

**Dit is de vertaling Engels van "Communicatie Ramadan in tijden van corona" en bevat identiek dezelfde informatie als de Nederlandse tekst. Deze vertaling mag enkel verspreid worden met de originele brontekst "Communicatie Ramadan in tijden van corona."**

## **Ramadan in times of corona**

The measures taken to stop the spread of the coronavirus also affect Ramadan. Read here how to keep it safe.

This year, the annual fasting period, Ramadan, takes place from Friday 24 April until Sunday 24 May. During Ramadan, Muslims fast from dawn until sunset. In the evening, the fast is broken with an iftar. For Muslims, Ramadan is a time of reflection, togetherness and solidarity. Ramadan is concluded with the Ramadan Feast (Eid-Al Fitr).

### **The city council wishes the Muslims of Ghent a pleasant but safe Ramadan.**

Because of the measures taken to stop the spread of the corona virus, Ramadan this year takes place in difficult circumstances. Together with the Vereniging van Gentse Moskeeën (Association of Ghent Mosques), the city council calls upon the Muslims of Ghent to strictly respect the guidelines during Ramadan.

1. Pray at home. The mosques remain closed to the public. Joint prayers (the daily prayers, the Friday prayers and the Taraweeh prayers) are not allowed in all prayer houses.
2. Breaking the fast, iftar, can only take place with family members living in the same house. This may only take place in your own home.
3. After breaking fast, don't go out on the street looking for family, friends or neighbors. Keep in touch in another way (phone, smartphone, social media, ...). A short walk with family members living under the same roof is of course possible.
4. Collective iftars in mosques are not allowed. However, the mosques of Ghent are looking for alternatives (e.g. take-away food packages). More information can be obtained from the Association of Ghent Mosques or from the mosque manager in your neighbourhood.
5. Food shops (grocers, butchers, bakers, supermarkets) are open but have to strictly follow the applicable rules. Retailers must ensure that customers are kept at a sufficient distance and only a limited number of customers may enter the store at the same time. Help them to follow these rules. Always keep a distance of at least 1.5 metres from other customers. Plan your purchases in advance and avoid busy moments.
6. The police have been strictly monitoring compliance with the corona measures for some time now. Anyone who does not abide by the rules will be fined.

Together we'll have wonderful Ramadan month. RAMADAN MUBARAK!

## **Additional information**

### **Contacts**

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- Vereniging van Gentse Moskeeën (Association of Ghent Mosques) - [vzwVGM@gmail.com](mailto:vzwVGM@gmail.com) - 0485 82 42 39 (Demir Ali Köse) - 0497 33 36 06 (Abderrazak El-Omari)