



UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

UST:SO06-00-CI53
A.Y. 2021-2022

TO : THE THOMASIAN COMMUNITY
FROM : OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
RE : CLARIFICATION CONCERNING EID'L FITR
DATE : 2 May 2022

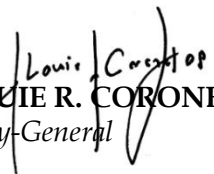
Devout Muslims fast every day for about 30 days from dawn to sunset during the entire *Ramadan*, the holy month of fasting, which is a period of introspection, communal prayer (*ṣalāt*) in the mosque, and the reading of the *Qur'ān*, Islam's holy book. **Eid'l Fitr**, the *Festival of the Breaking of the Fast*, marks the end of *Ramadan*, and is traditionally celebrated by Muslim families gathering in large congregation for an *Eid* prayer to express gratitude to *Allah* for having been able to perform their personal sacrifices.¹ *Eid* celebrations depend on when the new moon is sighted by local religious authorities.²

As Malacañang Palace declared May 3 as *regular holiday*³, **classes in all levels and office work in the University will be suspended on 3 May 2022 (Tuesday)** in solidarity with the national observance⁴ of the annual celebration of **Eid'l Fitr**.

However, the **Leadership Training Webinar for the University administrators** will push through as scheduled.

May peace, patience, and understanding prevail! *Eid Mubarak* (Blessed Eid) to our Muslim brothers and sisters!

عيد مبارك


FR. LOUIE R. CORONEL, O.P., EHL
Secretary-General

¹ cf. www.britannica.com/topic/Eid-al-Fitr

² cf. Section 2 of the *Presidential Proclamation no. 1236*: "The proclamations declaring national holidays for the observance of the Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha will be issued after the approximate dates of the Islamic holidays have been determined, in the accordance with the Islamic calendar or the lunar calendar, or upon Islamic astronomical calculations, whichever is possible or convenient. The National Commission on Muslim Filipinos recommends to the Office of the President the actual dates on which these holidays fall."

³ cf. *Philippine News Agency*, "Palace declares May 3 regular holiday to mark Eid'l Fitr" by Azer Parrocha, 1 May 2022 (11:10 pm): Malacañang on Sunday night [2 May 2022] has declared May 3 as a regular holiday throughout the country to mark the *Eid al-Fitr* or the end of the month of Ramadan. Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea confirmed this in a text message to reporters, following the declaration by Bangsamoro Darul-Ifta' or the Islamic religious authority in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARM) that Eid'l Fitr or the Feast of Breaking the Fast will be on May 2.

⁴ cf. *Republic Act 9177: An Act Declaring the First Day of Shawwal a National Holiday for the Observance of Eid'l Fitr*.