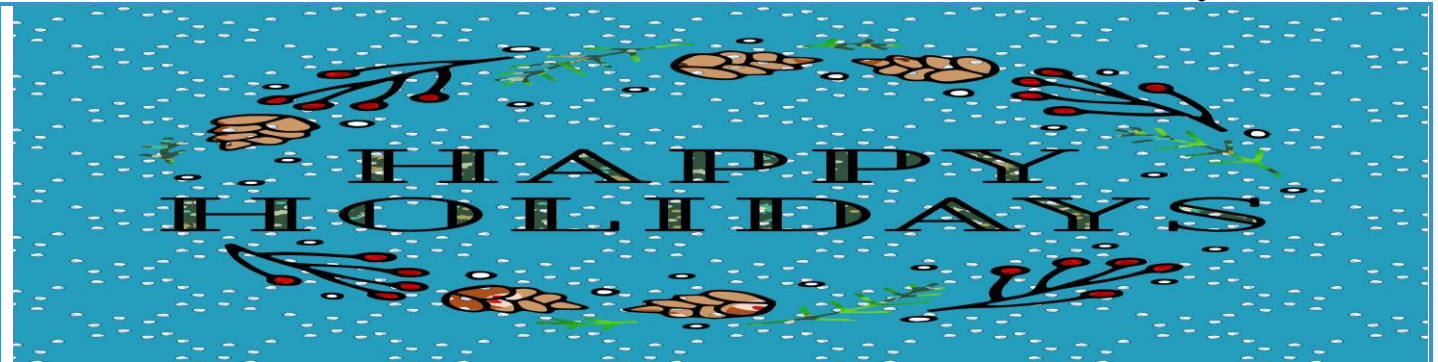


Newsletter

A Newsletter of the Mobile Islamic Community



READ THE HOLY QURAN DAILY

Maryam, Mother of Jesus

Surat Maryam (Mary) - سورة مريم
Holy Quran 19-34
Relate in the Book (the story of) Mary, when she withdrew from her family to a place in the East. She placed a screen (to screen herself) from them; then We sent her our angel, and he appeared before her as a man in all respects. She said: "I seek refuge from thee to (Allah) Most Gracious: (come not near) if thou dost fear Allah." He said: "Nay, I am only a messenger from thy Lord, (to announce) to thee the gift of a holy son. She said: "How shall I have a son, seeing that no man has touched me, and I am not unchaste?" He said: "So (it will be): Thy Lord saith, 'that is easy for Me: and (We wish) to appoint him as a Sign unto men and a Mercy from Us': It is a matter (so) decreed." So she conceived him, and she retired with him to a remote place. And the pains of childbirth drove her to the trunk of a palm-

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Read, Listen, and Study Lectures of Imam W.D. Muhammed

THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

By Imam W. Deen Muhammed
Bismillah ir Rahman ir Raheem

It is important that we American Muslims keep separate in our mind's eye the meaning of Christmas for the Church and Christmastide for (the assorted) players. The two spirits are as far apart as Christ and Old Nick. Most often, the Christian will be welcoming his holiday season as an opportunity for restoring his family's warmth and cheer. Many will meet the holiday as workers celebrating this chance to relax with relatives and friends for a few days. With reference to a saying of the Holy Prophet, your Imam calls attention to the fact that Muslims are to contribute to the wholesomeness of Christian religious holiday festivals: an indication of the Muslim role in promoting respect for wholesome and sacred celebrations is found in the teaching of Prophet

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Jumada Al Thani is the Sixth Month of the Islamic (Hijri) Calendar



Taqwa is a concept in Islam that is interpreted by some Islamic Scholars as G'd consciousness. It has many further understandings and interpretations. Taqwa may mean piousness, fear of God, love for God, and self-restraint. Taqwa combines consciousness and respect for Allah to guide us in our obedience to our Lord. It enables us to understand rights and wrongs, our beliefs, and develop self-awareness, to direct us in obeying Allah's commands to stay on a path of righteousness.

