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by: Mohamed Ameer Haider Khan

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JANABE-E-FATIMA ZAHRA

From "KNOW YOUR ISLAM"
compiled by Yousuf N. Lalljee

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NAHJ-UL-BALAGHA
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The beginning of Wisdom is the fear of God

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The historic **Fatwa** of the great **Aalim**, Shaikh Mahmood Shaltoot, Head of the Al-Azhar University at Cairo, endorsing the permissibility of muslims following the laws not only of any of the four Sunni Imams, but even those of the Ja'fari (i.e., Shiah) school of jurisprudence, marks an important and unprecedented step forward in the direction of all-Muslim unity, solidarity and integrity. It is due to this broad minded outlook and magnanimous spirit on the part of Shaikh Shaltoot on the one hand and the late Ayat-ul-lah Burujurdi on the other, that a new institution known as the "Dar-ul-Taqrīb bain-al-Mazaahib-il-Islami" (Society for close co-operation between the Islamic schools of thought) has been founded with the object of bringing the Islamic sects together and putting an end to disharmony and discord. The late Ayat-ullah Burujurdi was so deeply concerned about the progress of this new institution that even on the day prior to his death, having recovered momentarily from a severe heart attack, he inquired at length about the institution's activities from its General Secretary, Aqa Shaikh Muhammad Taqi Qummi, who happened to be in Iran at the time.

The bold and statesmanlike **fatwa** of Shaikh Shaltoot accords to the Shiahs, for the first time in history, the recognition which has always been their due. The **fatwa** has, at last, paved the way towards closer understanding and true Islamic brotherhood between the Sunnis and Shiahs throughout the world.

Although critics and detractors from many quarters continue to attack the **fatwa** or point imaginary fallacies and inconsistencies therein, the brave and wise Shaltoot firmly stands his ground with the conviction that, after all, his opinion on this matter is perfectly right, and we wish him all strength to defend the cause of unity by which every Muslim must faithfully abide.

The Name-i-Aastaan-Quds has recently published certain questions put by one Abu'l-Wafa Mo'tamedi (an Arab Christian) together with the answers thereto by Shaikh Shaloot. The questioner first relates how his unbringing from early childhood in Shafe'i household predisposed him towards the love of Ali, as a result of which he married in a Shiah family and believes in the necessity of removing sectarian differences.

In the first question he asks the meaning of certain words in the first passage of the fatwa "any of the schools of Islamic law which have been reported through authentic sources and whose ordinances have been formulated in their respective books." He wants to know whether "the schools" are confined to the four acknowledged schools of Sunni law, or comprise other schools and sects as well. To this the Shaikh replies that it is clear from the context that the expression is meant to apply to all the schools and is not confined to the four Sunni schools only. He adds, "it is my considered opinion that every Muslim has a right to follow any of the various schools of Islamic law which are derived from authentic sources and formulated in their respective books. He also has a right at any time to change one school for another." The expression, "their respective books" has been used because sometimes the rival sects, while reporting the ordinances of another sect, are apt to distort the meaning of the other jurists. Hence the laws of a particular sect must be gathered from the books of the particular sect or school. The expression "reported through authentic sources" indicates in respect of ancient authors, the accepted and time honoured criteria for the authentication of traditions in each school or sect, such as the attribution and certification of traditions and their verification. In respect of modern authors it refers to a correct appreciation of traditions by comparison of various manuscript and printed versions of each of the authorities and by a critical examination of the same.

The second question the learned questioner asks is what the Shaikh means by the words "like all the schools of the Sunnat" and whether the Shaikh regards the Shiahs as one of the Sunni schools?

To this, the Shaikh replies in the affirmative, and asserts that he has used the words **Sunnat** in its broad, literal sense and not in its narrow, technical meaning. He asserts that the Shiahs, like the Sunnis, claim to follow the **Sunnat** of the Prophet. No Shiah can say, "I admit that this tradition is authentically traceable to the Prophet and yet I do not follow it."

