

HALLOWEEN WITCHES

Origins and Traditions



ORIGINS



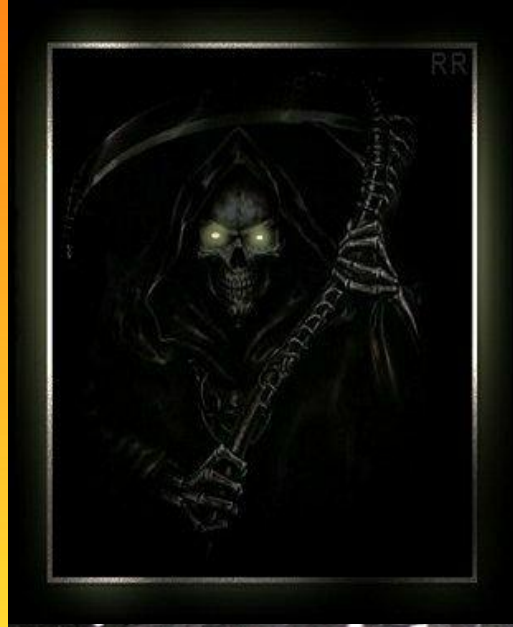
Halloween began two thousand years ago in Ireland, England, and Northern France with the ancient religion of the Celts (Paganism).



THEY CELEBRATED THEIR NEW_YEAR ON NOVEMBER 1ST

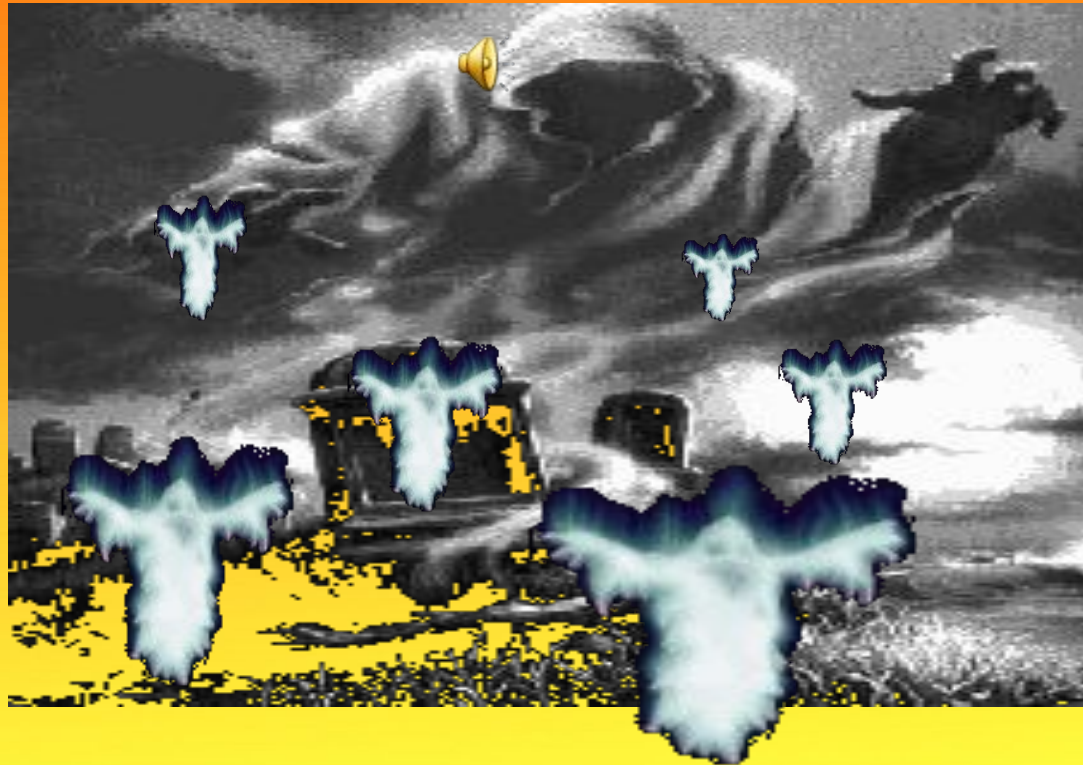


This day marked the beginning of the dark, cold winter, a time of year that was often associated with human death.



SAMHAIN (SOW-IN)

On the night of October 31, they celebrated Samhain, when it was believed that the ghosts of the dead returned to earth.



COSTUMES



People thought that they would encounter ghosts if they left their homes...



SO THEY WORE COSTUMES.



This way, the ghosts couldn't recognize them!



THE CHRISTIAN INFLUENCE



As the influence of Christianity spread into Celtic lands, in the 7th century, Pope Boniface IV introduced *All Saints' Day*, a time to honor saints and martyrs, to replace the Pagan festival of *Samhain*. It was celebrated on May 13th.



