

Facility: Junee Correctional Centre  
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## Junee jail community celebrates Ramadan

JUNEE Correctional Centre's cultural centre has hosted hundreds of events for inmates from different backgrounds and on Friday the end of Ramadan was celebrated.

The festival of Eid marks the end of Ramadan and the end of a month of fasting for Muslims.

It's the first time Ramadan has been celebrated at the jail, which also hosts commemorations and celebrations for Anzac Day, NAIDOC Day, Polyfest and the Asian Moon Festival among others.

Pakistan Consul General

Sardar Khosa, Pakistan Association of Australia president Shahid Iqbal and Charles Sturt University's Dr Waseem Axzal were in attendance for the festival.

The CDARZ Lebanese dance group made up of inmates led celebrations, with guests enjoying Arabic poetry and traditional Middle Eastern food.

"With all the trouble in the world, in the Middle East, everywhere ... being here today, in the middle of rural NSW, Australia, sitting together, talking together,

watching inmates and members of the public dance and eat together, shows that regardless of religion or culture, we can all get along," Junee Correctional Centre's general manager Andy Walker said.

GEO Group's operations manager John Myers said next year's event would be bigger.

"It was good to see the programs staff and the Islamic inmates agree to donate the proceeds to the Wagga Base Hospital's Children's Ward," he said.



**SHARING THE CULTURE:** GEO operations manager John Myers (centre) with members of the Pakistan Association of Australia during the celebration for the end of Ramadan at Junee Correctional Centre.