

## The Islamic Legal Ruling Concerning Valentine's Day (Eid al-Hubb)

Some people celebrate *Yawm al-Hubb* – Valentine's Day - the 14<sup>th</sup> of February [2<sup>nd</sup> Month of the Christian (Gregorian Calendar)] every year by exchanging *red roses* as gifts. They also dress up in *red clothing*, and congratulate one another (on this occasion). Some sweet shops produce special sweets – red in color – and draw *hearts* upon them. Some shops advertise their goods which are specially related to this day.

What is your view [concerning the following]:

1. Celebrating this day?
2. Buying from these shops on this day?
3. Selling - by shop-owners who are not celebrating – the things which are used as gifts, to those who are celebrating?

May Allah reward you with all Good!

### The Ruling

After the Legal Committee's study of this matter – it's response is that the clear evidence from the Qur'an and Sunnah – and this is agreed upon by consensus (*Ijmaa'*) of the Early Generations of the Muslim Ummah – indicate the fact that the Eids (Days of Celebration) in Islam are only two: Eid al-Fitr (after the fast of Ramadan) and Eid al-Adha (after the Standing at Arafah for Pilgrimage).

Every other Eid – whether it is connected to a person, group, incident or any other occasion – is an *innovated Eid*. It is not permissible for the Muslim people to *participate* in it, *approve* of it, make any show of *happiness* on its occasion, or *assist* in it in any way – since this will be transgressing the bounds of Allah. “...and whoever transgresses the bounds of Allah, he has wronged his own self.” [at-Talaaq 65:1]

If we add to this *fabricated Eid* the fact that it is one of the *Eids* of the disbelievers – it is sin upon sin. This is because it is *Tashabbuh* (imitation) of the disbelievers, and a type of *Muwaalaat* (loyalty) to them. And Allah has prohibited the believers from imitation of them and having love or loyalty for them in His Mighty Book (al-Qur'aan). It is also confirmed from the Prophet that he said: “*Whoever imitates a people is one of them*”. [Reported by Abu Daawood, Ahmad and others. And it is a Hasan (good) Hadeeth]

*Eid al-Hubb* (Valentine’s Day) comes under the category of what has been mentioned here, since it is one of the Pagan Christian Holidays. Hence it is not permissible for any Muslim, who believes in Allah and the Last Day, to *participate* in it, *approve* of it, or *congratulate* (anyone on that occasion). On the contrary, it is obligatory to abandon it and stay far away from it – in response to Allah and His Messenger (ﷺ), and to distance oneself from the anger of Allah and His punishment.

Additionally, it is forbidden for a Muslim to *assist* or *help* in this *Eid*, or any other of the forbidden/illegal celebrations in any way whatsoever – whether by *food* or *drink*, *selling* or *buying*, *production*, *gift-giving*, *correspondence*, *announcements* etc. All of these things are considered as *cooperating in sin and transgression* and *disobedience* of Allah and His Messenger (ﷺ). Allah, the Glorious and Most High, says: “...and cooperate with one another in righteousness and piety, and do not cooperate in sin and transgression. And fear Allah! Verily Allah is Severe in punishment.” [al-Maa’idah 5:2 ]

Likewise, it is obligatory for every Muslim to adhere strictly to the Qur’aan and Sunnah in every situation – especially in times of temptations and corruption. It is incumbent that he/she understand, be aware and be cautioned from falling into the deviations of those whom Allah is angry with (Jews) and those who are astray (Christians) and the immoral people who have no fear of punishment - nor hope of reward - from Allah, and who give no attention at all to Islaam.

It is necessary for the Muslim to flee to Allah, the Most High, seeking His *Hidayah* (Guidance) and *Thabaat* (Firmness) upon the Path. Verily, there is no Guide except Allah, and no One Who can Grant Firmness except Him. And the Success is from Allah! May the Praise of Allah - among the Assembly of the angels - and Security from all harm and evil be granted to Our Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) and his Family and Companions.

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