

Types of Udhiyah:

The kinds of animals prescribed for sacrifice are camels, cattle and sheep. A sheep will be enough for one family. A camel or cow is enough for seven people, because of the report narrated by Jaabir (may Allah be pleased with him) who said: "We sacrificed at al-Hudaybiyah with the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), a camel for seven and a cow for seven." According to one version: "The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) commanded us to share camels and cattle, each seven men sharing one animal."

Conditions of Udhiyah:

The animal should have reached the required age, which is six months for a lamb, one year for a goat, two years for a cow and five years for a camel. It should be free of any faults, because the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "There are four that will not do for sacrifice: a one-eyed animal whose defect is obvious, a sick animal whose sickness is obvious, a lame animal whose limp is obvious and an emaciated animal that has no marrow in its bones" There are milder defects that do not disqualify an animal, but it is Makrooh to sacrifice such animals, such as an animal with a horn or ear missing, or an animal with slits in its ears, etc.

What should be done with the sacrifice?:

Udhiyah is to be divided into three thirds: one third for the poor and the needy, one third to be given as a gift to the friends and one third for the person and his family. It is Mustahabb

(liked, preferable) for the one who has made a sacrifice not to eat anything on that day before he eats from his Udhiyah, if this is possible, because of the Hadeeth, "Let every man eat from his sacrifice." This eating should be after the Eid prayer and khutbah.

What should the Muslim avoid in the first ten days of Dhu'l-Hijjah if he wants to offer a sacrifice?:

The Sunnah indicates that the one who wants to offer a sacrifice must refrain from taking anything from his hair, nails or skin from the first day of Dhu'l-Hijjah until he offers his sacrifice, because the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "When you see the new moon of Dhu'l-Hijjah, if any one of you wants to offer a sacrifice, let him not remove anything from his hair or nails until he has offered his sacrifice."

What to say when sacrificing the animal:

It is recommended to say Bismillah allahu akbar (In the name of Allah, Allah is the Most Great) while sacrificing the animal.

Authorizing in Udhiyah:

It is allowed for the person to authorize another person to make Udhiyah for him. It is also permissible to send it to the people in need.

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UDHIYAH SACRIFICE

*Indeed, We have granted you,
[O Muhammad], al-Kawthar.
So pray to your Lord and
sacrifice [to Him alone]. Indeed,
your enemy is the one cut off.*

Suratul-Kawthar 108



Eid Etiquettes

1 – Taking Ghusl (Shower) and adorning oneself on the occasion of Eid. It was narrated in a saheeh hadeeth in al-Muwatta' and elsewhere that 'Abd-Allah ibn 'Umar used to do ghusl on the day of al-Fitr before going out to the prayer-place in the morning. Al-Muwatta' 428. It was narrated that 'Abd-Allah ibn 'Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) said that 'Umar took a brocade cloak that was for sale in the market and brought it to the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), and said, "O Messenger of Allah, buy this and adorn yourself with it for Eid and for receiving the delegations." With regard to women, they should avoid adorning themselves when they go out for Eid, because they are forbidden to show off their adornments to non-mahram men. It is also haraam for a woman who wants to go out to put on perfume or to expose men to temptation, because they are only going out for the purpose of worship.

2 – Eating before going out to pray on Eid al-Fitr and after the prayer on Eid al-Adha: Part of the etiquette is not to go out to pray on Eid al-Fitr until one has eaten some dates, because of the hadeeth narrated by al-Bukhaari from Anas ibn Maalik, who said that the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) used not to go out on the morning of Eid al-Fitr until he had eaten some dates... of which he would eat an odd number. But on Eid al-Adha it is recommended not to eat anything until one comes back from the prayer, so he should eat from the udhiyah if he has offered a sacrifice. If he is not going to offer a sacrifice there is nothing wrong with eating before the prayer.

2

3 – Takbeer on the day of Eid
This is one of the greatest Sunnahs on the day of Eid because Allah says (interpretation of the meaning): "(He wants that you) must complete the same number (of days), and that you must magnify Allah [i.e. to say Takbeer (Allahu Akbar: Allah is the Most Great)] for having guided you so that you may be grateful to Him" [Suratul-Baqarah 2:185] The time for takbeer on Eid al-Fitr starts from the night before Eid until the imam enters to lead the Eid prayer. In the case of Eid al-Adha, the takbeer begins on the first day of Dhu'l-Hijjah and lasts until sunset on the last of the days of tashreeq.

Description of the takbeer:

Allahu akbar, Allahu akbar, laa ilaaha ill-Allah, wa Allahu akbar, Allah akbar, wa Lillaah il-hamd (Allah is Most Great, Allah is most Great, there is no god but Allah, Allah is Most great, Allah is most great, and to Allah be praise). It was also narrated elsewhere by Ibn Abi Shaybah with the same isnaad, but with the phrase "Allahu akbar" repeated three times.

4 – Offering congratulations
The etiquette of Eid also includes the congratulations and good wishes exchanged by people, no matter what the wording, such as saying to one another Taqabbala Allah minna wa minkum (May Allah accept (good deeds) from us and from you" or "Eid mubaarak" and other permissible expressions of congratulations.

5 – Going to the prayer by one route and returning by another. It was narrated that Jaabir ibn 'Abd-Allah (may Allah be pleased with him) said: On the day of Eid, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) used to vary his route.

3

The Significance of the Udhiyah:

Udhiyah is one of the great rituals of Islam, in which we remember the Oneness of Allah, His blessings upon us and the obedience of our father Ibraheem to his Lord, and in this act of Udhiyah there is much goodness and blessing. So the Muslim must pay attention to its great importance. Allah says (interpretation of the meaning): "Therefore turn in prayer to your Lord and sacrifice (to Him only)." [al-Kawthar 108:2]

Time of Udhiyah:

Udhiyah is to be sacrificed after Eidul-Adha prayer and it can be sacrificed during the three days of Tashreeq (11th, 12th, and the 13th of Dhul-Hijja), which are the following three days of Eidul-Adha.

Ruling on Udhiyah:

Udhiyyah is a confirmed Sunnah according to the majority of scholars (some scholars say that it is waajib or obligatory). The basic principle is that it is required at the appointed time from one who is alive on behalf of himself and the members of his household, and he may include in the reward for it whoever he wishes, living or dead.

The Virtues and Best of Udhiyah:

A sheep is good enough as a sacrifice for one man and the members of his household and his children, because of the Hadeeth of Abu Ayyoob: "At the time of the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), a man would sacrifice a sheep on behalf of himself and the members of his household, and they would eat from it and give some to others."

4