

Do Muslims Celebrate Christmas

AND THE STATUS OF
JESUS (AS) IN ISLAM

By Fareeha Aleem

What's the harm?

- I've seen many Muslims on social media decorating trees or having turkey dinners with family- it has become fashionable to do so.
- Christmas is just about family and sharing food- why can't we take part?





Origins of Christmas

- A Christian tradition that is originally derived from the Roman Pagan religion celebrating the winter solstice
- Feast celebrated in late December called Saturnalia
- People would decorate houses and trees, sing, light candles and give gifts
- Christian leaders adopted these traditions



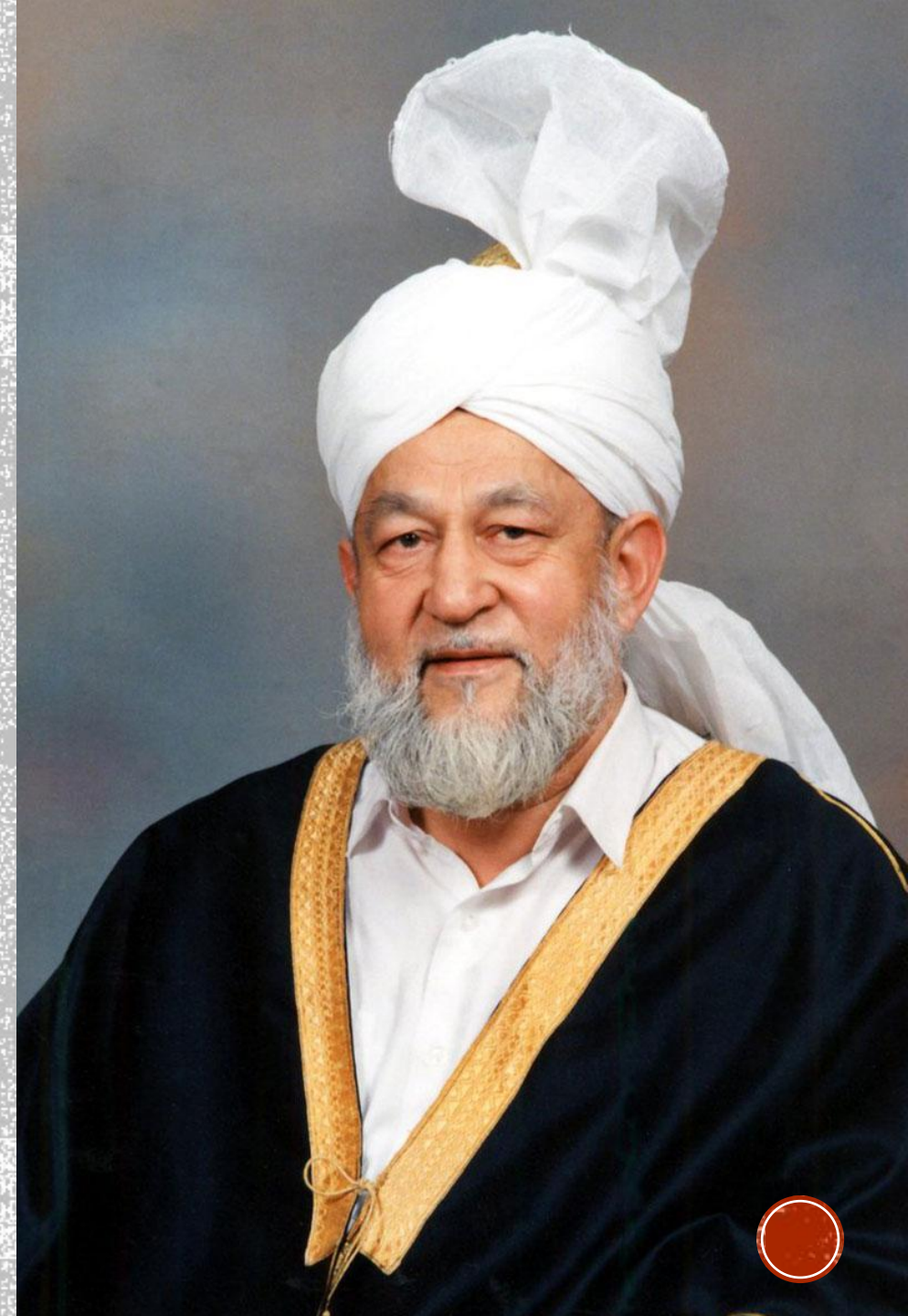
Muslims do not celebrate the birthdays of prophets!



Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVth states:

“Birthdays are not an Islamic tradition in themselves. In the early centuries of light, when Islam was pure, when Islam was all that it was created for, nobody ever held birthdays in memory of anyone else. For instance, Hazrat Muhammad’s^{sa} birthday – who was the founder of Islam – was never celebrated by his followers, by the followers of his followers, by the followers who followed in the generations thereafter.

“It’s a Western concept wedded to Islam, and unfortunately in the Western traditions. These are just celebrations creating irresponsibility rather than responsibility; sometimes they create disorder; sometimes they create disturbances of peace.”
(Question & Answer Session, recorded on 25 November 1984, The Fazl Mosque)



Birth of Jesus (as)?

The Holy Quran and the Bible itself proves that Jesus (as) was not born during winter

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night." [Gospel of Luke, New Testament]

"...the angel called her from beneath her, saying, 'Grieve not. Thy lord has placed a rivulet below thee; and shake towards thyself the trunk of the palm-tree; it will drop upon thee fresh ripe dates; so eat and drink and cool thine eye.'" [The Holy Qur'an 19:25-26]





So why do people think its his birthday?

"It was a custom of the heathen to celebrate on the same twenty-fifth of December the birthday of the Sun, at which they kindled lights in token of festivity. In these solemnities and festivities the Christians also took part. Accordingly when the doctors of the Church perceived that the Christians had a leaning to this festival, they took counsel and resolved that the true Nativity should be solemnised on that day ... Thus it appears that the Christian Church chose to celebrate the birthday of its Founder on the twenty-fifth of December in order to transfer the devotion of the heathen from the Sun to him who was called the Sun of Righteousness"

Islam on imitating others

- The Holy Prophet Muhammad^{sa} explicitly instructed, "The one who imitates those other than us [in faith and religious rituals] is not from among us. Do not imitate the Jews and Christians." (*Jami' al-Tirmidhi*, Chapters on Seeking Permission, 2695)

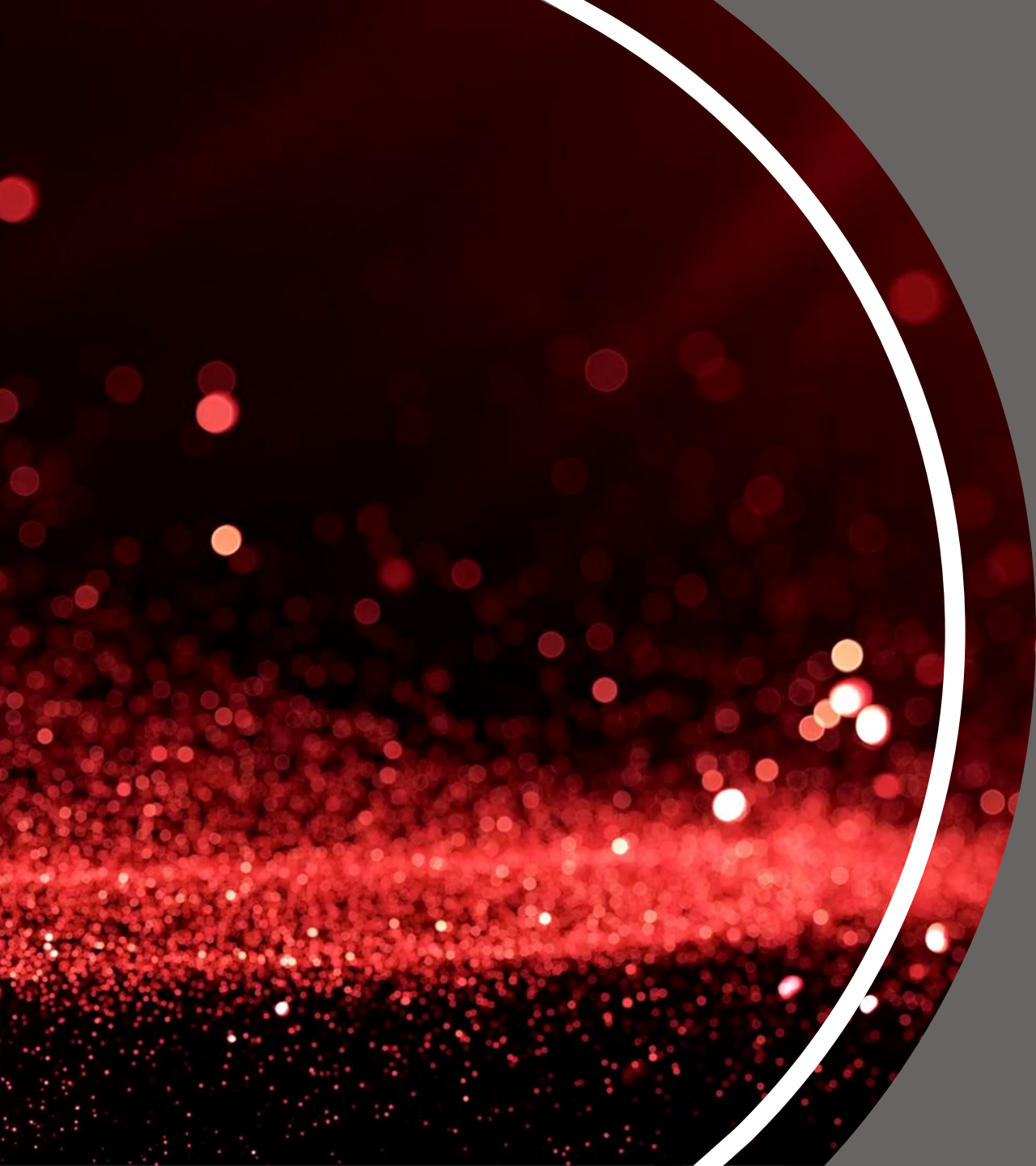
- Again, he declared:

