

Gathering Dinner Observing Islamic Tradition

The invitation cards to join Kurban Bayram distributed beforehand in such a great excitement by the international students, representatives from five countries, kept everybody invited in anticipation. Nobody among those who joined the Celebration Dinner was left disappointed; fun and pleasure they got were far beyond their expectation.



International atmosphere of BrSTU has raised awareness of cultural diversity and respect to different national and religious traditions. Islam community represented by students from five countries (Turkmenistan, Iran, Sudan, Turkey, Azerbaijan), has found home at BrSTU.

On October 27, 2012 the Islam student community celebrated Kurban-Bayram. Students and staff gathered on the campus, in the café “Zodchie” to observe the holiday and to show respect to religious traditions and national values of muslim people.

The festival remembers Ibrahim’s willingness to sacrifice his son when God ordered him to. God appeared in a dream to Ibrahim and told him to sacrifice his son Isma’il. Ibrahim and Isma’il set off to Mina for the sacrifice. As they went, the devil attempted to persuade Ibrahim to disobey God and not to sacrifice his beloved son. Ibrahim drove the devil away. As Ibrahim prepared to kill his son God stopped him and gave him a sheep to sacrifice instead. Ibrahim’s complete submission to the will of God is celebrated by Muslims each year.

Kurban-Bayram is a four-day festival when sacrificial sheep are slaughtered and their meat distributed to the poor. Every Muslim home offers a sacrifice on this day. Sacrifices are usually done first thing in the morning after Bayram prayers and mostly on the 1st day but can also happen on the 2nd and 3rd days

The holiday dinner was organized by the volunteers from Turkmenistan community of BrSTU. The festival started with Sacrificial prayer. After that the key ceremony volunteers addressed with holiday presentation and national traditions description. The hosts tried to render the great importance of the holiday to all the guests. And it can be definitely said they successfully had managed it. The created atmosphere was solemn and spiritual.

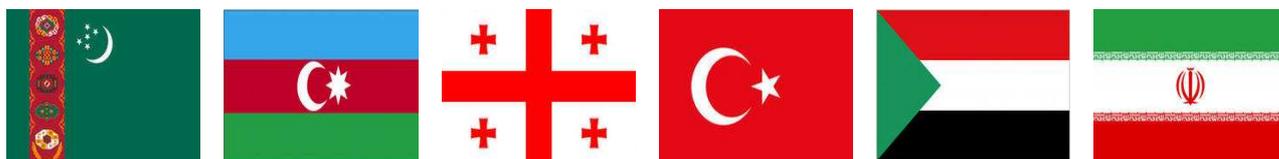
The Vice-rector on academic affairs, Bazanov T.N., assistant professor, gave a welcoming speech and congratulated students on Holy Muslim holiday "Kurban-Bayram" on behalf of the administration of the University. The University staff congratulated students and wished them and their families happiness, health and well-being.

The dinner was finished with tasting national dishes, tea drinking in warm friendly atmosphere and dancing to national music.

Kurban Bayram is a holiday of unity, highlighting of all human virtues the one of lending a hand to those in need.

Observing such a holiday at our University conveys a great educative value. It gives us all an opportunity to respect other traditions, teaches us to be tolerant to each other and to be always willing to give a helping hand to the least well-off in our society.

We would like to extend our best wishes to your Holy holiday.



*By Olga Bogol
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