

STARS SHARE SPIRITED PLANS

Eid-ul-Azha is more than just an occasion of sacrifice—it's a time to cherish heartfelt moments with family, indulge in mouthwatering dishes, and celebrate the joy that tradition brings. We caught up with some beloved celebrities who opened their hearts and homes to share what Eid-ul-Azha means to them. From tender family traditions and nostalgic childhood memories to hilarious Qurbani mishaps, they offered a heartwarming glimpse into the moments that make this festival truly unforgettable.

AISHA'S bittersweet reflections

While many look forward to the festivity and feasting of Eid-ul-Azha, for actress Aisha Khan, the occasion comes with deeper emotions and reflections—making her experience of the festival both personal and profound.

"Compared to Eid-ul-Fitr, I am a little less excited about Eid-ul-Azha," Aisha shared honestly. "It starts a few days before the Eid itself when the cows and goats arrive, and their cries echo through the night. Even on the day of Qurbani, their sounds haunt me. From a very young age, I found it hard to witness these moments."

Despite her sensitivity to the emotional and physical aspects of Qurbani, Aisha never distances herself from the spirit of the festival. "Although I don't participate in the practice of slaughtering of the animal, I do help in providing for my portion of the sacrifice.

Until all the Qurbani chores, like cleaning and distributing meat are done, I usually stay in my room with all

the doors and windows shut," she admitted. "It's emotionally heavy for me. The sight of blood and the smell—those are hard for me to handle."

But once the third day of Eid arrives and the chores wind down, Aisha finds her own rhythm of celebration. "From visiting relatives to watching movies—those are my joyful moments."

A film enthusiast, Aisha's Eid celebrations often include a trip to the theatres. "I've always been a big fan of Marvel and DC movies," she beamed. "But recently, my love for Bangla cinema has grown stronger. Our quality and storytelling have improved so much—I now prioritise watching Bangla films during Eid."

When it comes to food, Aisha's Eid is rooted in beloved family dishes.

"There are three things that are an absolute must: *dadu's polao*, *papa's halim*, and *boro mami's kabab*," she shared. "I usually order groceries online and pay with my card—it's so much easier now. No more running to the ATM or going out to shop physically."

And while she humbly admits she's not the best cook, she added proudly, "I do make a good pudding! It's my favourite. Caramel pudding is still hard to find in restaurants—so I enjoy making it myself."

Aisha also cherishes a lighter, nostalgic aspect of Eid. "Whether it's Eid-ul-Fitr or Eid-ul-Azha, my favourite memory is receiving salami! Interestingly, we used to get even more salami during Eid-ul-Azha than Fitr!"

Her message to fans is heartfelt and inspiring: "We all carry both good and bad within us. Eid is a time to reflect, to purify ourselves. So, to all my fans, I would say—choose positivity. Let go of negativity, and spread love and light. That is the true essence of Eid."