

# Islamic Rites of Passage

Learning Objective:

To find out about the Islamic marriage ceremony.



# Marriage

What is marriage?  
What happens  
when  
you get  
married?



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# Islamic marriage ceremony

Marriage is a religious and legal contract between two people. Muslim weddings vary according to the culture of the people involved.

Most marriages are not held in mosques and sometimes men and women remain separate during the ceremonies.

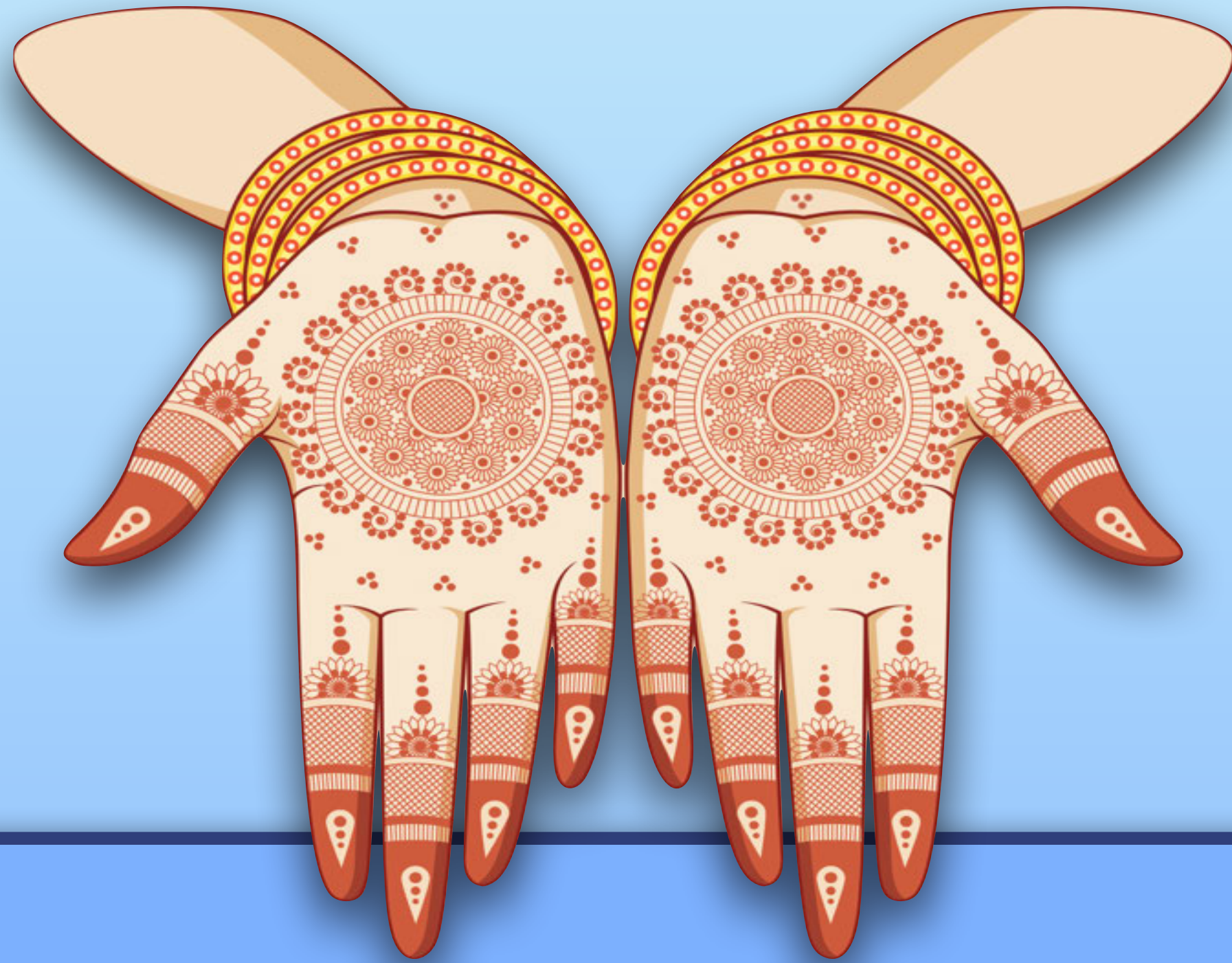


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There are many components that make up a Muslim wedding.



What do you think they are?  
What do you know about marriage  
ceremonies?