The differences of opinion that some times occur whether between the Sunni sects *inter se* or between the Sunnis and Shiahs, are due to disagreement about the proof of the **hadith**. On this point, reference may be made to what the late Shaikh Muhammad Husain Al-e-Kashif-ul-Ghata (the Shiah Imamia scholar of Iraq) has said in some of his books, in which he has proved his point by means of Logical syllogism. He says :-

A. Major Premise :

It is incumbent upon us to obey every command, tradition or custom which has reached us from the Holy Prophet.

B. Minor Premise :

Such and such command, tradition or custom has reached us from the Holy Prophet.

C. Conclusion :

On the basis of these two statements, no Shiah can say that he will not obey the command, tradition or custom.

The Shaikh continues :

From the language of my **fatwa** it is amply clear that I consider it permissible for every Muslim to follow the Shiah law in the same way as it is permissible for him to follow any of the other four schools of Sunni law or to adopt the Shiah law on any point on which he may agree with the opinion of a Shiah jurist. I have stated in the conclusion of my **fatwa** that the Divine religion cannot be confined to any particular school, creed or sect and that the Imams of the sects are **mujtahids**, acceptable to God, and therefore, anyone who is not himself a **mujtahid** may

join the **taqlid** of any of them on any point, provided he considers such point to be authentically derived and correctly formulated.

The third question probes into the probability or improbability of the success of the Shaikh's efforts towards a unification of the sects, and points out that while many polemical books are being published which attack the fundamentals of rival sects, efforts for unity and harmony can hardly be expected to succeed. The questioner alludes to Shiah books such as *Al-Ghadeer*, *Tuhfat-ul-Akbar*, and *Ehqaq-ul-Haq*, but, curiously enough, omits to mention the mischievous writings of such Sunni authors as Ibraheem Jabahani or Shaikh Muhammad Khizri.

To this, Shaikh Shaloot rightly replies that it is irrelevant to the subject of his **fatwa**. This is a matter, says the Shaikh, which relates to the manner in which the various sects seek to win proselytes to their way of thinking.

I agree with Shaikh Shaloot because it is common knowledge that in the propagation of their creed, adherents of one creed freely criticise those of the other. One has only to make a reference to international magazines like *The Islamic Review*, *The Muslim Digest* etc., to get a good idea of the fact that the Quadianis, the Wahabis and it is not only the Shiahs who indulge in such criticism. On the contrary, their criticism in the course of the propagation of their creed is never found lacking in support from references to be found in the Sunni authentic books.

JANAB-E-FATIMA ZAHRA ALAIHAS SALAAM

Name: Fatima

Title: Az-Zahra

Kunyat: Umm-ul-Aimma

Born at: Mecca on Friday, 20th Jamadi-ul-Akhar

Father's name: Holy Prophet Muhammad Ibn-e-Abdulla

Mother's name: Khadija bint-e-Khuwailid

Died at the age 18, at Medina on 14th Jamadi-ul-Awwal

Buried at the graveyard called Jannatul Baqi at Medina

Janab-e-Fatima, the only daughter of the Holy Prophet and Hazrat Khadija, was born on Friday, the 20th Jamadi-ul-Akhar, eight years before Hijrat, in Mecca. The circumstances of her birth are described by Hazrat Khadija as follows. "At the time of the birth of Janab-e-Fatima, I sent for my neighbouring Qurashite women to assist me. They flatly refused, saying that I had betrayed them by supporting Muhammad. I was perturbed for a while, when to my great surprise, I sighted four strange tall women with halos around them, approaching me. Finding me dismayed, one of them addressed me thus, 'O Khadija! I am Sarah, the mother of Ishaq, and the other three are, Mary the mother of Christ, Aasia the daughter of Mazahim, and Umme-Kulsoom, the sister of Moses. We have all been commanded by God to put our nursing knowledge at your disposal.' **Saying this, all of them sat around me and rendered the services of midwifery till my daughter Fatima was born.**"

The motherly blessings and affection received by Janab-e-Fatima were only for five years, after which Janab-e-Khadija left for her heavenly Home. Hereafter the Holy Prophet brought her up.

