

AVOIDING THE CUSTOMS OF THE DISBELIEVERS

Truly, the (only recognized) religion in the sight of Allah is Islam. (Al Quraan)

Honour through Islam

Umar ibn al-Khattab رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ, said, “Verily, we were a lowly people whom Allah Ta’aala honoured through Islam. If we seek honour from anything other than Islam, Allah Ta’aala will disgrace us.” (Haakim)

Our Beloved Nabi صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ took great care in keeping our Deen distinct and free from all foreign beliefs. When the disbelievers sought to create some alliance between Islam and their observances, our Beloved Nabi صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ did not compromise. Islam does not accommodate any kind of foreign ritual. **As Muslims, we have a characteristic dislike for any foreign ceremony. Sharing in any foreign ritual endangers our Imaan.**

The exchanging of gifts, watching firework displays, or even ‘simply’ wishing them well on such occasions is tantamount to participation in their festivals. **We should firmly abstain from such activities.**

The bursting of firecrackers in general is a wasteful activity. However, we should be careful not to engage in this activity particularly in the days surrounding their celebrations as this would be tantamount to imitating them.

The foolish custom of ‘trick or treat’ also has its origins in pagan customs.

Attending firework displays or watching the ‘neighbours’

Our Beloved Nabi Sallallahu alayhi wasallam said, “He who increases the assembly of a people is counted amongst them and he who is pleased with the actions of a nation, has a share in their actions.” (Al Mataalibul Aaliyah)

Du’aa

We should make a practice of reading this Du’aa daily to ask Allah for forgiveness if we inadvertently committed any error.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ أَنْ أَشْرِكَ بِكَ شَيْئًا وَ أَنَا أَعْلَمُ بِهِ وَأَسْتَغْفِرُكَ لِمَا لَا أَعْلَمُ

Allaa-humma innee a’udhu-bika min an ushrika bika shay-aw wa-ana a’lamu bihee wa-astaghfiruka limaa laa a’lam

O Allah! I seek refuge in You from ascribing any partner with You knowingly and I seek your forgiveness from that which I do not know.

Similarly, we should make the following du’a:

اللَّهُمَّ حَبِّبْ إِلَيْنَا الْإِيمَانَ وَزَيِّنْهُ فِي قُلُوبِنَا وَكَرِّهْ إِلَيْنَا الْكُفْرَ وَالْفُسُوقَ وَالْعِصْيَانَ وَاجْعَلْنَا مِنَ الرَّاشِدِينَ

Allaa-humma habbib ilay-nal Imaana wa zayyin-hu fi quloobina wa karrih-ilaynal kufra wal fusooqa wal ‘isyaana waj ‘alna minar raashideen
O Allah, make Imaan beloved to us and beautify it in our hearts. O Allah, grant us hatred for kufir, transgression and disobedience and make us from the among the righteous.

In addition, we should make Du’aa that Allah Ta’aala keeps us steadfast on Imaan and grants Hidayah to them as well. They are our neighbors and associates and we should have concern for their guidance and for the guidance of the entire mankind.

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