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# The proposal

A proposal is when a man asks a woman for her hand in marriage. Muslim men will ask the woman's family for permission. This shows his respect for the woman and his intentions.



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# The Mahr

A Mahr is a payment a Muslim man offers his soon-to-be wife. It can be money, a gift or some property.

A Mahr is a free gift and is not decided by the woman.



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# The Nikah

The Nikah is the verbal contract between husband and wife. The bride and groom say a few phrases in front of witnesses; this pronounces them husband and wife.



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# The Walima

The Walima is the marriage banquet (meal). This can take place straight after the Nikah or even a week later.

It gives family and friends an opportunity to congratulate the couple and celebrate with them.

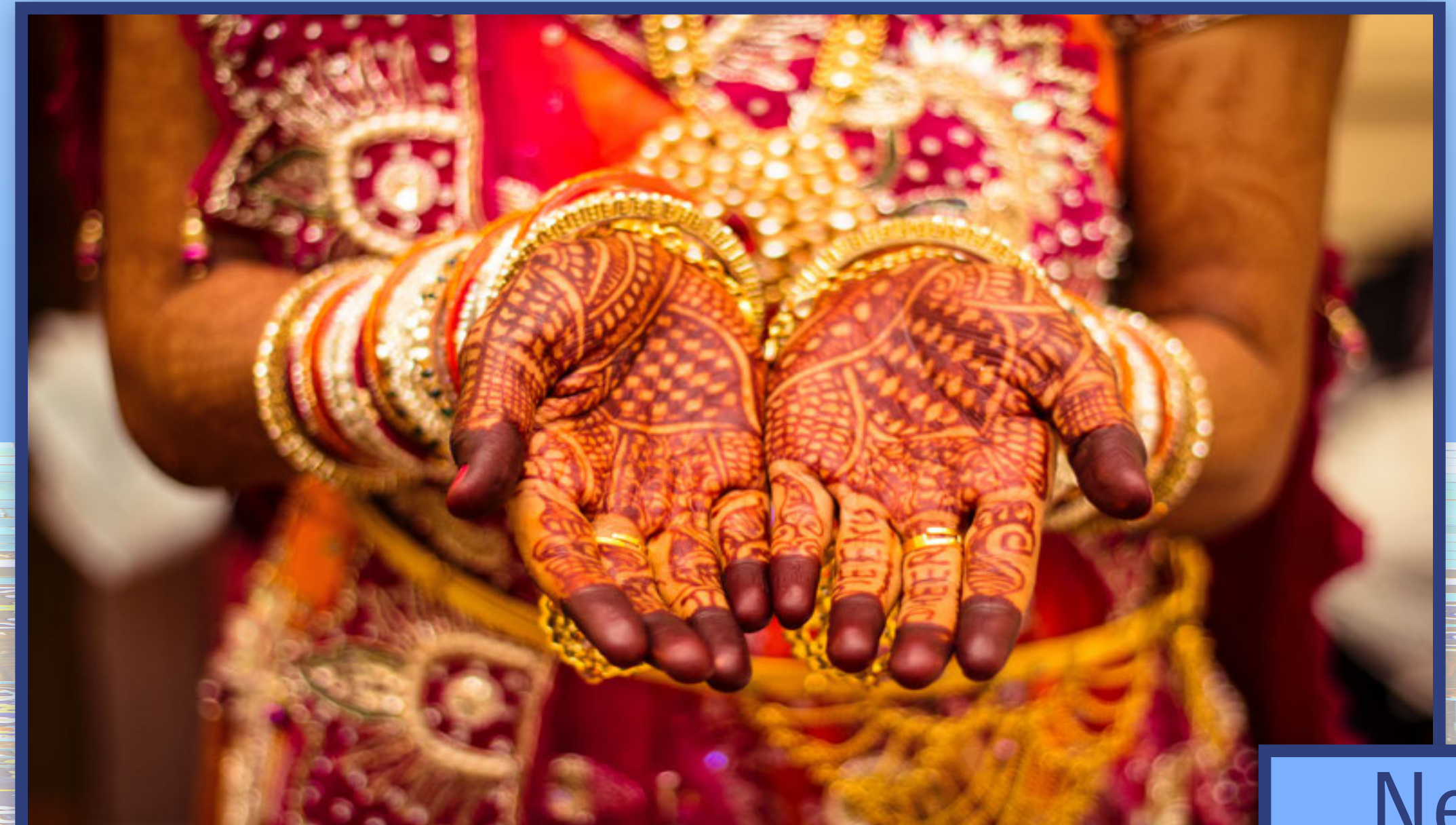
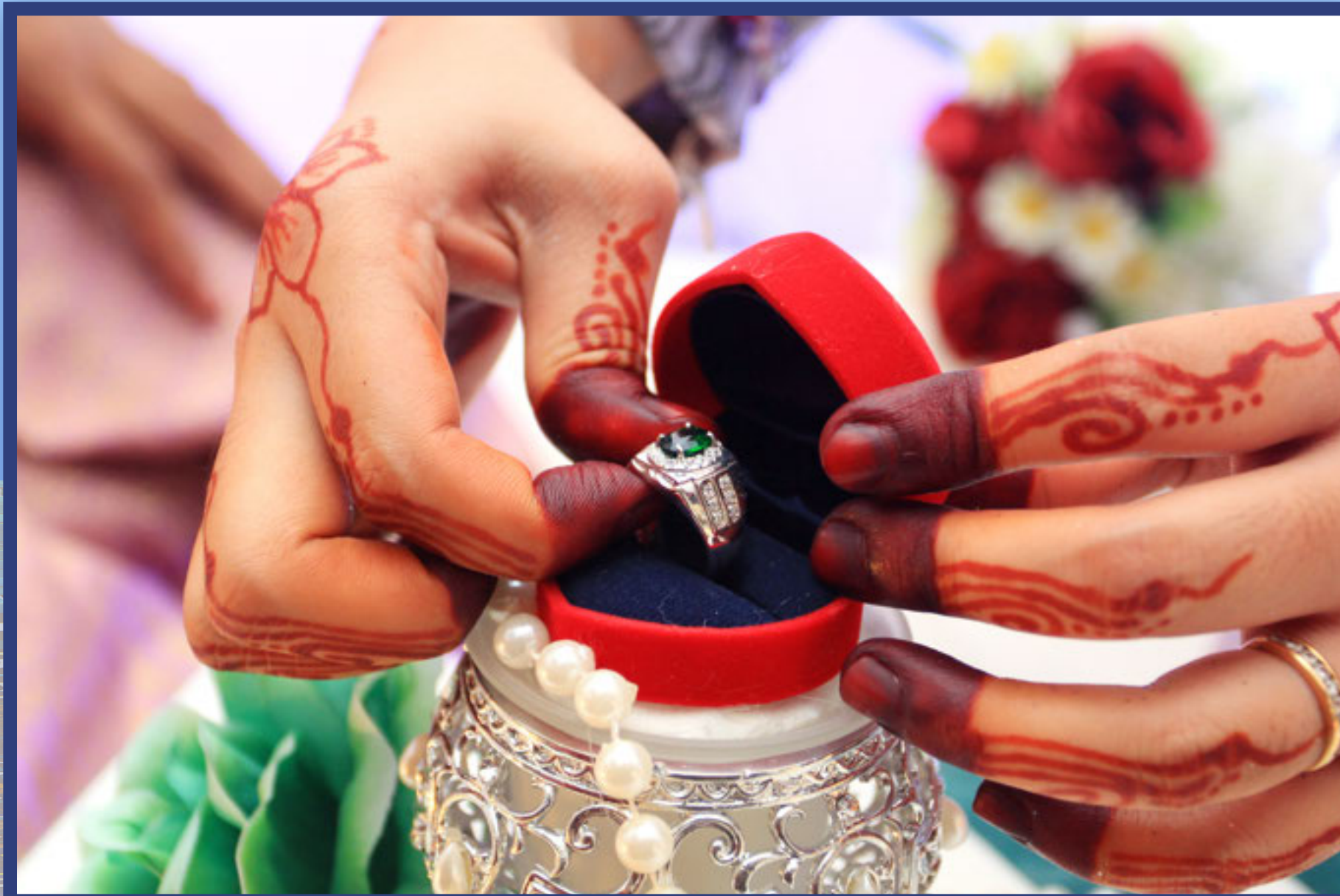




# Engagement ceremonies

Sometimes Muslim people hold engagement ceremonies before their wedding. This is called a Mangni.

The bride and groom can exchange rings and a Mendhi ceremony takes place in homes. A Mendhi ceremony is where women and men decorate their skin with Mendhi paint.



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Why  
are marriage ceremonies  
important to people?

Does everyone get  
married?

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