MARRIAGE:

When Janab-e-Fatima came of age, there came forward a number of aspirants to ask for her hand in marriage. The Holy Prophet was awaiting a Divine order in this respect, till Hazrat Ali approached him and asked for her hand in marriage.

The Holy Prophet came to Janab-e-Fatima and asked, "My daughter! Do you consent to be wedded to Ali, as I am so commanded by God?"

Janab-e-Fatima thereupon bowed her head in modesty. Hazrat Umme-Salma narrates: "The face of Fatima bloomed with joy and her silence was so suggestive and conspicuous that the Holy Prophet stood up reciting 'Allah-ho-Akbar' (God is most great). Fatima's silence is her acceptance."

On Friday 1st Zilhajj in the year 2 A.H., the marriage ceremony took place. All the Muhajireen and Ansar of Medina assembled in the Mosque whilst Hazrat Ali was seated before the Holy Prophet with all the ceremonious modesty of a bridegroom. The Holy Prophet first recited an eloquent sermon and then announced, "I have been commanded by God to get Fatima wedded to Ali, and so I do hereby solemnize the matrimony between Ali and Fatima on a dower of 400 Misquaal." Then he asked Hazrat Ali, "Do you consent to it, O Ali?" "Yes, I do, O Holy Prophet /of God!" replied Hazrat Ali. Then the Holy Prophet raised his hands to pray thus: "O my God, bless both of them, sanctify their progeny and grant them the keys of Thy beneficence, Thy Treasures of wisdom and Thy Genius; and let them be a source of blessing and peace to my Ummat."

Her children; Imam Hasan, Imam Husain, Janab-e-Zainab and Janab-e-Kulsum, are well known for their piety, goodness and generosity. Their strength of character and action changed the course of history and fortified Islam which otherwise would have been lost to mankind:

HER ETHICAL ATTRIBUTES:

Janab-e-Fatima inherited the genius and wisdom, the determination and will-power, the piety and sanctity, the generosity and benevolence, the devotion and worship of God, the self-sacrifice and hospitality, the forbearance and patience, and the knowledge and nobility of disposition of her illustrious father, both in words and deeds. "I often witnessed my mother," says Imam Husain, "absorbed in prayer from dusk to dawn." Her generosity and compassion for the poor was such that no destitute or beggar ever returned from her door unattended.

THE PROPERTY OF FIDAK:

The Holy Prophet during his life-time gave Janab-e-Fatima a gift of very extensive farm land, known as the Bagh-e-Fidak, which was documented in her name as her absolute property.

The death of the Holy Prophet affected her very much and she was very sad and grief-stricken and wept her heart out crying all the time. She was confronted, after the demise of her father, with the deprivation of the rightful claim of leadership of her husband Hazrat Ali, and the usurpation of her inheritance, the Bagh-e-Fidak. Throughout her life, she never spoke to those who had oppressed her and deprived her of her rightful claims. She requested that her oppressors should be kept away even from attending her funeral.

Her ill-wishers even resorted to physical violence. Once the door of her house was pushed on her, and the child she was carrying was hurt and the baby-boy was still born. Her house was set on fire.

Having been molested and stricken with grief, which crossed all limits of forbearance and endurance, she expressed her sorrows in an elegy composed by herself to mourn her father the Holy Prophet. A couplet of the elegy, with particular reference to her woeful plight, she expressed thus:

"O my father! after your death I was subjected to such tortures and tyranny that if they had been inflicted on the 'Day', it would have turned into 'Night'."

WAFAT:

Janab-e-Fatima did not survive more than seventy-five days after the demise of her father. She breathed her last on the 14th Jamadi-ul-Awwal 11 A.H. Before her demise she bequeathed the following as her will to Hazrat Ali:

1. O Ali, you will personally perform my funeral rites.
2. Those who have displeased me should not be allowed to attend my funeral.
3. My corpse should be carried to the graveyard at night.

