

Irrevocable of Christmas Celebration in Ashanti Region of Ghana: Documentation from Ejisu

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ABSTRACT

The study adopted explanatory research design, research strategy used was cross-sectional survey, research approach used was qualitative approach, the population of the study were twenty six churches including Moselms, sampling size were 1000 samples, sampling design were pastors, individual church members and Moselms, the source of data collection were primary and secondary sources, method of data collection were research and collection of data. The problem statement of the study was "Irrevocable of Christmas celebration in the Ashanti Region of Ghana: Documentation from Ejisu". The objectives of the study were achieved. Concerning the literature review the study considered what other authors had written about the subject under study. The study found out history of Christmas celebration, reasons why people celebrated Christmas Holidays, the day Jesus Christ was born and how Christians felt during Christmas Holidays. The study generalized that Christians celebrated Christmas Holidays to remember the birth of Jesus Christ. The study recommended that pastors should preach and teach their to know and understand that Jesus Christ was not born on Christmas Day. Actors and Actresses ought to act films to teach the general public to know that Jesus Christ was not born on Christmas Day.

BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Christmas is Christians festival to recall the birth of Jesus Christ. From the early 20th century Christmas had been celebrated by Christians and non Christians without Christian element and there was evidence of exchange of gifts. Secular Christmas celebration matches "Santa Clause" which plays important. The Early Christians differentiate between the birth of Jesus Christ and the Liturgical celebration of Christmas. The celebration of Jesus' birthday was delayed. During the first two centuries of Christianity, there was argument about the men who died for their faith. Christmas is a period of praises and thanksgiving because the God man has appeared in the flesh. It starts from December 24th after Sunset through the day of Epiphany. The word "Epiphany" is derived from the Greek Language know as "Ephania" meaning "manifestation". United Methodist Church celebrate New Year's Day with the intention to observe Covenant Renewal Service.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To find out the reasons why people celebrate Christmas Holidays

To find out the date of birth of Jesus Christ

To find out how people feel during Christmas Season

ORIGIN OF CHRISTMAS

The word "Christmas" is derived from Pagan and Romans Cultures. The Romans celebrated two holidays in the month of December. The first holiday was Saturnalia and it was two weeks festival to honor the god of Agriculture, Saturn. The Romans celebrated the birthday of Mithra on 25th, December. Mithra was the Sun God but the two festivals there were evidence of merry-making. In December the Pagan Cultures lit bonfires and candles to preserve the darkness at Bay. The Romans adapted the Pagan Cultures as part of their celebration. Christianity spread to Europe and Christian leaders could not eradicate the Pagan customs and celebration. Christian

leaders adapted the Pagan rituals as part of Jesus' birthday celebration.

THESIS STATEMENT: The problem statement of the study was "Irrevocable of Christmas celebration in the Ashanti Region of Ghana: Documentation from Ejisu". The study found out the reasons why people celebrate Christmas Holidays, the date of birth of Jesus Christ and how people felt during Christmas Season.

THE HISTORY OF CHRISTMAS

Around the Middle of winter was a season of celebration in the world. Before Christ Jesus came into the world, Europeans celebrated light and birth in the darkest days of winter. A lot of people were glad at the time of winter solstice. During the worst winter, they expected longer days and more hours of sunlight. From December through January in Scandinavia the Norse celebrated Yule which began from 21, the winter solstice through January. As honoring the coming back of the Sun, fathers and sons brought food and they put them on fire. They feasted till the logs burned which 12 days. The Norse accepted that spark from the fire stood for a new pig that would be born in the coming year. The month of December was a good time for celebration in many parts of Europe. During that time, many cattles were killed and they realized that it was not important to feed at winter time. A lot accepted that it was the year they were given fresh meat. Many wine and bear were prepared in the year but fermented ready for drinking. In Germany people regarded oden, the Pagan God in the mid winter holiday. The oden the Germans feared him and believed that he journeyed through the sky to observe who could prosper or destroy. Due to this, a lot of people prefer to stay indoor. In Rome winters were cool like in the North, a holiday celebrated to honor the god of agriculture. The agriculture god was known as Saturn. From the week throughout the winter solstice and progress to a month. Saturnalia was hedonistic time, food and drinks were common but Romans social order was changed. About a

