Making the most of Jewish holiday

Purim — a holiday from the Jewish bible’s Scroll of Esther, which tells the story of Esther — the wife of a Persian king who hid the fact that she was Jewish — was celebrated with much fanfare on March 20 and ending the following evening, with Jewish people around the world gifting food baskets and hamentaschen cookies. As the legend goes, Haman was a vizier (an adviser) to the king who wanted to exterminate the Jews in the Persian Empire. “Purim is definitely one of the most happy, merry, joyful holidays on the Jewish calendar. It stands out as a kind of frivolity, a time for joy, a time to let your hair down a little bit,” told Jonathan Krasner, a professor of Jewish education and Judaic studies at Brandeis University to a magazine. Traditionally, costumes and masks are worn to synagogue and carnivals on Purim. This is in part due to the notion of Esther concealing her true identity as a Jew out of fear, but it’s also a continuation of the way the story of Esther is “topsy-turvy,” according to Krasner. “Masquerading is something that’s been associated with Purim for hundreds of years,” adds Krasner.

Agencies
People wearing costumes and face paint took part in a zombie walk in Tel Aviv as part of the Jewish holiday of Purim
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Purim is a Jewish holiday that commemorates the saving of the Jewish people from Haman, who was planning to exterminate all the Jews.
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