

In about 9 days from today -- and

Every year, on the evening of October 31st, millions of children across North America paint their faces, dress up in costumes, and go door to door collecting candy, sweets and treats. Did you know? One quarter of all the candy sold annually in the U.S. is purchased for Halloween, a night glorifying the Shayateen? Many of those around us are already decorating their houses with ghostly, demonic, satanic figures, carving scary faces on pumpkins, and have and will put candles in them to create "Jack-O-Lanterns." Why do we do so many things but don't understand why we do them, and why do we see so many symbols and rituals but don't think about the meaning of them.

Unfortunately, among the millions of North Americans indulging in this celebration, many are Muslims. It is commonly called Halloween, or all Hallows Eve. This so-called holiday or celebration that many people participate in, is based upon paganistic, satanic and evil practices and rituals. Where many now don't only practice the seemingly innocent going around and begging for candy, but actually kidnap children and animals and bring them out to the woods to be sacrificed/killed and put forth as an offering to their devils and evil spirits. So where did this evil celebration of Halloween come from?

If we were to travel to Ireland, to a place called Oweynagat Cave we would find a field with a large mound occupied by sheep. Today these livestock wander freely, chewing the grass beneath their feet nowadays. However, had those sheep, or even us been in that same location 2,000 years ago, both us, and the sheep would have been terrified by the sounds of chanting hymns summoning the dead and the evil spirits, people dressed in demonic costumes while most likely being sacrificed to Celtic demons that inhabited nearby Oweynagat cave.

This place in Ireland was considered by the ancient Celts to be a passage between Ireland and its devil-infested "otherworld," or 'underworld' Oweynagat (pronounced "Oen-na-gat" and meaning "cave of the cats") was the birthplace of the Samhain festival, the ancient roots of Halloween. Far from the child-friendly event it has become, Halloween can trace its origins to a bloody and eerie ritual marked in Rathcroghan, a former Celtic center buried beneath the farmland of Ireland's County Roscommon. Where many humans and animals were sacrificed.

More than 2,000 years ago, when paganism was the dominant religion among Ireland's majority Celtic people, it was here in Rathcroghan that the Celtic New Year festival of Samhain ("Sow-in") was born. In the 1800s, the Samhain tradition was brought by Irish immigrants to the United States, where it morphed into the sugar overload that is American Halloween.

The ancient Celtic (Irish/Scottish/Welsh) festival called Samhain is considered by historians and scholars to be the origin of what is now Halloween. Samhain was the New Year's day of the pagan Celts. It was also the Day of the Dead, a time when it was believed that the souls of those who had died during the year were allowed access into the "land of the dead", or the day that the souls mingled with the living.

By the 19th century, and after reaching North America many of the ancient Druids and Celts practices were replaced by witches magic and sorcery, and eventually replaced by children's

anyone remember the Salem witch trials in MA and CT

Possibly omit

tricks, which gave birth to 'trick or treat'. The spirits of Samhain, once believed to be wild and powerful, were now recognized as being evil. The spiritual forces that people experienced during this festival were indeed real, but they were manifestations of the satan/shaytaan who misled people toward the worship of false idols. Many Christians in North America, when mingling with the Irish immigrants and their pagan/satanic practices; rejected the customs associated with Halloween, including all representations of ghosts, vampires, and human skeletons - symbols of the dead - and of the devil and other malevolent and evil creatures. It must also be noted that, to this day, many Satan-worshippers consider the evening of October 31st to be their most sacred.

Even today we find a few devout Christians, who are somewhat near to Muslims in their beliefs and practices, who continue to distance themselves from this pagan/satanic/demonic festival/celebration and do not participate in it at all. So why aren't we distancing ourselves from Satan, satanic practices and rituals; when we have the Haqq, we have the final revelation, we have the best of messengers? Why aren't we teaching our children about the evils of such celebrations and practices if we are following truth? Did you know that those who worship Satan/Shaytaan are actually pleased by having our kids dress with demonic costumes.

