

## Halaloween: A Muslim imitation of a Christian innovation

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All praises belong to Allah the Lord of all that exists, and may Allah exalt the mention of His slave and messenger Muhammad ibn Abdullah.

### ❖ Only Two holidays in Islam

When the Prophet ﷺ came to Madinah, he found that they had two days on which they used to play. He said, *"Allah has given you two days better than these, the day of al-Fitr and the day of al-Adha."*<sup>1</sup>

### ❖ Halloween is a satanic holiday

The wretched now deceased founder of the church of satan Anton LaVey wrote in the satanic bible in 1969: *"After one's own birthday, the two major Satanic holidays are Walpurgisnacht and Halloween."*<sup>2</sup>

He went on to mock the Christians by saying: *"I am glad that Christian parents let their children worship the devil at least one night out of the year."*

- ❖ Forgetting they originally concocted Halloween as we know it today, some Christians try to Christianize Halloween by branding it with alternative names such as Harvest Day, and black and orange spirit day. They encourage their children to dress as Bible characters and pass out candy in the church.

The Prophet ﷺ said: *"You will surely follow the path of those who came before you step by step, so that even if they entered a lizard hole, you will enter it too."* They said, *"O Messenger of Allah, do you mean the Jews and Christians?"* He said, *"Who else?"*<sup>3</sup>

- ❖ Some Muslims try to Islamicize Halloween by branding it with an alternative name "**Halaloween**. During this celebration the kids wear "Islamic costumes", pass out candy in the Masjid, paint pumpkins and play games."
- ❖ **Halaloween**" is a despicable innovation crafted to distract Muslim children from Halloween while not appearing to the non-Muslims as intolerant or extreme in an effort to obtain the pleasure and acceptance of the non-Muslims.

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<sup>1</sup> Abu Dawood, 1134; classed as Sahih by al-Albani in al-Silsilah al-Sahihah, 2021

<sup>2</sup> The wretched creature Anton LaVey said: The highest of all holidays in the Satanic religion is the date of one's own birth. Every man is a god if he chooses to recognize himself as one. So, the Satanist celebrates his own birthday as the most important holiday of the year. After one's own birthday, the two major Satanic holidays are Walpurgisnacht and Halloween (or All Hallows' Eve).

<sup>3</sup> Sunan Ibn Majah 3994

The Prophet ﷺ said: *“Whoever seeks to please Allah by angering the people, Allah will be pleased with him and will cause the people to be pleased with him; and whoever seeks to please the people by angering Allah, Allah will be angry with him and will cause the people to be angry with him.”*<sup>4</sup>

**Origin of Halloween:** Celtic nations such as Ireland and Scotland held a festival called Samhain (SAH-win) – summer's end – in preparation for the darker half of the year. They believed there was one day a year – October 31 – where the season of life meets the season of death and the dead spirits could walk among the living.

They lit bonfires (which later became jack o lanterns) and dressed in costumes to confuse the “spirits”. Later when the Irish migrated to America due to famine they added to this tradition the practice of “souling” – a practice of going door to door on All Souls Day to solicit gifts of food in exchange for prayers for the dead.

In the 8th century when the Christians came to spread Christianity in the Celtic region they wanted to **distract them from this pagan holiday**. Thus Pope Gregory III established All Saints' Day, known as All Hallows day – on November 1<sup>st</sup> – to honor all saints known and unknown. **It is widely accepted that the early church missionaries chose to hold a festival at this time of year in order to absorb existing native pagan practices into Christianity, thereby smoothing the conversion process.**

The pagans accepted this holiday but kept their traditional holiday as well. Their holiday Samhain; held the night before All Hallows Day, became All Hallows Eve which then became Halloween. (History.com)

Today, Americans spend an estimated \$6 billion annually on Halloween, making it the country's second largest commercial holiday second only to Christmas; while All Saints' Day – the original objective of the Church – is all but forgotten.

وَذَرِ الَّذِينَ اتَّخَذُوا دِينَهُمْ لَعِبًا وَلَهْوًا وَعَرَّتْهُمْ الْحَيَاةُ الدُّنْيَا ﴿٧٠﴾

And leave alone those who take their religion as play and amusement, and are deceived by the life of this world. (Soorah Al-'An`ām 6:70)

Rasheed ibn Estes Barbee

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<sup>4</sup> Collected by Ibn Haban (510/1)