month people taken captive we're set free for while and were treated the same. Business activities stopped and schools were closed in order for everybody to involve in the holidays. During winter solstice, the Romans observed juvenalia as the means to respect the children of Rome. Upper classes celebrated the birthday of Mithra on 25th, December. Mithra was the god of the Sun and it was believed that rock gave birth to Mithra. Some Romans Mithra's birthday was considered as holy day of the year. At the time of early Christianity the birthday of Jesus Christ was not celebrated but Easter holidays was celebrated. Around 4th century church leaders planned to make the birthday of Jesus Christ as holiday. However, the Bible does not specify the day Jesus Christ was born. Some sources proof that His birthday may happen on spring. Pop Julius declared 25th, December as the birthday of Jesus Christ. The early church followed Pop Julius' date in order to practice the tradition of the pagan. This festival is known as the feast of the nativity. The pagan festival spread to Egypt around 432 and England getting to the end of the sixth century. Through celebrating Christmas like the pagan festival, the church leaders created opportunity that Christmas would be universally accepted. The church did not instruct about how Christmas should be celebrated. In the Middle Ages Christianity had adopted the Pagan religion. During Christmas holidays Christians went to church and celebrated the Christmas holidays just like what is happening today.

LITERATURE REVIEW

There are countless papers written about Christmas holidays celebration and these papers have educated the general public to know the need to celebrate Christmas holidays. Notwithstanding the views of the authors the study investigated into "Irrevocable of Christmas holidays celebration in the Ashanti Region of Ghana: Documentation from Ejisu". Due to the nature of the topic, the study examined what other authors have written concerning the title under study. In reference to

(www.officeholidays.n.d) an article written entitled "Day after Christmas in 2023" states that Christmas Day celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ which happens on 25th, December, 1BC. On 25th, December public holiday is declared in many nations in the world. When 25th, December occurs on weekend, a week day may be chosen as holiday in Lieu. Since the holiday is connected with the birth of Jesus Christ, a lot of the traditions we link with Christmas originate from pre-Christmas beliefs. The Christmas celebration in the late December is the out come of celebrations which existed before occurring during that time indicating the winter solstice. An example of this is Yule winter pagan festival celebrated by Germanic people. The actual date of Yule is based on the lunar cycle and it occurs on the late December through early January. In reference to (www.publicholidays.n.d) an article written entitled "Christmas 2023, 2024 and 2025 in Ghana" declares that Christmas time starts from 20th, December through the first week in January and public holiday observe on 25th December being the Christmas Day. The Christmas Day goes with celebrations but many people visit their families in other parts of the nation. The celebration begins when believers in Christ go to midnight masses and church services, act play, sing and dance. Sometimes they dance all the night. On the Christmas Day there are evidence of fireworks, parties, a lot of people attend church, go home to exchange gifts and enjoy foods like okra soup, porridge and fufu. Respect to the views of the authors, the study investigated into the reasons why people celebrate Christmas Holidays, the date of birth of Jesus Christ and how people feel during Christmas season in the Ejisu community

REASONS WHY PEOPLE CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

The angel of God said the birth of Jesus Christ was great joy to the world. The announcement of His birth is good news to mankind. An announcement which gives us hope for the future and educate us to know that it is blessings to

follow the path of God. The birth of Jesus proofs that Jesus Christ is truly the son of God. The word "Christmas" is derived from the phrase "Christ-Mass". During this time, believers in Christ go to Mass service to recall the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The ceremony which occurred after Sunset was "Christ-Mass". We remember the love of God through celebrating Christmas holidays. This helps us to know what we should do because Jesus Christ sacrificed His life for mankind. The atmosphere of Christmas is joy and set us free from stress. Children are permitted to involve in the celebration. Celebrating Christmas holidays at school encourages unity and friendliness. Christmas is season to study about God, Christian faith, promotes family love, joy and selflessness life. Christmas enables families to come together and spend some to share ideas. Children meet and get know their family members. During Christmas celebration, we allow children to involve in decorating and cleaning home. Christmas is season to exchange gifts to our loved ones and buy precious gifts to our friends and families in order to experience the joy of giving. Christmas brings families together and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ on 25th December. We go to church to worship God for His wonderful gift has given to the world. We accept that Jesus Christ is the savior of the world who delivers us from sin. We recall the religious aspect of Christianity and Jesus' doctrines. Christmas creates chance to bring people together in the manner of love and peace. Christmas is time to meet together and spread joy to people around us. We ponder on the meaning of Christmas holidays and show kindness to people who are in need. Christmas is time we eat special foods our families prepare for us.

