that very day, for it is a Day of Atonement, to make atonement for you before the LORD your God. 29For whoever is not afflicted on that very day shall be cut off from his people. 30And whoever does any work on that very day, that person I will destroy from among his people. 31You shall not do any work. It is a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwelling places. 32It shall be to you a Sabbath of solemn rest, and you shall afflict yourselves. On the ninth day of the month beginning at evening, from evening to evening shall you keep your Sabbath."

# The Feast of Booths

<u>33</u>And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <u>34</u>"Speak to the people of Israel, saying, On the fifteenth day of this seventh month and for seven days is the Feast of Booths<sup>f</sup> to the LORD. <u>35</u>On the first day shall be a holy convocation; you shall not do any ordinary work. <u>36</u>For seven days you shall present food offerings to the LORD. On the eighth day you shall hold a holy convocation and present a food offering to the LORD. It is a solemn assembly; you shall not do any ordinary work.

<u>37</u>"These are the appointed feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim as times of holy convocation, for presenting to the LORD food offerings, burnt offerings and grain offerings, sacrifices and drink offerings, each on its proper day, <u>38</u>besides the LORD's Sabbaths and besides your gifts and besides all your vow offerings and besides all your freewill offerings, which you give to the LORD.

39"On the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the produce of the land, you shall celebrate the feast of the LORD seven days. On the first day shall be a solemn rest, and on the eighth day shall be a solemn rest. 40And you shall take on the first day the fruit of splendid trees, branches of palm trees and boughs of leafy trees and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days. 41You shall celebrate it as a feast to the LORD for seven days in the year. It is a statute forever throughout your generations; you shall celebrate it in the seventh month. 42You shall dwell in booths for seven days. All native Israelites shall dwell in booths, 43that your generations may know that I made the people of Israel dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God."

44Thus Moses declared to the people of Israel the appointed feasts of the LORD.

## **New Testament**

The New Testament does not institute any festivals except the Lord's Supper/ Eucharist/Holy Communion/Mass. It assumes a lot about the Jewish festivals, but it also criticizes the way they were being kept and sees most of them as no longer required – partly because Jesus has fulfilled them, and partly because they had never been required of Gentiles. Jesus often used festivals as an opportunity for teaching and healing, and he often got into trouble at those times.

## John 2

13The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. 15And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. 16And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." 17His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

## John 5

1After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 2Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. 3In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. 5One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. 6When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" 7The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me." 8Jesus said to him, "Get up, take up your bed, and walk." 9And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked.

Now that day was the Sabbath. 10So the Jews said to the man who had been healed, "It is the Sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to take up your bed." 11But he answered them, "The man who healed me, that man said to me, 'Take up your bed, and walk." 12They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk'?" 13Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. 14Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you." 15The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him. 16And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath. 17But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I am working."

# John 7

<u>1</u>After this Jesus went about in Galilee. He would not go about in Judea, because the Jews were seeking to kill him. <u>2</u>Now the Jews' Feast of Booths was at hand. <u>3</u>So his brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea, that your disciples also may see the works you are doing. <u>4</u>For no one works in secret if he seeks to be known openly. If you do these things, show yourself to the world." <u>5</u>For not even his brothers believed in him. <u>6</u>Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always here. <u>7</u>The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify about it that its works are evil. <u>8</u>You go up to the feast. I am not going up to this feast, for my time has not yet fully come." <u>9</u>After saying this, he remained in Galilee.

<u>10</u>But after his brothers had gone up to the feast, then he also went up, not publicly but in private. <u>11</u>The Jews were looking for him at the feast, and saying, "Where is he?" <u>12</u>And there was much muttering about him among the people. While some said, "He is a good man," others said, "No, he is leading the people astray." <u>13</u>Yet for fear of the Jews no one spoke openly of him.

<u>14</u>About the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and began teaching. <u>15</u>The Jews therefore marveled, saying, "How is it that this man has learning, when he has never studied?"

<u>37</u>On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. <u>38</u>Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow

rivers of living water." 39Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

40When they heard these words, some of the people said, "This really is the Prophet." 41Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? 42Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the offspring of David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" 43So there was a division among the people over him. 44Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.

45The officers then came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring him?" 46The officers answered, "No one ever spoke like this man!" 47The Pharisees answered them, "Have you also been deceived? 48Have any of the authorities or the Pharisees believed in him? 49But this crowd that does not know the law is accursed." 50Nicodemus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, 51"Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" 52They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and see that no prophet arises from Galilee."

#### Romans 14

**Σ**Ός μὲν κρίνει ἡμέραν παρ' ἡμέραν, ὂς δὲ κρίνει πᾶσαν ἡμέραν· ἕκαστος ἐν τῷ ἰδίῳ νοϊ πληροφορείσθω· **6**ὁ φρονῶν τὴν ἡμέραν κυρίῳ φρονεῖ. καὶ ὁ ἐσθίων κυρίῳ ἐσθίει, εὐχαριστεῖ γὰρ τῷ θεῷ· καὶ ὁ μὴ ἐσθίων κυρίῳ οὐκ ἐσθίει, καὶ εὐχαριστεῖ τῷ θεῷ.

**7**Οὐδεὶς γὰρ ἡμῶν ἑαυτῷ ζῆ, καὶ οὐδεὶς ἑαυτῷ ἀποθνήσκει· **8**ἐάν τε γὰρ ζῶμεν, τῷ κυρίῳ ζῶμεν, ἐάν τε ἀποθνήσκωμεν, τῷ κυρίῳ ἀποθνήσκομεν. ἐάν τε οὖν ζῶμεν ἐάν τε ἀποθνήσκωμεν, τοῦ κυρίου ἐσμέν. **9**εἰς τοῦτο γὰρ Χριστὸς ἀπέθανεν καὶ ἔζησεν ἵνα καὶ νεκρῶν καὶ ζώντων κυριεύση.

10Σὺ δὲ τί κρίνεις τὸν ἀδελφόν σου; ἢ καὶ σὺ τί ἐξουθενεῖς τὸν ἀδελφόν σου; πάντες γὰρ παραστησόμεθα τῷ βήματι τοῦ θεοῦ, 11γέγραπται γάρ∙ Ζῶ ἐγώ, λέγει κύριος, ὅτι ἐμοὶ κάμψει πᾶν γόνυ, καὶ πᾶσα γλῶσσα ἐξομολογήσεται τῷ θεῷ. 12ἄρα ἕκαστος ἡμῶν περὶ ἑαυτοῦ λόγον δώσει.

5One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. 6The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. 7For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. 8For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

<u>10</u>Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; <u>11</u>for it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."

12So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.