

## 12777 - Is It Permissible to Celebrate Non-Muslim Festivals?

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### the question

Is it permissible for Muslims to take part in their festivals such as Christmas?

### Summary of answer

It is not permissible for the Muslim to join the non-Muslims in their festivals and to express joy and happiness on these occasions, or to take the day off work, whether the occasion is religious or secular.

### Detailed answer

It is not permissible for the Muslim [to join the non-Muslims in their festivals](#) and to express joy and happiness on these occasions, or to take the day off work, whether the occasion is religious or secular. This is because [joining the non-Muslim festivals](#) is a kind of [imitating the enemies of Allah](#) , which is forbidden, and a kind of co-operating with them in falsehood. It was proven that the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: “Whoever imitates a people is one of them.” And Allah says (interpretation of the meaning):

“Help you one another in Al-Birr and At-Taqwa (virtue, righteousness and piety); but do not help one another in sin and transgression. And fear Allah. Verily, Allah is Severe in punishment.” [Al-Ma'idah 5:2]

We advise you to refer to the book *Iqtida' As-Sirat al-Mustaqim* by Shaykh Al-Islam Ibn Taymiyah (may Allah have mercy on him), for it is very useful on this topic. [Translator's note: This book is available in English under the title “The Right Way,” published by Darussalam, Riyadh].

And Allah is the source of strength. May Allah bless our Prophet Muhammad and his family and companions, and grant them peace.

For more details, please see the following answers: [106668](#) , [178136](#) , [85108](#) , and [13642](#) .

And Allah knows best.