DATE OF BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST

The Bible does not mention Jesus' birthday and none of the historical sources confirm His birthday. A lot of Biblical scholars believed that He was born between 6BC and 4BC. That is the year king Herod joined His ancestors. The

historical sources are not certain on His date of birth but year is assumed as His date of birth base on three sources.

- The story of Jesus' birth narrated in the gospels of Luke and Matthew.
- The beginning of Jesus' earthly ministry.
- Astrological evidence

The Bible is silent on the Jesus' date of birth confirmed by New Catholic Encyclopedia. The actual date of birth of Jesus is unknown declared by Encyclopedia of Early Christianity

HOW PEOPLE FEEL DURING CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Children have short vacation from school, exchange gifts, traditions and experience magic of Santa Claus. A lot of Christmas activities are fun, family become united. As for children, it is possible to experience positive emotions at Christmas holidays. The way children treat Christmas holidays depend on how their parents value Christmas. Adults experience anxiety during Christmas holidays. Anxiety is caused by the factors below:

- Examining the whole year's project
- Thinking about buying gifts
- Planning about how to spend Christmas holidays.
- Attending holiday parties and company dinners.
- Attending other social gathering. Some adults feel chaotic and become stressed. If we lose a friend or a family member, we will not be in a happy mood. During Christmas time, some people feel close to God as the way of welcoming Jesus Christ Others see Christmas like getting to the manger, welcome the newborn, Jesus, greeting Mary, Joseph and the Shepherds to sense the atmosphere of blessings.. It is not everybody that feels happy at Christmas time but feels panic. This is happening to people in conflict zone.

METHODOLOGY

Introduction

This chapter covers research design, strategy, approach, population of the study, sample size, sampling design, source of data collection and method of data collection. The study used explanatory research design because it was best method to examine and explain the data collected. The research strategy used was cross-sectional survey where a number churches and Islamic Religion were chosen as a case study. The research approach used was qualitative in sense that the study was interested in the irrevocable of Christmas celebration. The population, sampling size, sampling design, source of data collection and method of data collection were thoroughly examined.

SAMPLING SIZE: The sampling size of the study were 1000 samples.

SAMPLING DESIGN: The pastors, individual church members, Moslems and 26 churches were considered in this study.

POPULATION OF THE STUDY: Twenty six churches and Moslems and the names of the churches were Church of Christ, Methodist Church, Presbyterian Church of Baptist Ghana, Salvation Army, J.W, Seventh Day Advanist Church, Assemblies of God, Church, Roman Catholic Church, House of Zion, Agape Church, Freeman Methodist Church, Hand of God Ministry, Bethel Methodist, Zion Evangelistic Ministry, Believers Prayer Center, Victory in Christ,, True Faith, Heaven Rain, Jesus Power, The Word of Apostles Ministry, Pillar of Zion Church and Moselms.

SOURCE OF DATA: The source of collecting data to write this paper were primary and secondary sources.

METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION: The method of collecting data to write this paper were research and structured questionnaires. Through research, the study considered what other authors had written about the topic under study. Structured questionnaires were the data collection instrument. Questionnaires were shared to the church members and answers were provided.

METHOD OF DATA ANALYSIS: The views of individual church members and Moselms were thoroughly analyzed.

DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSIONS OF FINDINGS

Introduction

This chapter dealt with analysis of data collected from the field, qualitative techniques were used to analyzed the data and the results were as follows:

RESPONSE FROM CONGREGATION

Name of Denomination: Orthodox

Reasons for Christmas celebration

"To mark the birth of Jesus Christ": This means the orthox churches accepted that Jesus Christ was born on Christmas day.