The founder of the church of Satan in New York, Anton ^{Lavey}~~Lavey~~ said that by dressing up, either by wearing a costume or coloring oneself for Halloween, is tantamount to worshipping the devil. He considers it praise and glorifying of Satan and his allies. He also said that dressing up in demonic costumes signifies that you allow Satan/shaytaan to own you. He further said that when you adopt the pagan practices, you subconsciously dedicate yourself to the devil.

His statement is corroborated by a former Satanist, John Ramirez, who said that when you dress up even as an angel or a mermaid for Halloween, "you give the devil the legal rights to change your identity." Ramirez further warned that there's a much darker reality in Halloween beyond costumes and candy.

Halloween is also the favorite time of year for witches, or the advocates of Wicca. Wicca is the official religion of witchcraft. Wiccan adherents believe that on the night of October 31, the separation of physical and spiritual realities is at its thinnest and least guarded. And so, it's the best time for those who have necromantic abilities to speak to the dead.

So brothers and sisters we need to think seriously about this and realize what we are thinking and practicing in our societies before we choose to or before we facilitate for others or allow our youth to participate in Halloween and seriously think what we are doing, hopefully these things will come to mind:

-According to those who worship Satan, when you dress up for Halloween, you give the devil the legal rights to change your identity.

-According to those who worship Satan, wearing a costume in celebration of Halloween, signifies that you allow Satan to own you

-According to those who worship Satan, when you adopt the pagan practices, you subconsciously dedicate yourself to the devil

The Muslim is one who should have a distinguished identity, one of a believer, a worshipper of the creator, not a glorifier of Satan and his allies. A believer should not dress up as devils, ghosts, ghouls, skeletons, witches or the dead. Secondly, we shouldn't give anyone the opportunity to think that they own us, satan, the founder of the church of satan or the likes.... except the one who created us; and that is Allah the Most High. When we act and dress up in demonic costumes we are empowering the worshippers of satan and promoting their lifestyle and beliefs, imitating them and glorifying and giving respect and honor to their evil way of life and their evil appearances. Our beloved Prophet Muhammad told us:

«مَنْ تَشَبَّهَ بِقَوْمٍ فَهُوَ مِنْهُمْ»

“Whoever resembles a people, then he is from them”

Act and dress as a believer at all times, don't let the temptation of Satan coming in the form of candy, sweets, parties and the likes deceive you and mislead you into resembling the way they look and act.

Respected believers....Allah tells us in numerous verses in the Quran to stay far away from Satan/shaytaan and avoid following his footsteps, even if he adorns them for us with candy, sweets, free food and the likes. Entering into Islam completely, necessitates us avoiding following the footsteps of Satan/shaytaan:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا ادْخُلُوا فِي السِّلْمِ كَآفَّةً وَلَا تَتَّبِعُوا خُطُوٰتِ الشَّيْطٰنِ ۚ إِنَّهُ لَكُمْ عَدُوٌّ مُّبِينٌ

O you who believe, enter Islam completely, and do not follow the footsteps of Satan. Surely, he is an open enemy for you; and Allah tells us what will happen if we follow the footsteps of Satan/shaytaan:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا لَا تَتَّبِعُوا خُطُوٰتِ الشَّيْطٰنِ ۚ وَمَنْ يَتَّبِعْ خُطُوٰتِ الشَّيْطٰنِ فَإِنَّهُ يَأْمُرُ بِالْفَحْشَآءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ ۚ

O you who believe, do not follow the footsteps of Satan. Whoever follows the footsteps of Satan, (should know that) he orders (one to commit) shameful acts and evil deeds.

Satan and his allies will order people to do shameful acts and evil deeds. This is why we see people vandalizing and causing mischief on the night of Halloween. This is why the police step up their force on that night and actually call it 'Mischief night', because people go around committing crimes, harming people, people's property, pranking people and making fools of themselves.

