

ISLAMIC CENTER OF SAN DIEGO

Ramadan/Eid ul-Fitr 1429-2008

Assalamu alaikum,

The Islamic Center of San Diego is pleased to announce the beginning of the blessed month of Ramadan 1429/2008 and the day of Eid ul-Fitr according to the resolution of the *Fiqh Council of North America* and the *European Council for Fatwa and Research*, regarding the adoption of the astronomical calculation to determine the beginning of the lunar months.

Therefore, the 1st of Ramadan 1429 will be Monay, September 1st, 2008, and the 1st of Shawwal 1429 will be Wednesday, October 1st, 2008, inshaallah.

Here is the announcement of the FCNA:

The Fiqh Council of North America in its meeting in Herndon, Virginia on July 31-August 1, 2007 noted with satisfaction the recent Fatwa of its counterpart in Europe “*the European Council for Fatwa and Research*” related to the permissibility of the use of calculation method for determining the beginning of Lunar months including the months of Ramadan and Shawwal.

The position of ECFR is very similar to the position of FCNA adopted last year on June 10, 2006, with a minor difference. FCNA adopted the position that the conjunction should occur before noon at Greenwich Time. ECFR has adopted Makkah al-Mukarram as a conventional point and took the position that the conjunction must take place before sunset in Makkah and moon must set after sunset in Makkah.

FCNA after careful discussion has revised its position and has adopted the Fatwa of ECFR. This revised position will change only a few dates in the Fiqh Council’s Five year calendar; but it will bring greater harmony and unity among the Muslims communities in the West.

Ramadan 1429: September 1, 2008

The Astronomical New Moon for Ramadan is on Saturday, August 30, 2008 at 19:58 Universal Time (i.e., 3:58 pm EDT, and 12:58 pm PDT). According to the criteria adopted by the Fiqh Council of North America, and European Council for Fatwa and Research, [the conjunction before sunset and moon setting after sunset in Makkah] first day of Ramadan is on Monday, September 1, 2008.

Eid al-Fitr 1429: October 1, 2008

The Astronomical New Moon for Shawwal is on Monday, September 29, 2008 at 8:12 GMT, 4:12 am EDT, and 1:12 am PDT). According to the criteria adopted by the Fiqh Council of North America, and European Council for Fatwa and Research, the first day of Shawwal is on Wednesday, October 1, 2008.

Ramadan & Eid Mubarak