
ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: FEASTS OF JOY

Grade Level/Age8-9 /14-15y



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Islamic Religious Education: Feasts of Joy

Competences/Learning Outcomes

- To recognize the origin of the festivals.
- To understand and interpret festival of joy in its own particular way.
- To identify and analyze different customs related to the feast and explain their meaning.
- To describe rituals of the festivals.
- To be able to share traditions and origins of a particular feast with people from different culture.

Grade Level/Age

8-9 /14-15y

Duration

90 min



Preparation

- Acquire a box filled with materials related to the feast and bring it to class; pictures, magazines, flyers, etc.
- Bring materials for designing a poster; papers, scissors, glue, etc.

Step-by-step description

- Inform students about the task to introduce a feast from their own religion/worldview at the Encounter Day.
- Arrange students to sit in a circle.
- Read the text (M1) about the selected feast and ask students to share their personal experiences on this feast.
- Explain that with this lesson they will explore the different aspects on the feast and write down the categories *music, food, customs, facts about the feast* on the blackboard.
- Divide the participants into 4 groups of 4-5 students to research and work together about the category that they will choose.
- Ask each group to choose one of the categories.
- Distribute the info&task cards (M2) and checklist (M3) to each group.
- Ask students to work on their task in the card by using the materials. Provide sources (such as books, glossaries, online sources, etc.) for the students to search for information, pictures, songs, etc.
- Ask students to illustrate the poster with suitable pictures. (M4)
- Remind each group to use the checklist to help them with the presentation of their results.
- Ask students to hang up their posters and make a presentation about their results.
- Remind students that they are welcome to use all the text, information, and songs for their presentation during the Encounter Day.

Tips for teachers

- This lesson structure can be used for other religious festivals. So feel free to convert this lesson plan to any other content.
- If the „Feast of Joy“ topic will be designed as lesson series it would be useful to create a calendar of religious holidays (M5) for the classroom that show all the important religious festivals at a glance, so that the students will remember them. Feel free to update this calendar by adding other religious festival.





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Learning in Encounter for Common Values in Diversity

- The texts in the lesson plan aims to work as a starting point for students to think about the subject. They also work as a base for students presentation for Encounter Day.
- Remember to guide students throughout the process.
- Please note that some customs, songs and explanations represent Turkish way of celebration. If you are from other Islam traditions feel free to add your own songs, customs etc.



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Materials

[M1] General Info Text

General Info Text about the Feast of Breaking the Fast

The festival of breaking the fast "Id al Fitr" is celebrated during the first three days of the Shavwal, the tenth month in the Islamic year. The festival of Breaking of the Fast ends Ramadan, the month-long fasting period. The joy is expressed through congratulations, gifts and socializing.

After the Feast of Sacrifice, the Feast of Breaking the Fast is the most important festival in Islam. Large family celebrations with lavish feasts and many other things are part of the custom. Depending on the origin of the Muslims, the festival of breaking the fast is celebrated differently. People visit the mosque and the cemetery. Visits to family and friends are also on the program. There is a lot of sweet festive food. Music is important during the breaking of the fast however, there are no special traditional songs.

[M2] Infotexts about facts, customs, food, and music with recipes and songs

Facts about the Feast of Breaking the Fast

Read the info text and underline the most important information.
Use this information and any other information from books, glossaries and online sources.
Design your poster.

The festival of breaking the fast "Id al Fitr" is celebrated in the first three days of Shavwal, the tenth month of the Islamic year. Normally, the festival is celebrated in June or July. The festival of breaking the fast ends Ramadan, the month-long fasting period, and is a celebration of joy, gratitude and is a celebration of joy, thanksgiving and reconciliation: thanksgiving to God for the Enabling the observance of the fasting days and the forgiveness of sins. The joy of this is expressed through congratulations, gifts and conviviality. After the Feast of Sacrifice, the Feast of Breaking the Fast is the most important feast in festival in Islam. Since sweets are often given away, the Feast of Breaking the Fast is also called Seker Bayram, which means "sugar festival".



How do Muslim families celebrate the Feast of Breaking the Fast?

Read the info text and underline the most important information.
Use this information and any other information from books, glossaries and online sources.
Design your poster.

