

## The Function of Banquet in the Islamic Life Style

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In what follows, the author has tried to examine the function of banquet in the Islamic life style. Referring to resources of hadith and undertaking methods of interpretation, this research goes to suggest that life style as a set of symbolic and indicative choices is composed of different elements and manifestations among which banquet is the most important one in social relation. Along with its concrete manifestations and symbolic forms suggesting the Islamic life style, this custom has a variety of functions and products outshining the social life of Muslims thus contributing mainly to the Islamic civilization. No more than the findings of this research, those products and functions in the hereafter are: “divine forgiveness”, “salvation from Hell” and “entering the Heaven”. In this material life, nonetheless, as demanded by the life style they are: “choice”, “serving as examples”, “being symbols”, “setting the limits of choices” and “offering examples of behavior” such manners as ties of kinship, intimate and emotional, those based on social trust and the like. Furthermore, banquet and having party fill up the free time and as a symbol can fulfill its function.

**Keywords:** banquet and party, life style, function, choice, serving as an example, being a symbol.

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