"To remember the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ": They were certain that He was on Christmas Day.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": They understood that He was born on Christmas Day.

"I don't celebrate Christmas holidays": That is, they did not believe that He was born Christmas Day.

"I don't celebrate Christmas holidays": They were interested in the celebration of Christmas holidays.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": They believed He was on Christmas Day.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": This means they have been taught that He was born Christmas Day.

"It serves as a commeno ration of the birth of the Messiah, Jesus Christ": That is they believed He was on Christmas Day.

"We celebrate Christmas Day as the anniversary of the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, A spiritual": That means they accepted He was born Christmas Day and it had spiritual implications.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": They agreed that He was Christmas Day.

"I don't celebrate Christmas holidays": This implies that he did not accept He was born Christmas Day.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ" : This means they believed He was born on Christmas Day.

"To remember the birth of Christ": They agreed He was born on Christmas Day.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": They believed He was born Christmas Day.

"We celebrate Christmas to remember the birth of Jesus Christ": This means they accepted He was born Christmas Day.

"I don't celebrate Christmas holidays": This implies He did not believe He was born on Christmas Day.

"I don't celebrate Christmas holidays": That means He did not agree He was born Christmas Day.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": That means they accepted He was born Christmas Day.

" I don't celebrate Christmas holidays: This implies He did not agree that He born on Christmas Day.

"I don't celebrate Christmas holidays": He did not accept that He was born Christmas Day.

"Thanksgiving and worship to the Almighty God": That means they were pleased with His mercy and protection throughout the year.

"To remember the birth Jesus Christ": They believed that He was born Christmas Day.

"It is joyful celebration that brings unity": They accepted it as a day to settle dispute among friends and family members.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": This impllies that they believed He was born on Christmas Day.

"To rest": They regarded Christmas celebration as time to rest from work.

The date of birth of Jesus Christ

"I don't know": That means He did not know the particular day Jesus Christ was born.

"Jesus was not born on 25 the December": We did not accept December, 25 as His birthday.

"I don't know the birthday of Jesus Christ": He did not know the actual day He was born.

"25th December": They believed that He was born on Christmas day.

"1st April": They did not accept that He was born on Christmas Day.

"May": They did not accept Christmas as His birthday.

"The Bible did not stated but he was born on Christmas Day": They agreed with the date the world had accepted as Jesus' birthday.

"25th December": They believed He was born on Christmas Day.

"25th December": They accepted that He was on Christmas Day.

"I don't know": He lack knowledge about the actual day He was born.

"Christmas was not the day He was born": They did not believe He was born on Christmas Day.

"25th December": They agreed that He was born on Christmas Day.

"25th December": They accepted that He was born Christmas Day.

"It is not specifically quoted or stated in the Scripture, but we the Christians do attribute the day on 25th of December": They agreed with the date the world had accepted.

"25th December": They believed He was born on Christmas Day.

"I have forgotten": He had been informed but couldn't remember.

"25th December": They accepted He was born on Christmas Day.

"I don't know": She lacked knowledge of the particular day He was born.

"25th December": They agreed that He was born on Christmas Day.

"I don't know": She lacked knowledge about His birthday

"25th December/DCE/B.C.E., B.C.E means Before Christ Era"

"I dd not know": She lacked knowledge about the day He was born.

"I don't know the birth date of Jesus Christ": She lacked knowledge of the particular day He was born.

How Christians feel during Christmas holidays

"I regard it as the normal days": She saw nothing special about Christmas holidays.

"I feel happy": She might be happy about Jesus' birth or the protection of God.

"I feel nothing special about Christmas holidays": He did not value Christmas celebration.

"I feel happy": He sensed God's protection upon him.

"I feel happy": She felt the kindness of God.

"It feels happy to me because, Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus the Messiah": She felt happy because the Savior was born": So excited and amazed": He wonder about the mercies and kindness of God.

"Feeling of rebirth in Christ": He was happy the birth of Jesus was remembered.

" Very excited, joyful or gladness for Christ of my Lord our savior": They were happy due Jesus' birthday.