Thus Hazrat Ali, in compliance with her will, performed all the funeral rites and accompanied exclusively by her relative and sons carried her at night to Jannat-ul-Baqi, where she was laid to rest and her wishes fulfilled.

THE PROPHET HAS SAID:

"Whoever injures (bodily or sentimentally) Janab-e-Fatima injures me. And whoever injures me injures Allah. And whoever injures Allah practises unbelief." "O Fatima! If your wrath is incurred, it incurs the wrath of Allah, and if you are happy, it makes Allah happy too".

Sermons from the NAHJ-UL-BALAGHA

Translated by
ASKARI JAFERY

SERMON —86

Following is one of the famous sermons of Hazrath. It is called Khutba-e-Ghurra (an eminent sermon) or Khutba-e-Ajeeba (a wonderful sermon):—

All praise be to God who is sublime (not because of any eminence which can be ascertained and spoken of, but) due to His power and might. Who is near everything (it is not any physical nearness but) due to His knowledge, Kindness and Mercy. He alone can bestow every advantage utility and gain, can grant every celebrity, eminence and fame, and can protect from worst kind of calamities and misfortunes.

I praise and thank Him for His constant favours and for His vast bounties and for His lasting protection. It is my firm belief that He is Eternal and existed before anything came into existence and that He is the Mighty Creator. I seek His guidance because He is nearest source of guidance to me. I beseech Him for His help because He is Mighty enough to help me wherever and whenever I need it. I trust Him because He can protect and assist me to overcome every difficulty.

I testify that Mohammed (may the peace of God be upon him and his descendants) is His creature and His apostle. He appointed him as a Prophet to execute His orders, and to carry His final message to warn people of the results of their actions pointing them the examples of people who disobeyed Him and suffered the consequences.

O creatures of God! I advise you to fear God Who with utmost kindness set for you examples and gave you intellect so that you can judge for yourself consequences and after-effects of good or bad deeds; Who has fixed period for various stages of your life and a time for its end; Who gave you such an intellectual mind that you may provide yourself with such garments which allow you to live happily and comfortably in all kinds of climates (from polar regions to the equator) and in all varieties of land (from scorching deserts to marshy river-basins—Refer Note No. 1 at the end of the Khutba); Who arranged for you inexhaustible and superior varieties of food (Refer Note 2 at the end of the Khutba).

He is fully aware of your capabilities and capacities of doing good or bad work. He has fixed rewards for your good deeds. He has conferred upon you extensive favours and best blessings. He has warned you with rational and effective reasons of the consequences of your actions. Since the beginning of the race of mankind to the end of it He knows every human being; and has fixed the age of everyone of them in this world, where they are being tested, and He foretold of the effects of their good and bad thoughts and actions.

O people! you are being tested and your errors of commission and omission will be taken into account. The streams of this world are dirty and its springs are turbid (most of the ways and means of enjoyment in this world are vicious and many sources of income are sinful). Its window-dressing and its show is beautiful but destructive. It is a quickly ending deception, a speedily fading light, a hurrying shade and a weak and unreliable protection. It is so deceptive that it waits till those who abhor it start taking interest in it, and those who do not know its deception are attracted by it and are satisfied with it, then it shows scanty regards for them, it snares and captivates them and tying the rope of death round their necks drags them to their graves; from there they will be resurrected to receive the punishment for their deeds and to go to their final destination.

In this world the fate of every posterity is similar to that of its ancestors. Neither death leaves off the work of destruction nor the survivors give up their sinful activities. Human beings follow, in each other's footsteps; groups after groups and nations after nations end their days without mending their ways.

Thus it may continue till the world comes to an end and the Day of Reckoning arrives. Then God will resurrect them all from their graves, if they have been buried; or from the bodies of other animals (beast, birds, fish and reptiles) if their bodies have been eaten up. They shall all collect together, gathering in groups by groups and advancing silently and quietly, and, in rows upon rows they will press forward to obey the Divine Order. Thus they will hurry towards their destination. They all will be before the eyes of God and everyone of them shall hear the caller calling them to their places.

