

HOW DO WE CELEBRATE?

It was not very long ago when we were infuriated with the audacious cartoons aimed at our beloved Nabī *sallāllahu alayhi wasallam*. We strengthened our love and allegiance to our Master *sallāllahu alayhi wasallam*. Let us now examine this commitment against the backdrop of the temptations of the festive season.

Hazrat Ibn Umar *radhiyallāhu 'anhu* narrates that Nabī *sallāllahu alayhi wasallam* said: **“He who imitates a nation, is from amongst them”**. (Sunan Abi Dāwūd 4031).

ATTENDING PROHIBITED GATHERINGS

A person once invited the illustrious Sahābī, Sayyidunā Abdullāh Ibn Mas'ūd *radhiyallāhu 'anhu* to a Walimah. When he reached the door, he heard the sounds of music, so he turned away and did not enter. Upon enquiry, he responded, I heard Nabī *sallāllahu alayhi wasallam* say **“He who increases the assembly of a people, (i.e. he attends the gathering and thereby increases the number of the attendees) is counted among them and he who is pleased with the actions of a nation, has a share in their actions.** (Al Matālib 1660).

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR RELATED FORBIDDEN ACTIVITIES

- Festive season's greetings – wishing people 'Merry Christmas' or 'Happy New Year'
- Christmas gifts to staff, domestics, municipal employees, security guards etc.
- Displaying Christmas lights or bells etc in our shops or on adverts, Christmas tree, Santa etc.
- Expressing joy at, or approval of the celebrations of the disbelievers.
- Attending New Year celebrations.
- Lighting fireworks or viewing fireworks displays.

JUST A SMALL GIFT

Abu Hafs Kabīr *rahīmahullāh* said: **“A person worships Allāh Ta'ālā for 50 years and then gives a polytheist an egg as a gift on the day of Nayrūz (holy day of the Coptic church) out of respect for that day, he has committed blasphemy and all his actions are destroyed**

It is not permissible for a Muslim to show any type of respect or reverence to any alien celebration or festival, or associate with it in any way. In doing so, one will be expressing happiness or approval of their disbelief and polytheistic practices and will be condoning their sins. We should totally refrain from this. Giving of gifts to staff members as appreciation for their services is allowed and commendable. This gifting should preferably be done in other months of the year.

NEW YEAR

There is no celebration associated with a New Year for a Muslim. Not even at the beginning of the new Islāmic year.

TURNING TO ALLAH TA'ĀLĀ IN REPENTANCE

We should resort to Tawbah (repentance) and stay away from the displeasure of Allāh Ta'ālā at all costs. The one who repents gets ease from straitened circumstances, relief from worries and sustenance from inconceivable sources. May Allāh Ta'ālā grant us true love for his Dīn and an aversion for the practises of those who disobey Allāh Ta'ālā. Āmīn

3 Jumād al-Ūlā 1442 / 18 December 2020 AOOIO



WIFĀQUL 'ULAMA (SA)
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ASPIRING TO PRESERVE THE ESSENCE OF SUNNAH