A CHANGE OF DATE



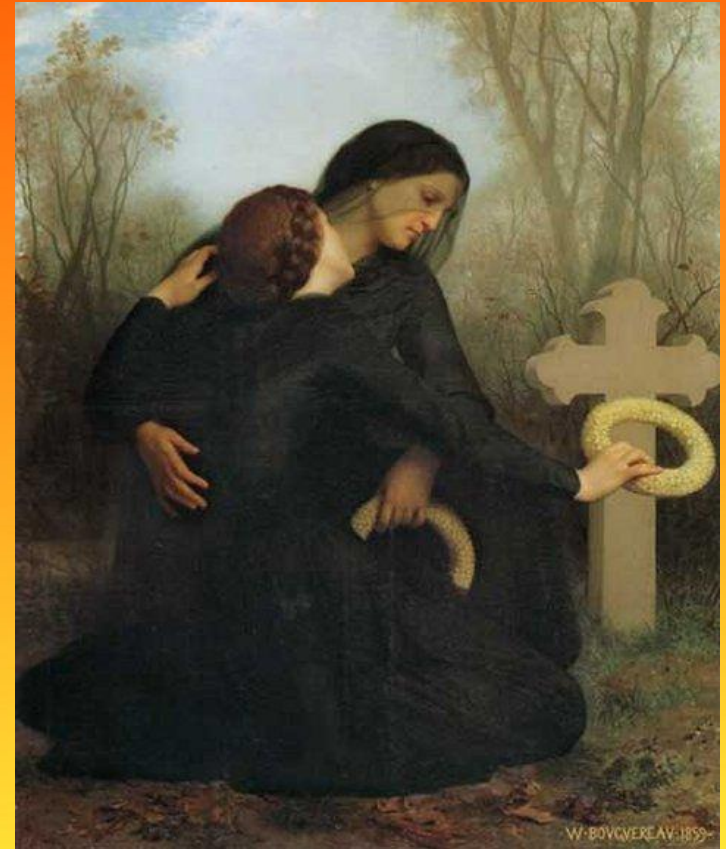
ö In 834, Pope Gregory III moved All Saint's Day from May 13th to Nov. 1st. Oct. 31st thus became All Hallows' Eve ('hallow' means 'saint').



ALL SOULS DAY



November 2nd, called *All Souls Day*, is the day set apart in the Roman Catholic Church for the commemoration of the dead.



TRICK-OR-TREATING BEGAN WITH THE POOR IN THE 15TH CENTURY...



During the *All Souls Day* festival in England, poor people would beg for "soul cakes," made out of square pieces of bread with currants. Families would give soul cakes in return for a promise to pray for the family's relatives



THEN CHILDREN ***

The practice was taken up by children who would visit the houses in their neighborhood and be given ale, food, and money.



TODAY:



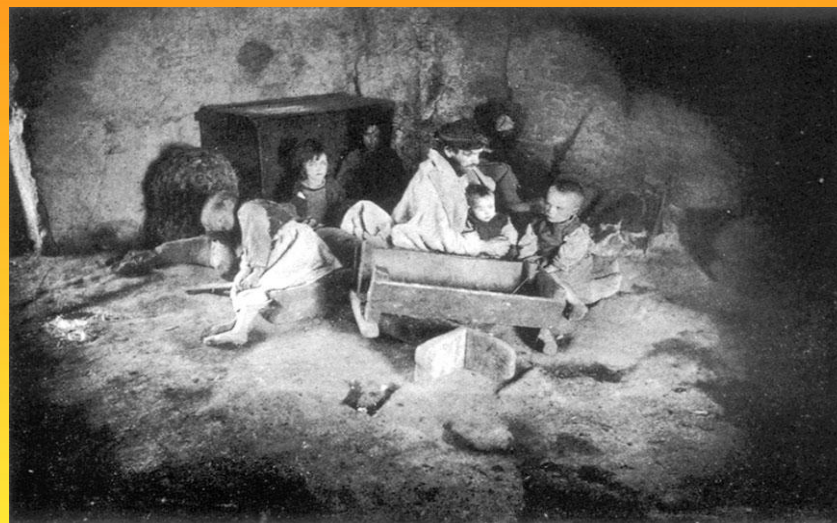
Children still go from house-to-house, but instead of ale, food, and money, they get sweets.



WITH IRISH IMMIGRATION...



In 1848, millions of Irish emigrants poured into America as a result of the potato famine. They brought with them their traditions of Halloween.



CAME TO



They called Halloween *Oidche Shamhna* ("Night of Samhain"), as their ancestors had, and kept the traditional observances.



THE TACK-O-LANTERN



The Irish carried turnips with candles in them to light their way at night and to scare away ghosts..



WHEN THEY ARRIVED IN AMERICA THEY FOUND

that pumpkins were both plentiful and easier to carve than turnips.



ARE USED FOR
DECORATING PEOPLE'S
HOMES.



RECENTLY STARTED CARVING LESS TRADITIONAL



TODAY PEOPLE GO TO PARTIES...



TRICK-OR-TREATING



AND EAT LOTS OF SWEETS!



IF YOU DON'T GIVE A
SWEET TO A
TRICK-OR-TREATER...



AND YOU CAN HAPPEN TO YOU!



HAPPY



HALLOWEEN!



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