Their conditions will be wretched and helpless, absolutely indignified and pitiable; nobody will be there to help them or to come to their succour. No arguments and excuses can be of any use to them and no hope will be left to them.

Hearts sinking, hopes dying, voices silenced, tones suppressed, bodies perspiring and minds petrified with astonishment and terror will be the signs of that gathering. When human beings will thus be collected to receive the final decision and decree of His reward or punishment, the thundering voice of the announcer announcing their fates will make everyone shiver with terror and apprehension.

Creation of human beings is a proof of His Might and Power, they did not come into existence of their own will and desire; their births, their growths and their mental developments are all subject to the laws of creation as decreed by Him, they are (physically) bound to obey them. As in their births so in their deaths they have no choice and no power. At the time of their deaths their souls are withdrawn from their bodies, and the bodies are thrown into graves where they disintegrate. Then each one of them will be resurrected individually and will be retributed according to his deeds. During their lifetime they had all been given chances to achieve

their emancipation and salvation, they had also been shown the correct ways to attain them and were also given time and opportunities to reach the realm of His Grace and Pleasure. They had been provided with fair and normal chances to dispel their distrusts, misgivings, perplexities and doubts about religion. Then they were given complete liberty in this world of thoughts and deeds to think as they like and do as they desire, so that they may train their minds and with the help of such trained minds, free will and the span of life allotted to them, they may find the purpose for which they were created. The lifetime given to them was enough to attain eternal blessings and to provide for hereafter.

In extremely simple and easy ways these facts about life and death have been explained to you in the form of correct examples, proverbs and adages to help and improve your faculty of thinking. You can take advantage of them if only you develop a virtuous mind, and an advice-accepting soul, a strong will and a judicious and prudent disposition.

Fear God like a person who has heard His message and bowed before it, who admits the sins committed by him and recognises their enormity, who is afraid of the consequences of his actions, therefore, does good deeds, who dreads the Wrath of the Lord and hastens to lead a virtuous life, who believes in the Day of Judgment and affects honesty and piety, and when advised to take a warning accepts the advice and abstains from evil deeds.

Fear God like a person who faithfully believes in His Commands and sincerely decides to follow them, who repents the sins committed by him and the good work left undone by him, who carefully follows in the footsteps of virtuous people gone before him, and when truth is told to him he recognises it and associates himself with it.

Fear God like a person who spends his life in search of truth, and when alarmed by vicious ties of a wicked world discards and renounces them, who provides himself carefully for hereafter, who keeps his mind free from evil desire and sinful ambitions, who purifies his soul and who prepares to secure for himself a place in the Heaven.

O you, who have been created by God! keep in mind the purpose for which you have been created and fear God lest you fail to fulfil the purpose. Be afraid of Him as much as He wants you to be afraid of. If you believe that He will bring His promises to fulfilment and if you fear the terrors of the Day of Judgment then try to deserve all the blessings that He had reserved for you.

AIDS

(Acquired immune Deficiency Syndrome)

VIOLATION OF NATURAL LAW INVITES RUIN

by

Abdullah Dastageer

Islamic Culture & Education Centre, London.

Source : *This is an Extract from the article*

"Islamic View Point on AIDS"



As Muslim citizens, we have to think of our Islamic duties. This is our country. We are an inseparable part of this Society. Its problems are our problems. We cannot live like ostriches sinking our heads in the sand of isolation. Our percepts and practices could be offered to Society for eradicating its evils which are shaking its foundations. Rapes, murders, alcoholism, drugs, permissiveness, divorces, sexual abuse of children unmarried mothers in teens, uncared for old people, so forth and so on; have become the order of the day.

It is our duty to come out of our shells. It is time for us to sink our mutual differences and work unitedly for the welfare of this Society. We have to chalk out our modus operandi. There are certain areas of co-operation which do not involve religious prejudices or racial conflicts.