Satan and his human allies will make people think that dressing up in demonic costumes is cute, begging at people's doorsteps for food and candy is fun, and bobbing for apples is cool, and playing pranks on people and vandalizing people's houses and cars is funny. Indeed Satan's/shaytaan's footsteps are subtly designed, so that even the believer will give in. He

first gives the suggestion which he makes out not to be harmful. Through various processes, Satan the accursed carries on making suggestions, but at a slightly higher level of immorality, but since the process has been on going, the person does not see any sin in his actions; thus becoming ensnared in a lofty degree of sin. Satan's goal is to make a person perpetrate a sinful action of such a high degree, that because of that sin, the persons whole life before and after him has and is ruined, placing no value to it, and ultimately bringing the person down with him (Satan) to the depths of hell. And the ultimate goal of Satan to make a person commit shirk and associate partners with Allah, glorifying other than Allah, paying tribute to other than Allah and magnifying other than Allah, as many people do when practicing the evil customs found in Halloween.

All of these practices, beliefs and rituals go entirely against the teachings of Islam. Alhamdulillah we have been blessed to know that Iman (faith) is the true foundation of Islamic communities, and tawhīd (the belief in the existence and Oneness of Allāh) is the essence of this faith and the very core of Islām. We know that safeguarding our Iman, and of this pure tawhīd, from everything that is contrary to it and that can harm it, is the primary objective of all Islamic teachings and legislation. In order to keep the Muslim community purified of all traces of shirk (associating partners with Allāh) and remnants of error, a continuous fight must be waged against all customs and practices which originate from worship of satan/shaytaan, ignorance of divine guidance, and in the errors of idol worship.

Our beloved Prophet Muḥammad (ṣallāllāhu 'alayhi wa-sallam) issued a stern warning: "Whoever imitates a nation is one of them!" (Abū Dāwūd). So don't resemble those who worship, glorify, respect, honor and magnify Satan and His allies.

Muslims should heed this warning and refrain from copying or imitating the non-Muslims in their celebrations, and especially those who worship Satan, who is our clear enemy.

Even if one decides to go along with the outward practices of Halloween without acknowledging the deeper significance or historical background of this custom, he or she is still guilty of indulging in this pagan/satanic festival. Undoubtedly, even after hearing the Truth, some Muslims will still participate in Halloween, send their kids "trick-or-treating," and they will try to justify it by saying they are doing it merely to make their children happy. But what is the duty of Muslim parents? Is it to follow the wishes of their children without question, or to mould them within the correct Islamic framework as outlined in the Qur'ān and Sunnah? Is it not the responsibility of Muslim parents to impart correct Islamic training and instruction to their children? How can this duty be performed if, instead of instructing the children in Islām, parents allow and encourage their children to be taught the way of the non Muslims, satan worshippers and those who call upon other than Allah? If the children are taught to be proud of their Islamic heritage, they themselves will, in shā' Allāh, abstain from Halloween and other non-Muslim celebrations, such as birthdays, anniversaries, Christmas, Thanksgiving Day, Valentines Day, and the likes.

Islām is a pure religion with no need to accommodate any custom, practice or celebration that is not a part of it. Islām does not distinguish between "secular and sacred;" the Shari'ah must rule every aspect of our lives.

I hope that in our brief reminder today that we have established, beyond doubt, that the celebration of Halloween is absolutely forbidden in Islām. And As we grow closer to Allah and gain more knowledge of the Quran and Sunnah , we will come to realize many things and questions that we should ask ourselves when we decide to let our children or youth participate in Halloween:

1. Allah is living and everlasting, but Halloween focuses on death. Should ^{we} celebrate a holiday where people decorate their front yards with tombstones, jack o lanterns, devils, ghouls, and ghosts? *which all are related to death?*
2. The Quran and Sunnah are both illuminating lights and remove darkness and ignorance. Is celebrating a dark holiday something that families of light should be doing?
3. Halloween is based upon fearing other than Allah, fearing demons, witches, ghosts, the dead; should we teach our children to fear someone or something other than Allah? Should we participate in parties and celebrations that has fear of other than Allah as its very foundation?
4. Practicing Witchcraft is disbelief and is abhorred by Allah, detested, and takes someone out of the fold of Islam. Shouldn't a holiday such as Halloween that glorifies witchcraft and witches be completely avoided?
5. Halloween is a sacred, high holiday for Wiccans (the official religion of witchcraft). Is this a holiday that people of faith should celebrate alongside Wiccans?
6. Is it actually cute when we dress our kids like the devil (or witches, ghouls, scary characters, etc.)? or is it really demonic and pleasing to the worshippers of Satan?

