

Halloween

TARBIYYAT TOPIC
MAJLIS ATFAL UL AHMADIYYA USA



Majlis Atfalul
Ahmadiyya USA



With the transition between Fall and Winter, we see many pumpkins, scary costumes and Halloween themes everywhere.





What is Halloween?

Think about it ...



Halloween dates back 2000 years

- Originated from Pagan Celtic festival of Samhain
- This festival of the dead was celebrated in Ancient Ireland and Scotland
- Between 5th - 8th Century, Catholics started conquering the pagan lands
 - Nov 1st – New year of the pagans was Christianized to All Hallows eve or All Saint's day by a Pope.



Samhain

Was pagan holiday which means end of Summer

- ❖ Involved lighting a large bonfire
- ❖ “fall cleaning”
- ❖ Moving the herd and animals to barns and pens to prepare for the winter
- ❖ Also a time for harvest



Shirk, Superstition and Scary Costumes

Shirk

- ❑ Pagans used to start with a large bonfire
- ❑ People would offer crops, animals and sometimes Human beings as sacrifice to Celtic deities
- ❑ Would throw these sacrifices in the fire.

Superstition

- ❑ Sacrifices were offered to help better the next years crops
- ❑ To honor the spritis that come to back to this world
- ❑ And to fend off evil spirits and ghosts

Scary Costumes

- ❑ It was believed that this day the spirits of the dead would return to earth
 - ❑ costumes signified the release of these spirits
- ❑ It was also considered a way to hide yourself from the evil sprits by looking like them

All three things are against the teachings of Islam



Islamic Angle

إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَغْفِرُ أَنْ يُشْرَكَ بِهِ وَيَغْفِرُ مَا
دُونَ ذَلِكَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ ۗ وَمَنْ يُشْرِكْ
بِاللَّهِ فَقَدْ افْتَرَىٰ إِثْمًا عَظِيمًا

[4:49] Surely, Allah will not forgive that any partner be associated with Him; but He will forgive whatever is short of that to whomsoever He pleases. And whoso associates partners with Allah has indeed devised a very great sin.



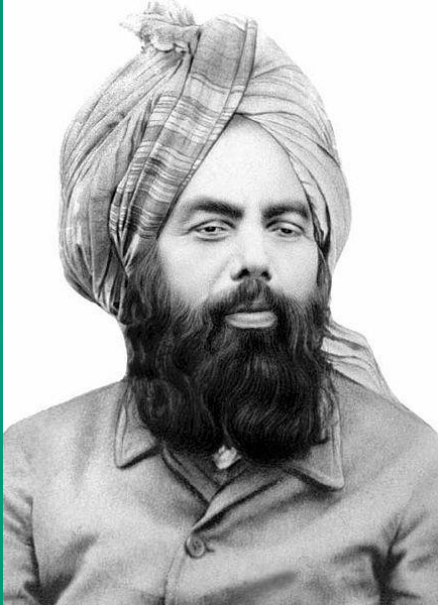
Hadhrat Khalifa tul Masih V (a.b.a) on Oct 29, 2010



- Our society has many good aspects but it also has some evils or practices that lead to evil
- Among the ills that take over unknowingly is *shirk* (associating partners with God). Even a hint of *shirk* is unacceptable to God



Embrace the Messiah



- To accept the Messiah (a.s) means to follow the Messiah
- The first condition of Bai't is that we shall avoid Shirk right up to the day of our death.
- Thus, it is the first promise to enter Ahmadiyyat



Fun vs Shirk

- Generally Halloween is regarded as something Fun
- Concept of bringing dead sprits back to life as if they are equal to God is Shirk
- It is extremely wrong to 'believe in' things that are 'supernatural' even if it is for fun.
- Hadhrat Khalifa Tul Masih Al-Khamis (a.b.a) on Oct 29, 2010 states:

If something is based on Shirk you are compromising on too much just to have “fun” (So it must be avoided)



The Promised Messiah (a.s) explains:

Man claims to worship God, but does worship mean lots of prostrations or reading the rosary (*Tasbih*) beads?

Rather, worship is possible when you love God so much that you forget about yourself.

Most important is the complete belief in God as well as full awareness of God's beauty and favors.

This connection of love is always present in the heart with this state always evident on the face.

The heart carries God's greatness to such an extent that the entire world appears dead by comparison and every fear is only associated with His Being and there is pleasure in His pain.

Delight is experienced in solitude with Him alone and without Him the heart does not find satisfaction from anyone else. When such a state is attained, it is called worship, but this state is not generated without special blessing of God.



Video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SEdG9Hb_97E