Family is the backbone of society. There are still countless well-knit Muslim families in this country. Their children neither desert their parents nor disobey them. Their old people are not left unattended by the young people. A good Muslim family is like an OASIS in a desert. What makes it an oasis? It is our responsibility to co-operate with those people who are interested in re-creating well-knit families in this country.

We have to warn this declining society. It is moving towards the brink. Solution lies in inculcating the Islamic values in them. We appeal to all Muslim Organisations to work unitedly for the welfare of this society, else everybody would be answerable to ALLAH.

Surface remedies are offered by some people while leaving the root cause of the disease untouched. Let us try to convince the Society of need to strike at the root of the Evil.

"We have indeed created man.
In the best of moulds,
Then do We abase him (To be) the lowest of the low.
Except such as believe
And do righteous deeds;
For they shall have
A reward unailing". (The Qur'an, 95 : 4-6)

Man is the best of all creations. The sun shines and the stars twinkle for him. He is not created for the world but the world is created for him. He can become vicegerent of the Creator in the world, provided he believes in Him and does the righteous deeds. For this he is rewarded by Him. Inner peace and contentment belong to him. Order, balance, harmony, strength, confidence and hope become his companions.

But those who rebel against Him are in Loss. Violation of His laws punishes the violator himself. MAN'S unrestrained and indisciplined life lands him in misery, suffering and ruin. Even over-eating does not go unpunished by the laws of the Creator' working in his own stomach.

Since Renaissance, most of the people in Eurpe have been unrestrained in all aspects of life. Extremes in political and economic theories destroy the BALANCE upon which all the known and unknown Universes function without creating any chaos them. Colonial tyrannies, notional rivalries, enslavement to materialism, absolutism of individualism, absolute dictatorship over individual and wars had been the order of the day. Today it is permissiveness that holds sway over the Western Man. It hurts none but the person himself.

In primitive society sexual and fighting instincts were not repressed. Only civilization places curbs on them. But the wheel of history is turning back. Man refuses to sublimate himself. He is jubilant in Uncivillizing himself. He is proud in degrading himself. Rebellion against Natural Laws cheers him. Permissive life of the jungle bouys him up. Normal, Natural, Disciplined and meaningful pattern of life and death displeases him.

It is only Man who is putting himself in trouble. Permissiveness in life has not attracted but hypnotised him. He freezes, by the use of Drugs, his own power to think. He cuts his own nerves. He drowns his own senses in poison. His unnatural, unrestrained, permissive and promiscuous life opens the door and welcomes a poisonous virus, AIDS that attacks and destroys the defensive system created mercifully by the Creator. The rebel begs for His mercy while on his way to the grave.

Nor be like those Who say,
"We hear," but listen not;
"For the worst of beasts
In the sight of God
Are the deaf and the dumb,
Those who understand not". (The Qur'an : 8 : 21, 22)

Today's "worst of the beasts" are those misguided brethren who have willingly let themselves fall into the ditch of degeneration, disease and dangers. Their refusal to understand their high and noble destiny is their wrong that engulfs them in punishment.

Man's suicidal rejection of His Bounty, Grace and Gifts throws him into the whirlpool of His Wrath. How staggering his senses; how stumbling his legs and how faltering his steps are; when he cuts the hand that feeds him; pollutes the water that quenches his thirst; makes a hole in the boat that takes him to the shore and poisons his own blood streams and brings in the destructive viruses into his own body.

He cannot join the nail that is cut from his finger. He cannot make it grow. He cannot create anything but destroys what has been created for his own good. All this because of a craze for the unlimited, unprincipled, unnatural and permissive way of life.

"O man! what made thee careless concerning thy Lord, the Bountiful Who created thee fashioned, then proportioned thee into whatsoever from He will. He castern thee" (The Qur'an 82.6-8).

Woman is the gem of mankind. She is the fountain of life. She is the source of strength, beauty, kindness and inspiration for man. One shudders to imagine the poison-filled life when this fountain is contaminated.