Then the question arises as to what to do on ^{that} ~~this~~ ^{of Oct. 31st} night, as many people may come to our house? This we will cover in the second half of the khutbah

Second khutbah

My advice is that Muslim parents, as well as parents who love the truth and care about their children should not send their kids out "trick-or-treating" on Halloween night. For a number of reasons:

First and foremost it is not permissible for a Muslim to scare another Muslim:

عَنْ عَبْدِ الرَّحْمَنِ بْنِ أَبِي لَيْلَى، قَالَ حَدَّثَنَا أَصْحَابُ، مُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ أَنَّهُمْ كَانُوا يَسِيرُونَ مَعَ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فَنَامَ رَجُلٌ مِنْهُمْ فَأَنْطَلَقَ بَعْضُهُمْ إِلَى حَبْلِ مَعَهُ فَأَخَذَهُ فَفَزِعَ فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ " لَا يَجِلُّ لِمُسْلِمٍ أَنْ يُرَوِّعَ مُسْلِمًا " .

The Companions of the Prophet (ﷺ) told us that they were travelling with the Prophet (ﷺ). One of them was sleeping, and another one of them grabbed the rope which the sleeping man had tied to him. When he pulled the rope, the sleeping man became frightened. Then the Prophet (ﷺ) said: It is not lawful for a Muslim to scare another Muslim.

Secondly trick or treating has its roots in Celtic pagan/satanic celebrations of Samhain, when the Druids would go from house to house and demand specific types of food. If their demands were not met, it was believed that the people and their houses would be cursed with trouble, sickness and death. Prosperity would be promised to those who generously donated.

Dressing up in costumes was done so that the spirits of the dead would not recognize people. The Druids/celtic priests would actually sacrifice animals and sometimes children and dress them in these animals skins.

So what about the pumpkin carving or jack o lantern, where does it come from?

The practice of carving out pumpkins and putting a candle inside, or what is called a 'jack o lantern' originated from an Irish myth about a man nicknamed "Stingy Jack." According to the story, Stingy Jack invited the Devil/shaytaan to have a drink with him. True to his name, Stingy Jack didn't want to pay for his drink, so he convinced the Devil to turn himself into a coin that Jack could use to buy their drinks. Once the Devil did so, Jack decided to keep the money and put it into his pocket next to a silver cross, which prevented the Devil from changing back into his original form. Jack eventually freed the Devil, under the condition that he would not bother Jack for one year and that, should Jack die, he would not claim his soul. The next year, Jack again tricked the Devil into climbing into a tree to pick a piece of fruit. While he was up in the tree, Jack carved a sign of the cross into the tree's bark so that the Devil could not come down until the Devil promised Jack not to bother him for ten more years.

Soon after, Jack died. As the legend goes, God would not allow such an unsavory figure into heaven. The Devil, upset by the trick Jack had played on him and keeping his word not to claim his soul, would not allow Jack into hell. He sent Jack off into the dark night with only a burning coal to light his way. Jack put the coal into a carved-out turnip and has been roaming the Earth

with ever since. The Irish began to refer to this ghostly figure as "Jack of the Lantern," and then, simply "Jack O'Lantern."