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tree: She cried (in her anguish): "Ah! would that I had died before this! would that I had been a thing forgotten and out of sight!" But (a voice) cried to her from beneath the (palm-tree): "Grieve not! for thy Lord hath provided a rivulet beneath thee; "And shake towards thyself the trunk of the palm-tree: It will let fall fresh ripe dates upon thee. "So eat and drink and cool (thine) eye. And if thou dost see any man, say, 'I have vowed a fast to (Allah) Most Gracious, and this day will I enter into not talk with any human being'" At length she brought the (babe) to her people, carrying him (in her arms). They said: "O Mary! truly an amazing thing hast thou brought! "O sister of Aaron! Thy father was not a man of evil, nor thy mother a woman unchaste!" But she pointed to the babe. They said: "How can we talk to one who is a child in the cradle?" He said: "I am indeed a servant of Allah: He hath given me revelation and made me a prophet; "And He hath made me blessed wheresoever I be, and hath enjoined on me Prayer and Charity as long as I live; "(He) hath made me kind to my mother, and not overbearing or miserable; "So peace is on me the day I was born, the day that I die, and the day that I shall be raised up to life (again)"! Such (was) Jesus the son of Mary: (it is) a statement of truth, about which they (vainly) dispute.



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The Meaning of Christmas

Muhammed, which prohibits arbitrary fasting during the holidays of people of the Book. The purpose serves to preserve and to promote solemn respect for G-d and for the sacred devotion of all people.

May we embrace the wholesome expressions and good cheer and warmhearted gifts in Christian society and not to celebrate non-Islamic holidays. A Muslim gives the signal of affirmation to whatever is good in society providing that Muslim's role in encouraging the good does not violate law, principle or spirit of Al-Islam.

The following words of caution are as much in the spirit of, and compatible with, established Christian virtues as with the Islamic faith itself: Bad deeds lead to ruin. Good deeds lead to salvation. Allah orders the doing of good by the close relatives, by the needy, and by the down-and-out stranger. Feeding the fires of lust gives the victim to sin and corruption. The spendthrifts are the brothers of the devils.

Holiness and cheerful season's greetings to all our Christian friends and neighbors.



NOTE: This article appeared in several publications long before Imam W. Deen Muhammed passed. Use it as a tool to invite interdenominational dialogue between and among "people of the Book", family, and friends.

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Reflecting on the attributes of Allah gives us an opportunity to develop our G'd consciousness and polish our taqwa. When we consider traits or attributes such as Al-Lateef, Al-Khaafid, or Al-Saboor, we should try to be kind, humble, and patient. If we leave behind our unkindness, harshness, haughtiness, and intolerance with others, we will be more able to live a life of Taqwa. Below are some attributes with Quranic references. Study and increase your taqwa.

- الْمُقَدِّمُ AL-MUQADDIM The Expediter, The Promoter
- الْمُؤَخِّرُ AL-MU'AKHKHIR The Delayer, the Retarder
- الْأَوَّلُ AL-AWWAL The First
- الْآخِرُ AL-AAKHIR The Last
- الْمُظَاهِرُ AZ-DHAAHIR The Manifest
- الْبَاطِنُ AL-BAATIN The Hidden One, Knower of the Hidden
- الْوَالِي AL-WAALI The Governor, The Patron
- الْمُتَعَالِي AL-MUTA'ALI The Self Exalted
- الْبَرُّ AL-BARR The Source of Goodness, the Kind Benefactor
- التَّوَّابُ AT-TAWWAB The Ever-Pardoning, The Relenting
- الْمُنْتَقِمُ AL-MUNTAQIM The Avenger
- الْعَفُوُّ AL-'AFUWW The Pardoner
- الْمُقْسِطُ AL-MUQSIT The Equitable, the Requirer
- الْجَامِعُ AL-JAAMI' The Gatherer, the Uniter
- الْقَنِيُّ AL-GHANIYY The Self-Sufficient, The Wealthy
- الْمُغْنِيُ AL-MUGHNI The Enricher
- الْمَانِعُ AL-MANI' The Withholder
- الْحَزَّارُ AD-DHARR The Distresser
- النَّافِعُ AN-NAFI' The Propitious, the Benefactor
- النُّورُ AN-NUR The Light, The Illuminator

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