"I feel happy because Christ is born": She was happy because God had favored world.

"I feel happy because Christ is born to us": He was happy in the sense that had been merciful to mankind.

"I feel happy because I will go out with my friends": She would enjoy with her friends that they were still alive.

"I feeling happy that Christ is born": He had recalled the kindness of God.

"I don't feel like cerebrating the birth of Christ because the Bible does not say Christ was born on Christmas holidays": That is She celebrated Christmas holidays not because of Christ's birthday.

"I feel happy": She celebrated Christmas holidays because of God's protection.

"I feel so happy that is born": He might be happy for being alive.

"I feel happy on the Christmas Day: She felt happy for God's protection over her life.

"I feel happy during the holiday because his birth has brought peace to the whole world": He felt frantic because His birthday was day God redeemed from sin.

"I feel happy for those who celebrate Christmas holidays": Personally She did not involve in the Christmas celebration.

"I feel happy for those who celebrate Christmas holidays": She followed those who celebrated Christmas but personally was not involved.

"I feel happy that Christ is born to us": He was remembering the day man was delivered from sin.

"I feel nothing special about Christmas holidays: She did not value Christmas celebration.

"I feel like the normal days": She regarded nothing special about Christmas celebration.

"I feel proud for being alive: He respected divine protection over his life

"Good and love": They saw that God had demonstrated affection and helped them in all sphere of life.

RESPONSE FROM CONGREGATION

Name of Denomination: Pentecostal

Reasons for Christmas celebration

"I don't celebrate Christmas Holidays": This means she did not accept that Christ was born Christmas Day".

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": That is they agreed that He was born on Christmas Day.

"To celebrate the birth of Christ": They believed He was born on Christmas Day.

"I don't celebrate Christmas I just enjoy the holidays": She celebrated Christmas Holidays not because of Christ's birth but due to her own personal reasons.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": This implies they believed that He was born on Christmas Day.

"To we Christians, we celebrate Christmas to remember the birth of Jesus Christ": They accepted the He was born on Christmas Day.

"Because it brings peace among us: They had known that Christmas Holidays promoted peace in the human institution.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": They agreed that He was born on Christmas Day.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": They believed He was born on Christmas Day.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": They believed He was born on Christmas Day.

"To remember the birth of Christ": They had accepted that He was born on Christmas Day.

"Because it is celebrated to remember the birth of Jesus Christ": They believed He was born on Christmas Day.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": They had accepted that He was born on Christmas Day.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": They had believed that He was born on Christmas Day.

"To mark the birth of Jesus Christ": They had accepted that He was born on Christmas Day.

"To remember the day Jesus was born: They agreed that He was born Christmas Day.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": They believed He was born on Christmas Day.

"I don't celebrate Christmas Holidays": He did not accept that He was born on Christmas Day.

"To remember the birth and death of Christ": They accepted that He was born Christmas and died on Christmas Day.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": They believed He was born on Christmas Day.

"I don't celebrate Christmas Holidays": He didn't accept that He was born on Christmas Day.

"I celebrate Christmas holidays for being alive: He was happy that God had protected him throughout the year.

"I don't celebrate Christmas holidays: She did not believe that He was born on Christmas Day.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": They agreed that He was born on Christmas Day.

Date of birth of Jesus Christ

"I don't know": She had lack knowledge of the birthday of Jesus Christ

"The Bible does not state the date Jesus is born": They had not been taught about the particular day He was born.

"I don't know": He had not taught concerning His birthday.

"I don't know": She lacked knowledge about His birthday.

"25th December": They accepted that He was born on Christmas Day.

"25th December": They believed He was born on Christmas Day.

"The Bible does not state the particular day Jesus is born: They had not been taught by their pastors.

"I don't know": She had not been taught about the day He was born.

"The world has declared that He's was born on 25th December but it has not been proven in the Bible": They believed was the actual day He was born.

"24th December": They agreed that He was not born Christmas Day..

"I don't know": She lacked knowledge about the day He was born.

"25th December": They accepted that He was on Christmas Day.

"25th December": They believed that He was born on Christmas Day.