Images of black cats and bats are based upon false superstitions in which people believed that these animals could communicate with the spirits of the dead. And black cats were believed to house the souls of witches. These superstitions are clearly against the teachings of Islam and whoever believes in false superstitions is guilty of associating partners with Allah, as the Prophet said:

قال النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم: مَنْ رَدَّتْهُ الطَّيْرَةُ عَنْ حَاجَتِهِ فَقَدْ أَشْرَكَ قَالُوا: يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ وَمَا كَفَارَةُ ذَلِكَ قَالَ يَقُولُ " اللَّهُمَّ لَا طَيْرَ إِلَّا طَيْرُكَ ، وَلَا خَيْرَ إِلَّا خَيْرُكَ ، وَلَا إِلَهَ غَيْرُكَ "

The Prophet Muhammad said: "Whoever lets tiyarah/superstition stop him from doing something is guilty of shirk." They said, "What is the kafaarah for that?" He said, "To say: Allaahumma la khayra illaa khayruka wa laa tayra illaa tayruka wa laa ilaaha ghayruka (O Allaah, there is no good except Your good, no birds (omens) except from You, and there is no god beside You)." [Classed as hasan by al-Arna'oot and as saheeh by al-Albaani in Saheeh al-Jaami', no. 6264]

when you see
~~When~~ people put their heads in a barrel full of water, *during Halloween parties and activities* which is called: "Bobbing for apples", this practice also comes from the ancient Druids and pagans practice of trying to foresee the future and fortune telling, which we all know is impermissible in Islam as well, and that only Allah knows the future:

عَنْ بَعْضِ أَزْوَاجِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ " مَنْ أَتَى عَرَّافًا فَسَأَلَهُ عَنْ شَيْءٍ لَمْ تُقْبَلْ لَهُ صَلَاةٌ أَرْبَعِينَ لَيْلَةً " . وَ فِي رِوَايَةٍ: " مَنْ أَتَى كَاهِنًا فَصَدَقَهُ فَقَدْ كَفَرَ بِمَا أَنْزَلَ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ "

Safiyya reported from some of the wives of Allah's Apostle (ﷺ) Allah's Apostle (ﷺ) having said: He who visits a fortuneteller/psychic and asks him about anything, his prayers will not be accepted for forty nights. In another narration: "Whoever visits a fortuneteller/psychic and believes him has disbelieved in what the Prophet Muhammad came with."

قوله
 Allah tells us in the Quran:

قُلْ لَا يَعْلَمُ مَنْ فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ الْغَيْبَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

"Say: No one knows what is in the heavens and the earth except Allah"

Lastly but certainly not leastly my brothers and sisters is that our children must be told why we do not celebrate Halloween, or participate in Halloween parties or any of the rituals associated with Halloween. And what we mentioned in this khutbah should be sufficient for good Muslims such as yourselves. Secondly we should let them know that after sunset is the time when Satan/Shaytaan and his agents are most rampant, and the time when our kids should come inside the house. It should not be a time when we let our kids go outside alone, or with other friends who may want to cause mischief, especially on a night when the rest of the

neighborhoods are glorifying and celebrating Shaytaan and his agents, as the Prophet Muhammad told us:

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ " إِذَا كَانَ جُنْحُ اللَّيْلِ - أَوْ أَمْسَيْتُمْ - فَكْفُوا صَبِيَّاتِكُمْ فَإِنَّ الشَّيْطَانَ يَنْتَشِرُ حِينَئِذٍ فَإِذَا ذَهَبَ سَاعَةٌ مِنَ اللَّيْلِ فَخَلُّوهُمْ وَأَغْلِقُوا الْأَبْوَابَ وَادْكُرُوا اسْمَ اللَّهِ فَإِنَّ الشَّيْطَانَ لَا يَفْتَحُ بَابًا مَغْلَقًا وَأَوْكُوا قَرَبِكُمْ وَادْكُرُوا اسْمَ اللَّهِ وَخَمِّرُوا أَنْبَتَكُمْ وَادْكُرُوا اسْمَ اللَّهِ وَلَوْ أَنْ تَعْرَضُوا عَلَيْهَا شَيْئًا وَأَطْفِنُوا مَصَابِيحَكُمْ " .

"When the wings of the night spread – or when evening comes – keep your children in, for the devils come out at that time. Then when part of the night has passed, let them go. And close the doors and mention the name of Allaah, for the shaytaan (devil) does not open a closed door. And tie up your waterskins and mention the name of Allaah, and cover your vessels and mention the name of Allaah, even if you only put something over them, and extinguish your lamps." Narrated by al-Bukhaari (3280) and Muslim (2012).

