

AOI PRESENTS: THE TRUE HISTORY BEHIND



Over 2,000 years ago, the Celts celebrated the end of the harvest season on Oct. 31. They believed that on that night, ghosts of the dead returned to earth to wreak havoc on their crops and possess the living.

COLOSSIANS 2:8 "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."

THE ORIGIN

Halloween has its origins in the Celtic festival of Samhain and the Christian feast of All Saints Day. In large part, is a secular celebration although some believe that has a religious undertone. The word Halloween is a derivation of the phrase All Hallow's Eve. Formerly, the Celts believed that the line between this world with the Underworld opened in the day of Samhain (Halloween) allowing good and evil spirits, to pass through.



Halloween is a holiday celebrated each year on October 31, and Halloween 2022 will occur on Monday, October 31. The tradition originated with the ancient Celtic festival of **Samhain**, when people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off ghosts. In the eighth century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1 as a time to honor all saints. Soon, All Saints Day incorporated some of the traditions of Samhain. The evening before was known as All Hallows Eve, and later Halloween. Over time, Halloween evolved into a day of activities like trick-or-treating, carving jack-o-lanterns, festive gatherings, donning costumes and eating treats.

Halloween Traditions



Trick-or-Treating

On All Souls' Day in England, people would give out pastries in exchange for prayers for dead relatives.



Masks & Costumes

Ancient Celts would wear masks to avoid being recognized by ghosts.



Orange & Black

In pagan harvest celebrations, orange symbolizes crops and black represents the death of summer.



Jack O' Lantern

Scary faces were carved into turnips and potatoes in the Middle Ages to ward off evil spirits.

**HALLOWEEN
IS**

**EVIL
MADNESS**

**WICKED
FOLLY**

**UNSAFE
SIN**

**EXTORTION
PROMOTED BY CHRISTIANITY**

SLAVERY



Around 43 A.D., once the Romans had conquered Celtic territory, they took the festival of Samhain and combined it with two of their own festivals: Feralia, a day to remember the dead, and the festival of Pomona, a day to celebrate the goddess whose symbol was the apple.

Eventually, we came around; Halloween is now America's 2nd largest commercial holiday.

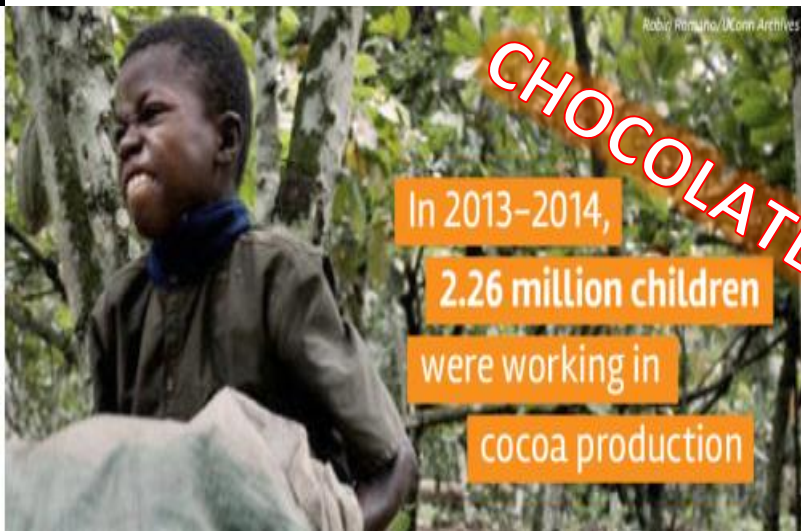
Approximately \$4 billion is spent annually on costumes, decorations and parties. Candy consumption alone makes up \$2 billion. The candy industry makes a quarter of the year's revenue during Halloween alone.



Halloween has always been a holiday filled with mystery, magic and superstition. It began as a Celtic end-of-summer festival during which people felt especially close to deceased relatives and friends. For these friendly spirits, they set places at the dinner table, left treats on doorsteps and along the side of the road and lit candles to help loved ones find their way back to the spirit world.

Why do people trunk or treat?

Originally started by church groups with the aim of providing a safer environment for trick-or-treaters on Halloween, trunk or treat involves a community coming together in a parking lot, either on the 31st or shortly before, so that children can trick-or-treat out of the decorated trunks of their cars.



**In 2013-2014,
2.26 million children
were working in
cocoa production**

Mars is next: Human rights group to sue more chocolate companies after child slavery lawsuit against Nestlé and Cargill allowed to proceed

By Douglas Yu
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