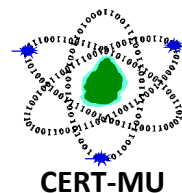


CERT-MU Security Alert



WhatsApp Hoax Chain Message "Dance of the Pope"

Date: 27 September 2016

Severity Rating: Medium

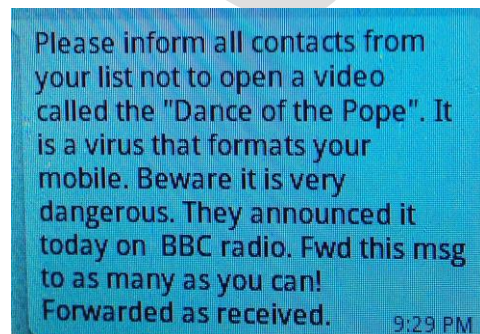
Overview:

Message Title	Dance of the Pope
Target	WhatsApp users
Objective	Target as many users as possible and create panic among them.
Message	Please inform all contacts from your list not to open a video called the "Dance of the Pope". It is a virus that formats your mobile. Beware it is very dangerous. They announced it today on BBC radio. Fwd this msg to as many as you can! Forwarded as received

Description:

A hoax Chain Message "Dance of the Pope" is being spread through the free messaging application called WhatsApp and on some other social media platforms. As per its message, "Dance of the Pope" could be a virus that could wipe out a mobile phone's memory and do an automatic format on the target system.

A screenshot of the message is copied below:



It is to be noted that this message is a hoax and is not being sent from WhatsApp.

WhatsApp does not mass message its user base, nor send advertising gifts message or ask its users to forward messages to their contacts.

"Dance of the Pope" is a hoax and a chain message.

Recommendation

Users are advised to disregard the message and not to send it to any of their contacts.

Please note that the members who do not want to receive the security alert, they can unsubscribe from CERT-MU mailing list by sending an e-mail to the following address:
unsubscribe@cert.ncb.mu

For more information please contact CERT-MU team on:

Hotline No: (+230) 800 2378

Fax No: (+230) 208 0119

Gen. Info. : contact@cert.ncb.mu

Incident: incident@cert.ncb.mu

Website: <http://cert-mu.org.mu>