

Etiquettes of Eid

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Sheikh M. S. Al-Munajjid, a prominent Saudi Islamic lecturer and author outlines the etiquettes pertaining to Eid¹:

“1. **Ghusl (taking a bath)**: One of the good manners of `Eid is to take bath before going out to the Prayer. It was reported that Sa`id Ibn Jubayr said: “Three things are Sunnah on `Eid: to walk (to the prayer-place), to take a bath, and to eat before coming out (if it's `Eidul-Fitr).”

2. **Eating before coming out**: One should not come out to the prayer-place on `Eidul-Fitr before eating some dates, because of the *Hadith* narrated by Al-Bukhari from Anas ibn Malik who said: “The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, would not go out in the morning of `Eidul-Fitr until he had eaten some dates... and he would eat an odd number.” On `Eidul-Adha, on the other hand, it is *Mustahab* (recommended) not to eat until after the Prayer, when one should eat from the meat of one's sacrifice.

3. **Takbir on the day of `Eid**: This is one of the greatest Sunnahs of this day. Al-Daraqutni and others reported that when Ibn `Umar came out on `Eidul-Fitr and `Eidul-Adha, he would strive hard in making *Takbir* until he reached the prayer-place, then he would continue making *Takbir* until the Imam came.

4. **Congratulating one another**: People may exchange congratulations and good greetings on `Eid, no matter what form the words take. For example they may say to one another, “*Taqabbal Allahu minnaa wa minkum* (may Allah accept from us and from you our good deeds!)”. Jubayr ibn Nufayr said: “At the time of the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, when people met one another on the day of `Eid, they would say, “*Taqabbal Allahu minnaa wa minka*.” (Reported by Ibn Hajar)

5. **Wearing one's best clothes for `Eid**: Jabir, may Allah be pleased with him, said: “The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, had a *Jubbah* (cloak) that he would wear on `Eid and on Fridays.” Al-Bayhaqi reported that Ibn `Umar used to wear his best clothes on `Eid, so men should wear the best clothes they have when they go out for `Eid.

6. **Changing route on returning from Prayer-place**: Jabir Ibn `Abdullah, may Allah be pleased with him, reported that the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, used to change his routes on the day of `Eid. (Reported by Al-Bukhari).”

¹ Islamonline fatwa: `Eid: Etiquette & Rulings dated 29 January 2004