"25th December": They accepted that He was born on Christmas Day.

"25 the December": They agreed that He was born on Christmas Day.

"25th December": They believed that He was born on Christmas Day

"25th December": They accepted that He was born on Christmas Day.

"25th December": They accepted that He was born on Christmas Day.

"25th of December": They believed that He was born on Christmas Day.

"24th December": They agreed that He was not Christmas Day.

"I don't know the particular day He was born": She had not taught by her pastor.

"25th December": They believed that He was born on Christmas Day.

"According to the biblical scripture the day that Christ was born not given": They believed He was born on Christmas Day.

"No": They did not have any knowledge about His birthday.

How Christians feel during Christmas holidays

"I feel happy that Christ is born": She was of the day God redeemed man from sin.

"I feel normal like the other days": He was nothing special about Christmas.

"I feel good": She felt proud of celebrating Christmas with other people.

"I feel happy that Christ is born": He felt happy because of the hope God has assured humanity.

"I don't feel anything": She did not believe the day was the birthday of Jesus.

"I feel happy": He was proud of being alive.

"I feel nothing special about Christmas holidays": She did not value the day as His birthday.

"I feel happy because Christ is unto us": He was excited the day was the redemption of humanity

"Good": They were happy God assured man eternal hope.

"I feel to worship the Son of God who was born to us in happy and joy mode": He was pleased with how God redeemed man from sin.

"Happy": They remembered the day God delivered us from the bond of sin.

"I feel happy on the Christmas Day": He recalled the protection, mercy and kindness of God.

"I feel so exciting, happy and joyful: She was happy about the day God set us free the bond of sin.

"I feel happy for being alive: He was pleased with how God had protected him.

"I feel very happy because, God has protect and guide me throughout the year": She remembered the goodness of God.

"During Christmas holiday I feel I am a new person so happy": She remembered the day she became born again.

"I feel happy that Christ is born to us": He recalled the salvation of the Lord.

"I feel very happy": She remembered how cared about man.

"I feel great": He felt for being a Christian

"I don't see anything special about Christmas holidays": She valued Christmas holidays as the normal days

"I feel happy that Christ is born unto us": She remembered the redemption of the Lord.

"Nothing special, just the same holidays as other holidays": They did not regarded Christmas holidays as the birthday of Jesus.

ISALMIC RELIGION

Reasons for Christmas celebration

"Because God has protected me throughout the year": She pleased with how God had dealt with her.

"First of all, I don't celebrate Christmas holidays, Christmas itself is believed to bad, uncertain day to celebrate the birth of Christ according to my belief": He did not value Christmas holidays and believed the celebration carried bad omen.

"I don't celebrate Christmas holidays": She did not respect the celebration of Christmas holidays.

"I don't cerebrate Christmas holidays": He did not follow Christians teachings.

"Prophet Mummahed celebrated Christmas holidays": They respected the celebration their religious leader follow.

"Prophet Mummahed celebrated Christmas holidays: They celebrated Christmas because Mummahed celebrated Christmas.

Date of birth of Jesus Christ

"I don't know the birthday of Jesus Christ": She lacked knowledge about Jesus' birthday.

"I don't know the birthday of Jesus Christ": He had been taught about His birthday.

"I don't the particular day Jesus is born": She lacked knowledge about His birthday.

"I don't know because Qur'an does state": She followed what Qur'an said.

"Am uncertain about the birth of Jesus but I just believe it's not 25th December": He did not know the day He was born.

"I don't know when Jesus is born": She had been taught.

How Moselms feel during Christmas Holidays

"I feel happy because of kind of food we eat on the Christmas holidays is like the ordinary days": Her parents treated Christmas Holidays special which affected their diets.

"I feel happy for being alive": He was grateful to God for protecting his life.

"I feel happy because God has protected me throughout the year": She sensed that God had been merciful to her.

"I feel happy for God's protection throughout the year": She was pleased with how He had delivered her from troubles.

"It's just like the normal days nothing special about it: She did not value Christmas holidays as unique.

"I feel happy that God has protected me throughout the year": He sensed that the kindness of God.

