The Feast of Sacrifice

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WHAT IS THE SACRIFICE FEAST

Festival of Sacrifice is an official four day religious festival, which has the traditions include sacrificing an animal in a special ritual, visiting relatives, kissing elder people's hand and helping the poor.



Administration buildings, schools and most businesses are closed during this period. The feast is one of the oldest Islamic holidays in Turkey.



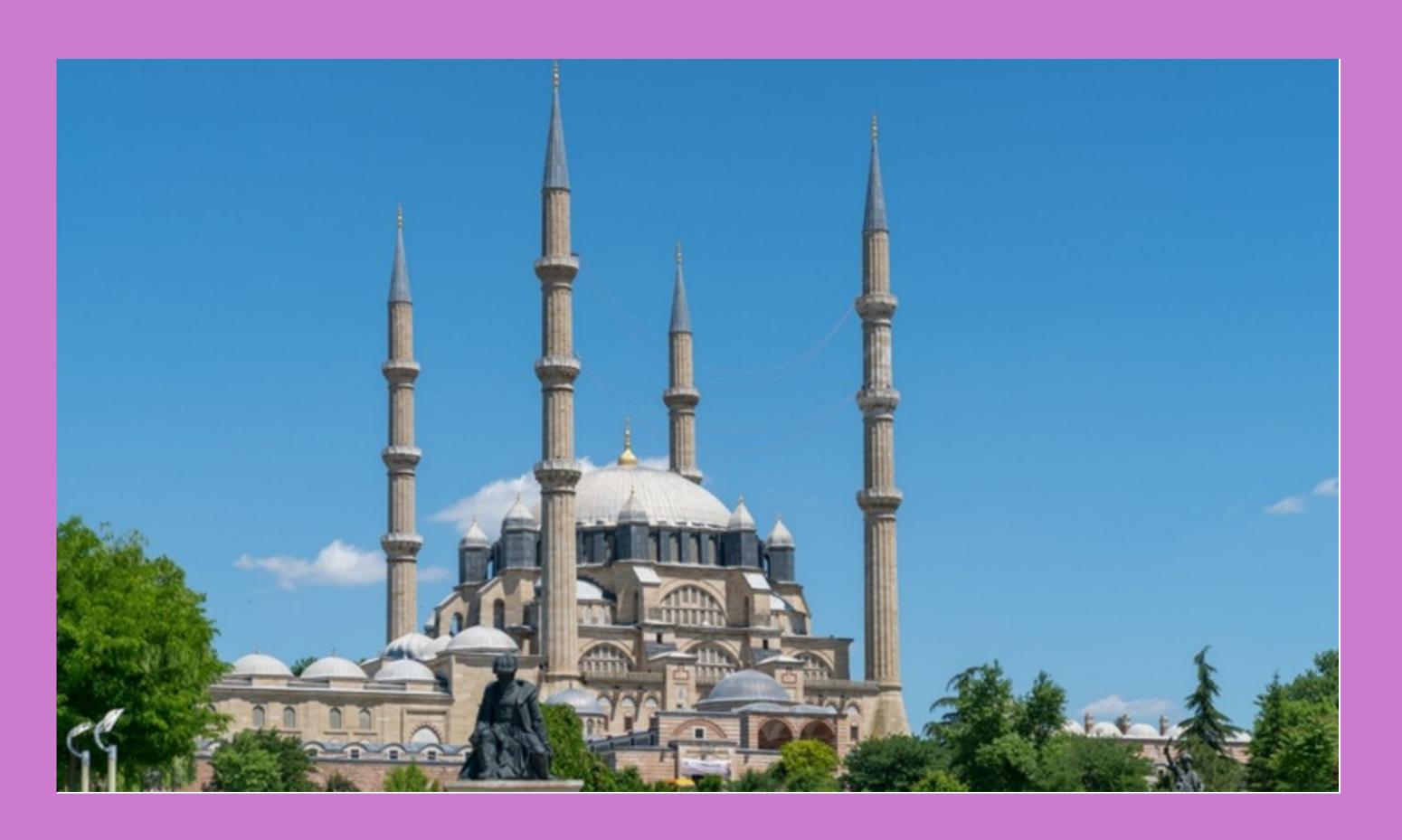
Traditionally, on the first day of the Turkish Sacrifice Feast, men go to a mosque for a special morning prayer, which is followed by the ritual sacrifice of rams, lambs, and bulls. In some regions in Turkey, people paint the sacrificial animal's forehead with henna and adorn it with ribbons.