This reality of man's descent to animal level in sex represents his first stage of abasement. He is not satisfied with one step down. His rebellion against Nature pushes him to homosexuality; the second stage of his degradation. The third and final stage of his fall is his insensitivity of his debasement that is threatening the west particularly and the East generally. Championing the cause of the "Gays" and their rights is an incontrovertible proof of the death of a conscious-conscience.

The advocacy of sex education, offering of condoms, providing guidelines towards "Safe sex" etc., are the defeatist and escapist tactics of the tacticians who are not interested in eradicating the evil but safeguarding it. It is an undeniable surrender to promiscuity in sex which is the major means of AIDS transmission. Freezing senses by drugs is Unnatural. Lesbianism is Unnatural. Homosexuality is Unnatural. Unnatural vices bring unnatural disasters.

There are voices of wisdom in the West. But who is going to hear them. "Wisdom and goodness to the vile seem vile, Filths savour but themselves" (Shakespeare) "Health education should really not shrink from pointing out that traditional sexual morality is the best way of avoiding a horrible death. There are worse things than looking old-fashioned", (The Times, 30-10-86 Editorial "The Plague").

Unnatural crime by an individual is an act against the society. It is not a crime against a nation that could be remedied by imprisoning the criminal. By hanging a rebel a Government can feel safe. But man's rebellion and crime against Nature would never rest without dooming mankind.

Let the misguided man return to the Eternal and Natural laws that never let him ruin. All the blessings of good and successful life become his possessions if he shuns the crooked paths and returns to the "Straight Path".

Sex is a solemn fact of life. It should not be treated lightly. Nor should it be indulged to excess. It is a means of man's self-propagation. Its biological urge should be given a spiritual purpose. Otherwise it becomes a mere coupling of living beings.

Decline of the traditional family is cracking the American society. Moscow's divorce rate has reached 50 percent. Existence of prostitution there has been admitted recently. Traditions have changed. Parental authority has collapsed. After remarriages, stepfathers, stepbrothers, stepsisters and stepmothers cannot adjust with each other and live a natural life.

Husband, wife, children make a family. Lesbianism, Homosexuality and promiscuous sex break it. A happy family is the asset of a nation. A broken family is a curse for the nation. One creates strength to beat off all dangers, the other creates weakness to invite all dangers. One glorifies the nation, the other degenerates it. One rises from the ashes of chaos and decline. The other falls into them.

"O mankind" Lo! We have created you male and female, and have made you nations and tribes that ye may know one another. Lo! the noblest of you in sight of Allah, is the best in conduct. Lo! Allah is Knower, Aware" (The Qur'an 49-13)

Man is the best of His creations. Blessed is he whose conduct is best. Turn to Islam to make it the best and to deserve the blessings of happy life.

CORRUPTION DOETH
APPEAR ON LAND
AND SEA BECAUSE
OF (THE EVIL) WHICH
MEN'S HANDS HAVE
DONE, THAT
HE MAY MAKE THEM
TASTE A PART OF THAT
WHICH THEY HAVE
DONE, IN ORDER THAT
THEY MAY RETURN. (The Quran 30 : 41)

May Allah Guide us all on the Right Path, Ameen.

(Please pass on after reading and you can reprint or translate and print into any other language and distribute it without permission.)

AIDS

(AN INCURABLE DISEASE)

Almighty Allah in His great wisdom has cautioned and warned Fourteen Hundred years ago in the Holy Quran against promiscuousness, lewdness, adultery and unnatural sex behaviour (Homosexuality). Humanity today is paying the price for ignoring this warning of Allah in the Quran. AIDS is a disease which arises from homosexuality or heterosexuality with too many partners. In the Quran, adultery i.e. sex outside wedlock is strictly forbidden and repeated warnings of severe punishment are mentioned for homosexual behaviours. Holy Quran says the tribe of LUT which was known for its homosexual behaviour and who were the residents of the city of Sodom were totally wiped out by two angels of Allah sent especially to punish them. This happened during the Prophethood of Prophet LUT (PBUH) who was a nephew and contemporary of PROPHET IBRAHIM (PROPHET ABRAHAM) (PBUH). This was nearly 2500 years before the birth of Prophet of Islam (SAS).