RESPONSE FROM CONGREGATION

Name of Denomination: Charismatic

Reasons for Christmas celebration

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": This mean she believed Jesus Christ was born on Christmas Day.

"We celebrate Christmas to remember the birth of Jesus Christ": They accepted that He was born on Christmas Day.

"To remember the birth of Jesus Christ": He agreed that He was born on Christmas Day.

Date of birth of Jesus Christ

"25th July according to the Jewish calendar: He believed He was not born on Christmas Day.

"According to the Bible there is no where noted the day was born: He did not know the particular day He was born.

"Saturday": He accepted that He was born 26th December.

How Christians feel during Christmas Holidays

"happy Jesus Christ was born on that day": He believed that He was born on 26th December"

"I feel good to remember the birth of Jesus Christ": She was happy the savior was born.

"To feel so excited (happy): He was happy because God had given man hope.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Introduction

This chapter covers summary of findings from analysis, conclusion and recommendation

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The study found out that Christmas was Christians festival to remember the birth of Jesus Christ. The word "Christmas" is derived from Pagan and Romans Cultures. In the Middle winter was a season of celebration before Jesus Christ came into the world. The angel of God declared that the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ was great joy to humanity. Christmas promoted family love, joy and selflessness. The Bible did not mention Jesus' birthday and none of the historical sources declared His date of birth. Children experienced positive emotions during Christmas holidays. Some adults felt hectic and became stressed. Others felt close to God. Base on the data collected from the field the study investigated into three denominations and Islamic Religion. The names denominations were Pentecostal, Orthodox and Christmatic. Majority of the Pentecostal Church members said that they celebrated Christmas to remember the birth of Jesus Christ, some said did not celebrate Christmas holidays, others celebrated because it promoted peace and a person celebrated Christmas for being alive. Concerning the date of birth Jesus Christ many of them said He was born 25th December, some said they did not know because the Bible did not mention; others said He was born on 24th December. Majority of

the Orthodox church members accepted that they celebrated Christmas Holidays to recall the birthday of Jesus Christ, some did not know the day He was born and others celebrated Christmas Holidays due to mercy and protection of God. With respect to the birthday of Jesus Christ many of Orthodox Church members believed He was born on 25th December, some did not know the day He was born, others said 1st April and May. With regards to the feelings of Christians on the Christmas Holidays the Pentecostal Church members felt happy due to birth of Jesus Christ, some saw nothing special about Christmas holidays and others felt God's protection throughout the year. Some of the Orthodox Church members felt happy because Christ was born, many felt Christmas Holidays as the normal days and others sensed the protection of God and happy for being alive. Many of the Moselms said did not celebrate Christmas Holidays, one person said he celebrated Christmas Holidays because God had protected his life, others said they celebrated Christmas Holidays in the sense that prophet Mummahed celebrated Christmas Holidays. Concerning the date of birth of Jesus Christ all the Moselms said they did not the day Jesus Christ was born. Majority of the Moselms said they felt happy on Christmas Day because God had protected their lives. a moselm said she felt happy due to the kind of food her family prepared and another person said he did not perceive anything special about Christmas Holidays. All the Charasmatic church members stated that they celebrated Christmas Holidays to remember the birth of Jesus Christ. With the birth of Jesus Christ one member said He was born on 25th July, another member said He was born on 26th December and one member said he did not know the day He was born.

CONCLUSION

The study discovered that Christmas promoted family love, joy and selflessness life. Many Moselms celebrated Christmas Holidays because prophet Mummahed celebrated Christmas

Holidays. Majority of the Orthodox, Pentecostal Churches celebrated Christmas Holidays to remember the birth of Jesus Christ. Because of the above mentioned points, the main reason why Christians Holidays was to recall the birth of Jesus Christ.

RECOMMENDATION

Preaching and Teaching: Pastors should take time and preach and teach their congregation to know and understand that Jesus Christ was not born Christmas Day.

Public education: Evangelists, pastors, teachers and apostles must educate the general public to understand that Jesus Christ was not born Christmas Day. This education ought to be done on radio, television stations and social media.

Actors and Actresses: They should act films to teach the general public Jesus Christ was not born on Christmas Day.

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