As parents it is our responsibility to teach our children and enjoin them with what is correct and forbid them from what is evil. If done with wisdom and fine preaching we will find that most children are very receptive when taught with sincerity, and especially when shown in practice the joy of their own Islamic celebrations and traditions. In this regard, teach them about the two Islamic festivals of Eid. (Eid-ul-Fitr is fast approaching, and this is the perfect time to start preparing them for it.)

It must also be mentioned that, even Muslims who stay home may find people who come to their doors trick or treating, this is when the Muslim should seize the opportunity to educate our neighbors about our Islamic teachings, and how we should glorify and worship the creator and not satan and his evil ways. They will respect your wishes, and you will gain respect in the process.

And Always remember that the Prophet Muhammad said:

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ " مَنْ دَعَا إِلَى هُدًى كَانَ لَهُ مِنَ الْأَجْرِ مِثْلُ أُجُورِ مَنْ تَبِعَهُ لَا يَنْقُصُ ذَلِكَ مِنْ أُجُورِهِمْ شَيْئًا وَمَنْ دَعَا إِلَى ضَلَالَةٍ كَانَ عَلَيْهِ مِنَ الْإِثْمِ مِثْلُ آثَامِ مَنْ تَبِعَهُ لَا يَنْقُصُ ذَلِكَ مِنْ آثَامِهِمْ شَيْئًا " .

Abu Hurairah reported the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) as saying: " If anyone summons other to follow right guidance, his reward will be equivalent to that of the people who follow him, without their rewards being diminished in any respect on that account; and if anyone summons others to follow error the sin of which sins being diminished in any respect on that account. " (Sunan Abee Dawud #4609)

Brothers and sisters in Islam....Setting aside a day to celebrate evil, darkness, witchcraft, fear, death and the demonic brings disdain to the Creator. Period.

Halloween is the one day a year when neighbors come to your door expecting to receive something. So give them Islam!

Stop justifying why it is fine to celebrate this demonic , worldly, evil holiday. There are no muddled lines or gray areas about it. A committed follower of the Prophet Muhammad should not celebrate Halloween, *especially during this blessed month of Rabe'ul Awwal.*

Finally, we must remember that we are fully accountable to Allāh for all of our actions and deeds. If, after knowing the Truth, we do not cease our un-Islamic practices, we risk the wrath of Allāh as He himself warned us in the Qur'ān:

فَلْيَحْذَرِ الَّذِينَ يُخَالِفُونَ عَنْ أَمْرِهِ أَنْ تُصِيبَهُمْ فِتْنَةٌ أَوْ يُصِيبَهُمْ عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ

"Then let them beware who refuse the Messenger's order lest some trial befall them, or a grievous punishment be afflicted upon them!" (24:63). This is a serious matter and not to be taken lightly as Allah told us that Shaytaan is our clear enemy, so take him as a serious threat.

إِنَّ الشَّيْطَانَ لَكُمْ عَدُوٌّ فَاتَّخِذُوهُ عَدُوًّا إِنَّمَا يَدْعُوا حِزْبَهُ لِيَكُونُوا مِنْ أَصْحَابِ السَّعِيرِ

Surely ShaiTān (Satan) is an enemy for you. So, take him as an enemy and real threat. He only invites his group (to falsehood) so that they become inmates of the blazing fire.

May Allāh guide us, help us to stay on the right path, and save us from all deviations and innovations that will lead us into the fires of Hell. May Allah aid us to recognize our enemies that try to adorn for us misguidance in the forms or glitters, gold, candy, costumes and parties.

Some resources-<https://api.nationalgeographic.com/distribution/public/amp/travel/article/inside-irelands-gate-to-hell-that-birthed-halloween>

-<https://wsimag.com/culture/58292-why-christians-should-not-celebrate-halloween>

-<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.christianpost.com/amp/why-christians-absolutely-should-not-celebrate-halloween.html>