Sportsman Magic Jhonson's warning "you may choose to take the risk and have unprotected intercourse with a casual partner, but it may turn out to be a fatal error" is in conformity of the warning of the Quran against homosexuality and adultery.

AIDS is also being spread among innocent wives because their husbands have got this disease on account of their promiscuous behaviour. Now one can understand the meaning of the warning in the Quran.

It says:

"Let no man guilty of
adultery or fornication marry
Any but a woman
similarly guilty"

In Islam those guilty of illicit practices are shut out of the marriage circle of chaste men and women. This is a check imposed by Quran to save innocent people and the future progeny. (Please see SURA NO : 24 VERSE 2 and 3 for these warnings.)

One of the precautions suggested is to avoid promiscuous sex or sex with multiple partners. In other words the suggestion is to restrict sex to married partners only and anything outside wedlock is dangerous. This advice given by the Medical Authorities makes the meaning of the verse from Holy Quran quoted above very illuminated and thought provoking.

As mentioned earlier, Holy Quran condemns with severe punishment for homosexual behaviour and this warning is repeated in 50 verses in Ten chapters of the Holy Quran.

What is now still more amusing is, people are advised to restore moral value in their life. This has been the advice of all religions viz. one should have superb moral character for being successful in life. All religions condemn lust and greed for materialism. These warnings were not heeded and in fact were scoffed at. Now the society is paying the price for this arrogant behaviour towards religious injunctions. The only salvation lies in inculcating in oneself religious values and discipline which in general term is called moral values. All moral values are based on religion and there can not be any moral value without religion. Therefore humanity has to go back to religion to learn moral values.

It is the duty of every person to inculcate and propagate the real values of religion to save humanity from total annihilation. Modern day parents attach value only to the School and College curriculum with utter disregard for religious education of the children. This is an inexcusable lapse on the part of the so-called educated parents of today. Any education without religious foundation is no education at all because such education is shallow and purposeless no matter what high rank the child may get in the School or College. The child will be like a rudderless ship on high seas.

Almighty Allah has also warned in the Holy Quran that if humanity continues to violate the laws laid down by the Almighty He will wipe out the entire humanity and replace them by a new generation. Let us not by our deeds invite on ourselves that terrible punishment by allowing flesh to take over the mind.

Body, mind and soul go to make a human being. People have become too much body conscious and starving the mind and the soul. AIDS is the result of body being allowed to take over the mind. It is to avoid such disaster that religion emphasises that mind must be kept pure and clean to avoid greed of flesh taking over the mind. There is a greater purpose for a man/woman than merely giving into lewdness and lust. In other words we have to realise the divinity within ourselves to avoid incurring the wrath of the Almighty. Sex is a divine gift by the Almighty for a divine purpose. Therefore if misused it attracts severe consequences even in this world itself. AIDS is that punishment.

Beware. Aids is a disease which is so dangerous that Doctors refuse to treat the patients, hospitals turn them out and people hesitate to wash their dead bodies. May the Almighty Allah guide us all on the right path and save us from such cruel punishment.

Let me conclude with the warning in the Holy Quran against homosexual behaviour.

We also (sent) Lut
He said to his people :
" Do ye commit lewdness
such as no people
In creation (ever) committed
Before you ?
" For ye practise your lusts
on men in preference
To women : you are indeed
A people transgressing
Beyond bounds "

Sura.No. 7 / Verse 80, 81

BEWARE

Condom / Nirodh is not 100% Guarantee Against AIDS. Infection can also be through saliva or an open wound or by blood transfusion or use of contaminated Injection Needles / syringes or surgical knives without proper sterilization or Artificial Insemination (Forbidden in Islam) or breast feeding by foster mothers (other than own mother) who may be infected or bitten by infected person.