



Assiddique Weekly Bulletin # 0.07

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May 27, 2025–Dhu'l-Qa'dah 29, 1446 AH

Editorial

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

Welcome to the first edition of our revitalized weekly bulletin! This project is a revival of a cherished tradition from the 1990s when the Islamic Center in Stillwater regularly published a similar bulletin, which unfortunately ceased around 1997. My hope is to breathe new life into this valuable community resource.

Each week, I'll aim to include news, upcoming events, important announcements, and articles relevant to our community, the city of Stillwater, or any other topics of general interest. This bulletin's primary purpose is to connect people, encourage more community activities, and provide a platform for members to share advertisements with others in the Muslim community. For this bulletin to truly thrive, your contributions are essential. I warmly invite all members to consider writing for us.

It's important to stress that this work continues efforts by members of the Stillwater Muslim community in the 1990s, notably Dr. Mamdouh Salama and Dr. Ahmed Abo Basha. They were instrumental in approaching the Stillwater News Press to cover Muslim community activities and Islamic celebrations—an initiative I've decided to revive almost 30 years later. It's truly magnificent to witness how Islam rewards people for actions they initiated, even when they're unaware of their lasting impact.

Verses of the Week

"1. In the Name of Allâh, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful 2. All the praises and thanks be

to Allâh, the Lord of the 'Âlamîn (mankind, jinn and all that exists). 3. The Most Gracious, the Most Merciful. 4. The Only Owner (and the Only Ruling Judge) of the Day of Recompense (i.e. the Day of Resurrection) 5. You (Alone) we worship, and You (Alone) we ask for help (for each and everything). 6. Guide us to the Straight Way. 7. The Way of those on whom You have bestowed Your Grace, not (the way) of those who earned Your Anger (i.e. those who knew the Truth, but did not follow it) nor of those who went astray (i.e. those who did not follow the Truth out of ignorance and error)." (Qur'an 1:1-7)

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ (1) الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ
(2) الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ (3) مَلِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ (4) إِيَّاكَ
نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ (5) اهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ
(6) صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ
وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ (7)

This week, let us reflect on the beautiful meaning of the verses of Surah Al-Fatiha (The Opening). This Surah, the first in the Qur'an, begins by praising God, Allah the Almighty [Allah is the name of God in Arabic and Aramaic], for revealing the Qur'an, the final word to be revealed to humanity. It then assures us that Allah is the Most Merciful and the Most Gracious. Subsequently, it states that Allah (SWT) alone holds ultimate authority on the Day of Judgment. The Surah then affirms that our prayers are directed solely to Allah (SWT) and that we seek help from none other than Him. It continues to teach us that the greatest aspiration is to be guided to the straight path – the path destined for those blessed

by Allah (SWT), those who have not incurred His anger, nor those who have gone astray.

Hadith of the Week

"The Messenger (peace and blessings be upon him) said: "None of you truly believes until I am more beloved to him than his child, his father, and all people." [Narrated by Muslim.]" (Qur'an 14:35)

قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم: "لا يؤمن أحدكم حتى أكون أحب إليه من ولده ووالده والناس أجمعين." (رواه مسلم).

This week, let us reflect on the Hadith above. This profound Hadith, "None of you truly believes until I am more beloved to him than his child, his father, and all people," narrated by Imam Muslim, establishes a core tenet of Islamic faith: the supreme love for Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him). It signifies that complete and genuine faith (Iman) is attained when the Prophet's place in a believer's heart transcends all other affections, including the powerful natural bonds with one's children and parents, and indeed, all of humanity. This isn't about abandoning love for family, but rather prioritizing the Prophet's guidance and example above all else, indicating a deep, conscious commitment to his message and path.

The emphasis on this supreme love serves multiple critical purposes. It highlights that true affection for the Prophet translates directly into sincere obedience to his commands and a diligent following of his Sunnah (way of life). When the love for the Prophet is paramount, believers are motivated to prioritize his teachings and Allah's commands over personal desires, societal pressures, or the opinions of others, even in challenging circumstances. This devotion fosters a profound spiritual connection and is essential for upholding religious principles, leading to a more complete and perfect state of belief in Islam.

Announcements

- The First 10 nights of Dhi'l-Hajjah starts on the eve of May 27, 2025
- The day of Arafat will be June 5, 2025
- Community dinner on the day of Arafat will be after the Maghrib of June 5, 2025
- The dinner is sponsored by Dr. Ahmed Abo Basha, Dr. Abdulfattah Ali & Dr. Hatim Hegab
- We have two rooms available for immediate move-in, and another will be available at the end of July.

Upcoming Events

- **June 6:** Eidul Adha prayers will be held at 7:30 AM. Eid prayers will be lead by Dr. Fouad Saad
- **June 6:** Community potluck breakfast reception will begin after Eid's prayers
- **June 6-8:** Community celebration will start after dinner — inflatables will be available

Weekly Reflection

"And We ransomed him with a great sacrifice (a ram);" (Qur'an 37:108)

وَفَدَيْنَاهُ بِذَنْبٍ عَظِيمٍ

This week, let us reflect on the legacy of Prophet Ibrahim (AS). His sincere prayer for safety and spiritual purity reminds us to prioritize our families' moral foundations.

Weekly Article



The meaning of Eid

Dr. Ahmed Abo Basha

May 27, 2025

Eid al-Adha, often translated as the "Festival of Sacrifice," is one of the two major annual celebrations in Islam, observed by Muslims worldwide. Its profound meaning stems from commemorating Prophet Ibrahim's (Abraham's) ultimate act of devotion and submission to God's will. According to the Quran, Ibrahim was commanded in a dream to sacrifice his beloved son, Isma'il (Ishmael). Despite the immense personal trial, both father and son prepared to fulfill the divine command, demonstrating unparalleled faith and unwavering obedience. At the critical moment, God intervened, replacing Isma'il with a ram, signifying that the true essence of the sacrifice was not the act of taking a life, but the readiness to surrender one's most cherished possessions or desires for the sake of God. This narrative underscores the core Islamic principle of complete submission to Allah (God) and the importance of putting His commands above all else.

The importance of Eid al-Adha lies not just in its historical remembrance but in its spiritual lessons for contemporary Muslims. The act of sacrifice (Qurbani) is central to the celebration, where eligible Muslims offer an animal (such as a sheep, goat, cow, or camel) to be slaughtered. A signif-

icant portion of this meat is then distributed to the poor and needy, emphasizing social justice, compassion, and communal solidarity. Beyond the meat distribution, Muslims are encouraged to celebrate Eid al-Adha by offering special congregational prayers, visiting family and friends, exchanging gifts, and expressing gratitude to Allah. It's a time for reflection on the deeper meaning of sacrifice – not just of an animal, but of personal ego, worldly attachments, and anything that might hinder one's complete devotion to God. The celebration serves as a powerful reminder of faith, patience, and the boundless mercy of Allah, uniting Muslims in a joyous and spiritually uplifting occasion.

Announcement

I am currently seeking contributions for the bulletin. If you are interested in writing a column (which can be submitted on a flexible basis, not necessarily weekly), contributing a hadith, or proposing a "verse of the week," please reach out. Feel free to use any of the provided contact methods to submit your writings.

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