

ISLAMIC TERMS

Guidance on common Islamic terms

Eid:

Eid is an Arabic term meaning "festivity" or "celebration." Muslims celebrate two major religious holidays, known as Eid al-Fitr (which takes place after Ramadan), and Eid al-Adha (which occurs at the time of the Hajj).

Halal:

Halal is Arabic for permissible. Halal food is that which adheres to Islamic law, as defined in the Holy Quran.

Hijab:

Commonly, the term hijab is used to denote the scarf or other type of head covering worn by Muslim women throughout the world. Hijab is different from Nigab.

Islam:

Islam began in Saudi Arabia and was revealed to humanity by the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Muslims believe that there is only one God. The Arabic word for God is Allah.

Jummah:

Jummah is congregational prayer held on a Friday just after noon at the mosque. Praying together as a community is meant to develop the feeling of unity among the Muslim community.

Muslims:

Muslims are followers of Islam. Approximately a quarter of the world's population is Muslim.

Ramadan:

Ramadan is the Arabic name for the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. It is considered one of the holiest months for Muslims and is marked by a period of fasting.

Wudhu:

Wudhu is the washing performed by Muslims before prayer. Muslims only pray when they are in a state of purity, free from any physical impurities or uncleanliness. Wudhu is necessary before each formal prayer if one is in a state of impurity.