Lantern and torchlight parades, fireworks and fairs for children, sweets, big family celebrations with lavish feasts, and many other things express the relief about the end of the fast and the pride about the accomplished renunciation achievement. The Muslim children have a Ramadan calendar with 29 or 30 doors that they open daily during Ramadan until the fasting period is over. On the first holiday, they have to get up early, because the children's hair has to be freshly washed and the festive clothes are put on. Depending on the origin of the Muslims, the festival of breaking the fast is celebrated in different ways. The Turkish version of the festival is very well known: In the early morning of the first day of the festival men, in particular, go to the mosque. There they can expect a festive prayer which is followed by a sermon. Donations are collected for those in need. After the prayer, the people go home or to the cemetery. The women come there to water the graves and bring flowers. At home there is a family breakfast. Relatives and friends visit each other. Here the adults are greeted respectfully by the children and then touch them with their foreheads. The children are given gifts. There are plenty of sweet festive treats.

Food at the Feast of Breaking the Fast

Read the info text and underline the most important information.
Use this information and visuals for your poster design. Create a recipe book using the recipes.

Muslim children are not the only ones who look forward to the breaking of the fast. Adults also look forward to the feast and the end of the month of Ramadan. During this period, many Muslims do not eat anything from the beginning of dawn until sunset. This is now a thing of the past. Almost many delicacies are now gathered together: there are lots of sweet festive dishes such as baklava and börek, cakes, sweets and many other delicious things. Everywhere there are celebrations - in some Muslim families for three days - together with friends and relatives. The children get money, new clothes, toys or books. And almost everyone enjoys it to the fullest, even to be able to eat extensively again in broad daylight.

Music at the Feast of Fast-Breaking



Read the info text and underline the most important information.
Use this information and any other information from books, glossaries and online sources.
Design your poster with song lyrics.

Music is important at the festival of fast-breaking, but there are no special traditional songs.
There are a few songs about Ramadan, such as the song "Ramadan Moon", which tells about
the month of fasting and is supposed to give strength and perseverance.

Link to the song:

Ramadan Moon:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M9mTID6uVwY>

[M3] Checklist





Checklist Music



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<input type="checkbox"/>	What is the significance of music?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	What are the songs?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	When to sing these songs?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	What are the songs about?	
Checklist Facts		
<input type="checkbox"/>	When will the feast be celebrated?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	How long will the feast be celebrated?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	What does the name of the feast mean?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Why is the feast celebrated?	
Checklist Food		
<input type="checkbox"/>	What is eaten at the feast?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Why is this food eaten?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	How is the food prepared?	
Checklist Traditions		
<input type="checkbox"/>	What are the traditions?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Why do these traditions exist?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	How does the feast day work?	

[M4] Image Materials



1



2



3



4

RAMADAN 2023							
#	Date	Fajr fast begins	Zuhr	Asr	Magrib fast ends	Isha	■
1	Thu 23	04:19	12:12	3:29	6:21	7:40	□
2	Fri 24	04:17	12:12	3:30	6:23	7:42	□
3	Sat 25	04:15	12:12	3:31	6:25	7:43	□
4	Sun 26	05:13	1:11	4:32	7:26	8:44	□
5	Mon 27	05:11	1:11	4:33	7:28	8:46	□
6	Tue 28	05:10	1:11	4:34	7:30	8:48	□
7	Wed 29	05:08	1:10	4:35	7:31	8:48	□
8	Thu 30	05:05	1:10	4:36	7:33	8:50	□
9	Fri 31	05:04	1:10	4:36	7:35	8:52	□
10	Sat 1	05:02	1:10	4:37	7:36	8:53	□
11	Sun 2	05:00	1:09	4:38	7:38	8:55	□
12	Mon 3	04:57	1:09	4:39	7:40	8:56	□
13	Tue 4	04:55	1:09	4:40	7:41	8:57	□
14	Wed 5	04:53	1:08	4:41	7:43	8:59	□
15	Thu 6	04:51	1:08	4:42	7:45	9:01	□
16	Fri 7	04:48	1:08	4:43	7:46	9:02	□
17	Sat 8	04:46	1:08	4:43	7:48	9:04	□
18	Sun 9	04:44	1:07	4:44	7:50	9:05	□
19	Mon 10	04:42	1:07	4:45	7:51	9:06	□
20	Tue 11	04:39	1:07	4:46	7:53	9:08	□
21	Wed 12	04:37	1:06	4:47	7:55	9:10	□
22	Thu 13	04:35	1:06	4:47	7:56	9:11	□
23	Fri 14	04:33	1:06	4:48	7:58	9:13	□
24	Sat 15	04:31	1:06	4:49	8:00	9:15	□
25	Sun 16	04:29	1:06	4:50	8:02	9:17	□
26	Mon 17	04:26	1:05	4:51	8:03	9:17	□
27	Tue 18	04:23	1:05	4:51	8:05	9:19	□
28	Wed 19	04:21	1:05	4:52	8:07	9:21	□
29	Thu 20	04:19	1:05	4:53	8:08	9:22	□
30	Fri 21	04:16	1:04	4:54	8:10	9:24	□