"He who imitates any people [in their actions] is considered to be one of them." (*Sunan Abi Dawood*, Book of Clothing, 4031)

- The Promised Messiah^{as} emphasises this point when he states:

"How disgraceful it is that one is known to be from the Ummah of the magnificent Prophet^{sa}, but spends life like disbelievers."
(*Malfuzat* [Urdu], Vol. 2, p. 187, Published 1985)



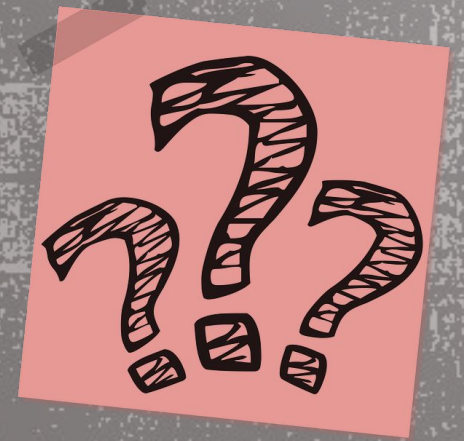


It not only relates to the birth of Jesus^{as}, whom Christians consider to be the son of god, but in fact goes as far back as the pagan practices of polytheistic peoples. Through celebrating Christmas, we are, knowingly or unknowingly, endorsing such values. It is for this reason that a Muslim celebrating Christmas is paradoxical because such celebrations contradict the fundamental tenets of our religion.

Status of Jesus (as) in Islam



Not the son of God but a beloved Prophet



Jesus (as) himself explained that he was not the literal son of God.

“The Jews picked up stones again to stone him. Jesus replied to them, ‘I showed you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you stoning Me?’ The Jews answered Him, ‘We are not stoning You for a good work, but for blasphemy; and because You, being a man, make Yourself out to be God.’ Jesus answered them, ‘Has it not been written in your Law: ‘I said, you are gods’? If he called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be nullified), are you saying of Him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God’?” [John 10:31-36]

“For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.” [Romans 8:14]

For Muslims

A chosen Prophet, ‘honored in this world and in the next, and of those who are granted nearness to God’
[Holy Quran 3:46]





World awaits the
economic opening of
China ...



“

I hold the Messiah son of Mary, in high esteem, inasmuch as I am spiritually the Khaatam-ul-Khulafaa [the Seal of the Caliphs] in Islam, just as the Messiah son of Mary was the Khaatam-ul-Khulafaa of the Israelite dispensation. The Son of Mary was the Promised Messiah of the Mosaic dispensation and I am the Promised Messiah of the dispensation of Muhammad [sa]; so I honor greatly the one whose name I bear. Anyone who asserts that I do not revere the Messiah son of Mary is mischievous and a liar.

”
A small red circular icon with a white outline, located at the bottom right of the text area.

So how can
we
commemorate
Jesus (as)?

- ✓ Follow his teachings of giving to charity
- ✓ Support the homeless
- ✓ Show love to our neighbours

The background features a dark field filled with numerous out-of-focus light spots in shades of red and white, creating a bokeh effect. A horizontal trail of fine, bright red particles or dust extends across the lower portion of the image, adding a sense of motion and depth.

Jazakallah for your
attention!