

Demonic Possession and Health Care Complications: Concept and Remedy from Islamic Point-of-View

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Abstract : Many religions and cultures believe in the existence of invisible beings who co-exist with man on earth. Muslims, for example, believe in malaikah (Angel) and jinn (demon), who have their source of creation from light and flame, respectively. Jinn, according to Islamic texts, possesses unique characteristics which give them an advantage over the man. Invisibility, transforming into or taking possession of another being are parts of advantages jinn have above man. Hence, jinn can attack man and truncate his well-being by causing malfunction of his physiological and psychological realms, which may go beyond physical health care. It is on this background that this paper aims to articulate the possibility of a demonic attack on human health and the care processes recommended by Islam to heal and restore well-being of the victim. Through analysis of the inductive, deductive, and historical approaches, the process of ruqyah (healing method based on recitation of the Qur'an) and hijamah (cupping) therapies shall be analyzed. The finding shows the efficacy of Islamic remedies to demonic possession, which usually complicates health challenges in the care of man. This alternative approach is therefore recommended for holistic health care since physical health care cannot fix spiritual health challenges.

Keywords : wellbeing, healthcare, demonic possession, cupping, jinn

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