

EID UL FITR 2023

19th April 2023

COMMUNITIES

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ISLAMIC CENTRE**
AUBURN

**AL JAAFARIYA
ASSOCIATION**
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ISLAMIC CENTRE**
GUILDFORD

Moon Sighting for 1st Shawwal 1444AH

Alhamdulillah, we are blessed with the wonderful opportunity to nearly complete another Holy month of Ramadhan.

This year there is some uncertainty on when the 1st day of Shawwal (Eid-ul-Fitr) will be based on the different rulings of our esteemed Maraji'. We have therefore produced this short guide to educate the followers of His Eminence **Syed Ali Husain Sistani** and **Syed Ali Khamenei** residing in Sydney on the likelihood of when Eid will be, and **to stress the importance of showing utmost respect towards the rulings of all our respected Maraji'**.

Rulings on Moon Sighting:

- **Syed Sistani** - Crescent moon must be sighted by the naked eye, and this is applicable to regions sharing the same horizon e.g., Sydney and Brisbane on the Eastern Coast of Australia. Additionally, the beginning of a lunar month is also confirmed if, had it not been for any cloud or external obstacles, the crescent moon would have been visible with the naked eye¹. *For example, if Brisbane confirms crescent sighting via the naked eye, Sydney can only follow this if the moon would also have been visible in Sydney had it not been for an obstruction like cloud cover.*
- **Syed Ali Khamenei** - Crescent moon can be sighted using optical aid, and this is applicable to regions sharing the same horizon e.g., Sydney and Brisbane on the Eastern Coast of Australia.

When is Eid?

Sighting of the moon on Thursday 20th April 2023 (for Eid on Friday)

- The crescent moon **will not be visible** from anywhere in Australia. The followers of Ayatollah Syed Sistani and Ayatollah Syed Ali Khamenei will have Friday 21st April as the 29th day/fast of the Holy Month of Ramadhan.
- The followers of Ayatollah Syed Mohammed Husain Fadhlullah (whose ruling is based on the birth of the moon applicable to regions sharing part of the night) will have their 1st day of Shawwal (Eid-ul-Fitr) on Friday 21st April. (REFER TO MASJID AR-RAHMAN)

Sighting of the moon on Friday 21st April 2023 (for Eid on Saturday)

- The crescent moon will be easily seen with the naked eye along the Northern and Western parts of Australia. This is however **NOT** applicable to residents of Sydney who follow Syed Sistani and Syed Ali Khamenei.
- **Similarly, sightings in Darwin and Cairns do not apply to residents of Sydney.**
- **The crescent moon will not be visible in Sydney with the naked eye.**

¹ <https://www.sistani.org/english/book/48/2272/>

- The crescent moon may be visible only with the usage of **optical aid** in the Eastern coast of Australia such as Brisbane and immediate surroundings conditions. This is only applicable to followers of Syed Ali Khamenei.
- The crescent moon may be visible with the **naked eye** in the Eastern coast of Australia such as Brisbane and immediate surroundings only under perfect conditions i.e., no dust and no cloud cover. In the absence of perfect conditions, no certainty of sighting can be achieved due to the low altitude of the moon above the horizon at this time.

Sighting of the moon on Saturday 22nd April (for Eid on Sunday)

- The crescent moon will be easily visible with the naked eye from all parts of Australia.²

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Conclusion: For residents of SYDNEY who follow His Eminence Syed Sistani.

Eid will be on Sunday 23rd April UNLESS:

- a) There is a confirmed sighting of the moon by the naked eye reported by our reliable sources in the Eastern coast of Australia on Friday evening **along with** the certainty that if it wasn't for any obstruction such as cloud cover, the crescent would also have been visible in Sydney OR
- b) The Office of His Eminence Syed Sistani issues a statement that declares a global (including Australia) Eid on Saturday.

In either of these cases, Eid will then be on Saturday 22nd April 2023.

For residents of Sydney who follow His Eminence Syed Ali Khamenei:

If there is a confirmed sighting of the moon with the using of optical aids or the naked eye reported by our reliable sources in the Eastern coast of Australia on Friday evening OR if the Office of His Eminence Syed Ali Khamenei declares so, Eid will be on Saturday 22nd April.

Updates will be posted on all communities' social media pages and other communication outlets as soon as they become available.

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For the followers of:

- Ayatollah Mohammed Ishaq Fayyadh,
- Ayatollah Mohaqiq Kabuli,
- Ayatollah Waezada Behsoodi and
- Ayatollah Fadhili Behsoodi

Please contact Br Abdul Alizada on 0425350144 - ERSHAD ISLAMIC CENTRE
LIDCOMBE

For any errors found in this document, please contact any of the centres listed on the left of this document.

² <https://www.maas.museum/observations/2023/03/06/predicting-the-visibility-of-the-crescent-moon-in-march-and-april-2023/>