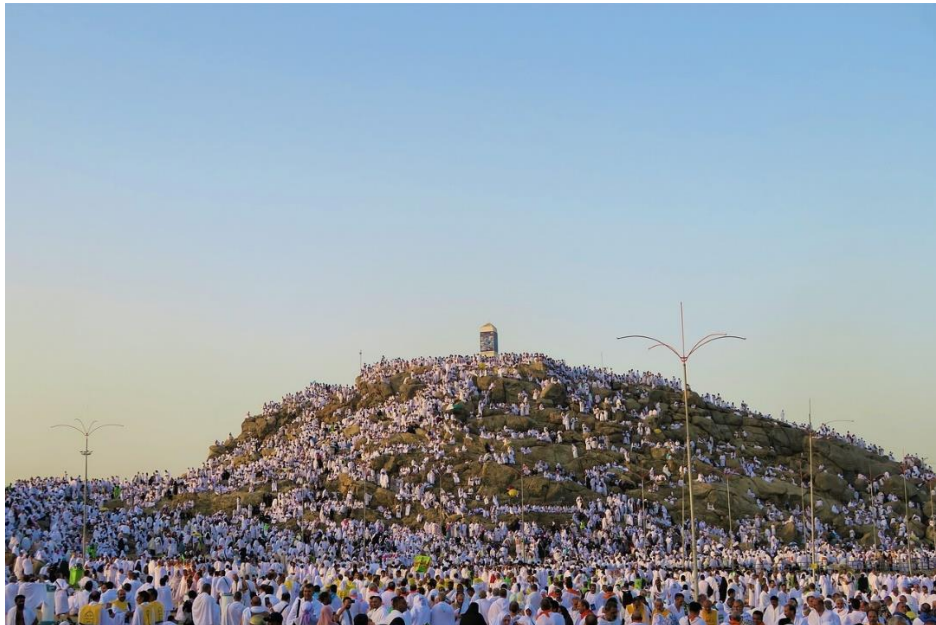
5



6



7



[M5] Festival Calendar

Name of the Feast	Description	Date
Month of Fasting (Ramadan)	Ramadan the 9th month on the Islamic calendar which lasts 29 or 30 days and ending with the festival of breaking the fast. In Arabic it is called Id al-Fitr. Many Turks in particular also call it Eid.	
Mohammad's Birthday (Mawlid)	The Prophet Mohammed was a very special person for many Muslims because he delivered the Koran to them. For many of them, his birthday is therefore also a special day. It is called Mevlid Kandili or Maulid an-Nabi. This means "Festival of Lights on the Birthday" and "Birthday of the Prophet". This day is celebrated very differently by many Muslims. Some simply think of Muhammad in a special way).	
New Year	Muharram is the name of the first month on the Islamic lunar calendar. For many Shiites it is the highest month of mourning. For Shiites and Sunnis, the 1st Muharram is also the start of a new year and a commemoration of the Hijra. This is the name given to Mohammed's emigration from Mecca to Medina in the early days of Islam. Muslims later declared this event the beginning of their own calendar.	
Feast of Sacrifice (Id el-Adha)	Id al-Adha is the Arabic word for Feast of Sacrifice. It is the highest holiday in Islam, part of the pilgrimage and a great family celebration. The Feast of Sacrifice reminds Muslims that they can trust God without limits and calls on them to be helpful.	
Day of the death of Husain (Ashura)	On Ashura Day, many Shias mourn the death of the 3rd Imam Husain ibn 'Ali. Also, for Sunnis, the holiday on the 10th of Muharram is a commemoration of the saving of Noah's Ark.	



Festival of Breaking the Fast	The festival of breaking the fast ends the month of Ramadan. Muslims use it to thank Allah that they have completed and survived the fast and all the tasks and efforts associated with it. They also ask Allah to accept their prayers and efforts during Ramadan and to forgive them for their mistakes.	
Friday Prayer	Friday is the most important day of the week for many Muslims. This is when they perform Friday prayer in the mosque. It is called the Cum'ah prayer.	



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