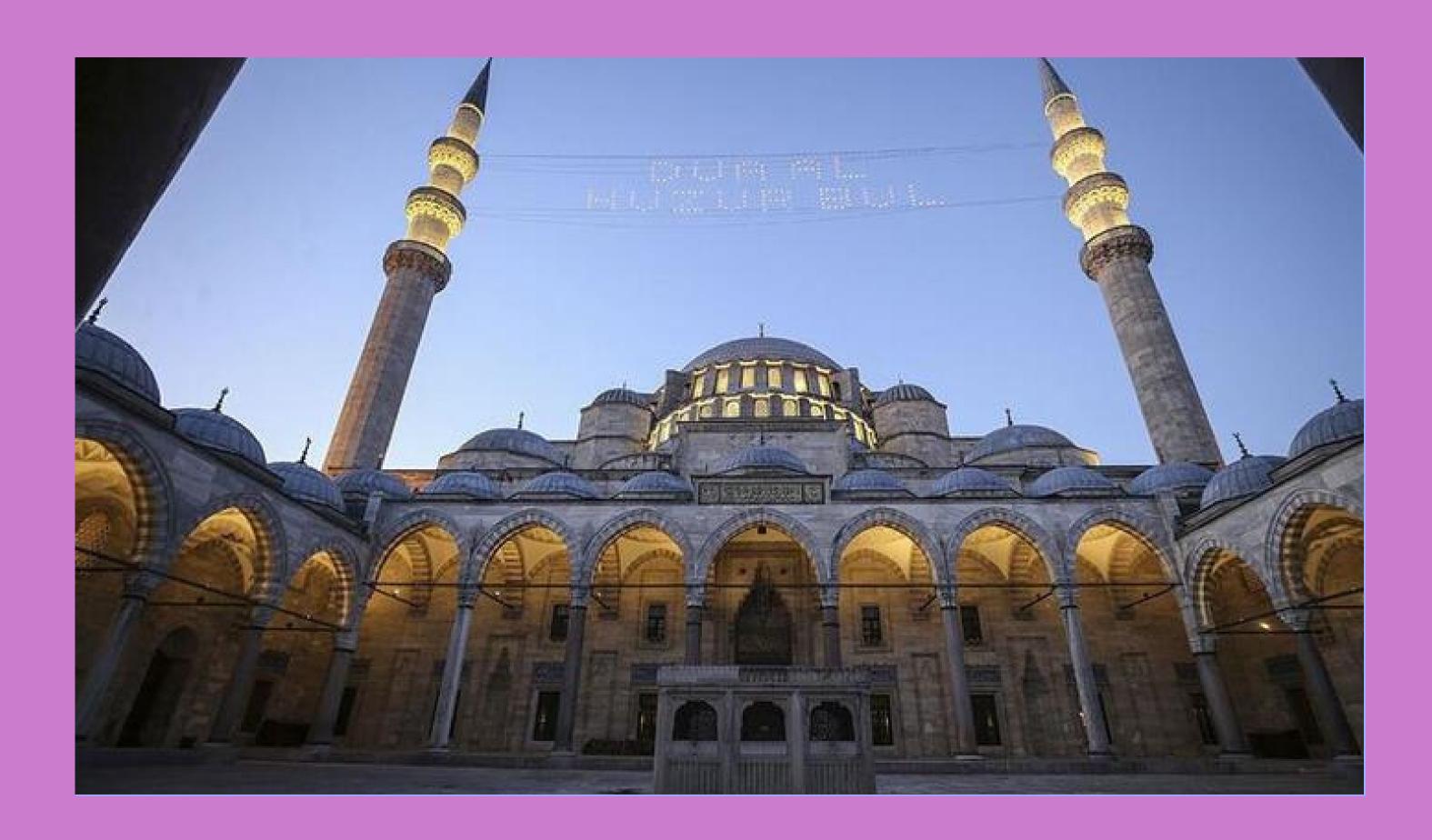


Families share about one-third of the animal's meat with relatives and neighbors and traditionally give about one third to the poor, whilst the rest is cooked and served to guests during the holidays.











During the Feast of Sacrifice, people visit their older relatives and greet them by kissing their hands, then they give the children money. People serve meat-based dishes, rather than desserts

The skins of the sacrificial animals are donated to charitable organizations such as the Turkish Aeronautical Association, and the Turkish Red Crescent.



From the time of its establishment in 1868, the Turkish Red Crescent, besides contributing to the development of social welfare has been providing, presenting and offering various and important services for social solidarity such as shelter and protection to the poor and needy, aids for nourishment and health care, blood, disaster operations, international aids, social services, health, first aid, education and youth, housing, immigration and refugee protection as well as operating mineral water facilities.







Apart from this festivity, people who have experienced success, or recovered from an accident or illness will also sacrifice an animal to show their gratitude to Allah. This is called an offering.

THE STORY OF THE FEAST OF SACRIFICE

As cited in other monotheistic religions, The Feast of Sacrifice Muslims observe commemorates the story of Prophet Abraham agreeing to sacrifice his son, to prove his loyalty to God. Seeing his devotion, God sent him a ram to sacrifice instead.



The festival's eve is called 'Arefe' and offices close for the half day. All government offices, private companies, and schools are closed for four days.



PUBLIC LIFE

The Sacrifice Feast is an official four-day holiday in Turkey. Administration buildings, schools, banks and post offices are usually closed during this period. Supermarkets remain open, but may work on a special holiday schedule.



Public transport may run less frequently during the Sacrifice Feast, and fares are usually lower compared to regular days. Highways may be overcrowded due to holiday travel. Because the beginning of the Sacrifice Feast coincides with the end of Hajj, the annual pilgrimage to Mecca, both domestic and international travel in Turkey may be intense during this period.



BACKGROUND

The Sacrifice Feast takes place in the four days following the 10th day of the Islamic month of Dhu al-Hijja. The exact dates are determined using the Islamic calendar, whose months begin with the first sighting of a new moon.

The Islamic calendar begins its count from 622 CE, the year in which Prophet Muhammad moved from Mecca to Medina. This calendar has been in use since about 640 CE.



Photos About The Feast Of Sacrifice









Thank You For Listening







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