

sponds somewhat to baptism. Its performance is attended with religious festivities, and its omission is equivalent to a denial of the faith. Its observance is founded upon tradition, that is, the custom of Mohammed.

Moslems have two great feast days; one on the first day after Ramazan, when the long fast is broken, and the other the great feast, which is the Feast of Sacrifice. The first of these feasts is especially a time for rejoicing and almsgiving. Special public prayer is held and a sermon is delivered to the vast assemblies in the open air. All wear their best dress, generally new clothing, and even the women don all their jewels while they celebrate the feast in the zenana or the harem with amusements and indulgences.

**Feasts and
Festivals**

The Feast of Sacrifice is observed by animal sacrifices simultaneously celebrated everywhere. It is held in commemoration of Abraham's willingness to sacrifice Isaac, or, as the Moslems believe, Ishmael. It is a notable fact and an enigma that while Mohammed professed to abrogate the Jewish ritual and ignored the doctrine of an atonement, even denying the fact of our Savior's crucifixion, he yet made the Day of Sacrifice the great central festival of his religion.

**Feast of
Sacrifice**

A religious war, or jahad, against infidels is

**Religious
War**