

DANISH AGRICULTURAL MARKETING BOARD

مجلس تسويق المنتجات الزراعية اللبنانية

MIDDLE EAST OFFICE

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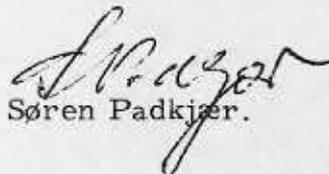
OFFICIAL HOLIDAYS 1975

Attached please find a list showing the local holidays in countries in the Middle East. This list could be taken as a guide line when exporters are planning visits to the area, even though it should be noted that some shops and offices may be found open on the dates indicated as holidays, just as some might close on special days which are not included.

The Muslem calendar, Hegira, is following the moon year, and as such about 11 days shorter than the Gregorian year. Consequently the religious holidays are changing every year by about 11 days, further to the exact date being subject to change of one or two days depending on the moon, and often to be announced only on the eve of the feast.

Visits to especially conservative countries, like Saudi Arabia, should be avoided in the month of Ramadan, during which no Muslem must eat, drink, or smoke from sunrise to sunset. This of course has a certain influence on the energy of the people, and many business offices are in that period working only during the evening, often till after midnight. Ramadan is this year from around 6th September to 4th October and the El Fitr holidays, generally observed in all countries, are held at the end of Ramadan. The Al Adha holidays are held at the end of the pilgrim season 70 days after Ramadan, and those two feasts are the most important of the religious holidays.

Danish Agricultural Marketing Board.


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