



Editorial

The Million Man March organized by the Nation of Islam, in the aftermath of the O.J. Simpson's trial, has raised many questions about the relation between the religion of Islam, and the proclamations and practices of some groups which use the label Islam. The fundamental beliefs, tenets and practices of Islam are clearly described in its true sources - the Qur'an and the authentic traditions of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Any teachings under the label of Islam which contradict, or are at variance with, its fundamental beliefs and practices - as described in its true sources, *should not* be considered Islamic. The use of the label of Islam with these teachings is both a misnomer and improper. Specifically, the following Islamic principles, which are pertinent to race relations, need to be emphasized.

■ The unity and oneness of the human race is clearly stated in the Qur'an.

يَأْتِيهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا.

(سورة الحجرات - من آية ١٣)

"O people! We have created you from a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that you may know one another." (Qur'an 49:13)

كَانَ النَّاسُ أُمَّةً وَاحِدَةً فَبَعَثَ اللَّهُ النَّبِيِّينَ مُبَشِّرِينَ وَمُنذِرِينَ.

(سورة البقرة - من آية ٢١٣)

"Human beings were one Ummah (community) and Allah sent prophets with glad tidings and warnings." (Qur'an 2:213)

Encyclopedia of Hadith on CD-ROM

With the Grace of Allah, an *Encyclopedia of Hadith* covering nine books of *Hadith* (a total of 62,169 *Hadiths*) on *CD ROM* for the *IBM PC*, has just been released. The books covered are : *Bukhari* (7008 *Hadiths*), *Muslim* (5362 *Hadiths*), *Al-Tarmazi* (3891 *Hadiths*), *Al-Nisa'ee* (5662 *Hadiths*), *Abu Dawood* (4590 *Hadiths*), *Ibn Majah* (4332 *Hadiths*), *Ahmad Ibn Hanbal* (26363 *Hadiths*), *Malik* (1594 *Hadiths*), and *Al-Darmi* (3367 *Hadiths*). The information provided is equivalent to 25,000 pages of books. The database has elaborate search facility by subject, word, letters, and narrator. It has a number of menus, which include information about the terminology of *hadiths* and the narrators, and flow charts tracing the *hadith* to each narrator. The program is in Arabic but has an English interface which includes English translation of the Menus, the thematic analysis, the Help and the Manuals. It has a sound facility which triggers the recitation of the Qur'anic verses quoted, and interpreted, in the *Hadiths*. The program is developed by *Sakhr Computer Company* in Cairo Egypt, and is distributed in the U.S. by *Digitek International Inc.*, 7631 Leesburg Pike, Suite B, Falls Church, VA 22043-2520, Tel (703) 883-0134, FAX (703) 883-0137. ☐

عرض بحث متصفح تدرجات المصادر خيارات مساعدة

قول الرسول عن رب العزة

صحابي

تابعي

تابعي الراوي

الراوي البخاري

مصحح مسلم

كلمات الإيمارة

٣٤١ حدثنا هشيم بن عبد الأعلى حدثنا المغيرة قال سمعت أبا عبد الله عن أبي هريرة عن عبد الله بن مسعود قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم من قبل نزلت رآته يمشي يدعو نبيهم أو ينصر نبيهم فقلته خائفة

١ جندب

٢ لاجي بن حميد

٣ سليمان

٤ عاصم

٥ حريم

٦ جندب

٧ لاجي بن حميد

٨ سليمان

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٩٨ سليمان

٩٩ عاصم

١٠٠ حريم

العدد ٢٤١ رقم الحديث

المصحح مسلم

اختار الإمارة

التعليق

الصفحة

Reflections

Dr. Ahmed K. Noor



The Sound Heart

القلب السليم

Medical technology has made significant advances in understanding and curing some of the diseases of the heart. Many successful heart operations and heart transplants have been performed. However, heart diseases remain the nation's number one killer. An estimated 1.5 million Americans suffer from heart diseases every year, of which one third (500,000 persons) die. Approximately one of every three deaths in the U.S. is attributed to heart diseases.

A number of recommendations have been made by the medical profession to reduce the risk of heart diseases, including:

- Avoiding or quitting smoking.
- Reducing blood cholesterol levels.
- Maintaining ideal body weight and exercising.
- Treating hypertension.
- Taking an aspirin every other day.

More recently, a more integrated plan has been proposed for reducing the risk of heart diseases. The plan covers dietary, life-style, and attitudinal changes. However, all the plans proposed by the medical profession ignore some aspects of the heart functions, which are mentioned in the Qur'an and in sayings of the Prophet (PBUH), and are the focus of this article.

Origin of the Arabic Word Qalb and Importance of the Heart

The Prophet (PBUH) identified the origin of the Arabic word *Qalb* (heart). It comes from the word *Taqalob* (turning). The Prophet (PBUH) said:

إنما سمى القلب من قلبه ، إنما

مثل القلب مثل ريشة بالفلاة ،

تعلقت في أصل شجرة ، يقلبه

الريح ظهرها لبطن .

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
﴿يَوْمَ لَا يَنْفَعُ مَالٌ وَلَا بَنُونَ . إِلَّا مَنْ أَتَى اللَّهَ بِقَلْبٍ سَلِيمٍ .﴾

(سورة الشعراء - آيات ٨٨ ، ٨٩)

" The day whereon neither wealth nor sons will avail. But only he/she (will prosper) that brings to Allah a sound heart." (Qur'an 26:88,89)

The similitude of the heart is that of a feather in a desert. The wind turns it upside down.

The Qur'an uses the word *Qalb* and its derivatives 133 times. The importance of the heart is demonstrated by the following two sayings of the Prophet (PBUH):

ألا وإن في الجسد مضغة ، إذا

صلحت صلح الجسد كله ، وإذا

فسدت فسد الجسد كله ، ألا

وهي القلب .

In the human body there is a morsel (a lump or an organ) if it is sound the whole body will be sound, and if it is not sound the whole body will not be sound. That is the heart.

إن الله تعالى لا ينظر إلى صوركم

وأموالكم ، ولكن إنما ينظر إلى

قلوبكم وأعمالكم .

Verily, Allah does not look at your faces and your wealth, but looks at your hearts and your deeds.

Allah (SWT) made the human heart a very important organ in the body. Despite the significant advances in medical sciences, our knowledge about the heart is still limited. For

■ The sound heart is a heart which is free from all kinds of moral evils and weaknesses of faith, free from every trace of unbelief and shirk, doubt and suspicion , and free from every evil inclination and desire.

■ A most frequently repeated supplication of the Prophet (PBUH) : O Allah! the turner of the hearts, keep my heart steadfast in your religion.

example, we have no knowledge - other than what is mentioned in the Qur'an - about the relationship between the heart and the mind (or brain); the interaction between the heart and the *Rooh* (spirit); or the exact role of the heart in our *Nafs* (soul).

Some Functions of the Heart

■ A study of the Qur'an reveals that the human heart has been created to communicate with Allah; to seek the pleasure of Allah; to be conscious of the presence of Allah; to draw near Allah; and to stand on the day of judgment in the tribunal of Allah. The human heart is the seat of knowledge, memory, reason, perception, understanding, comprehension, and piety. It is the innermost seat of a person's affections and desires This is why Allah (SWT) in the Qur'an addresses the hearts and rebukes the hearts.

■ The heart has been referred to in the Qur'an as the seat of intelligent faculties, understanding and wisdom.

أَفَلَمْ يَسِيرُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ فَتَكُونُوا

لَهُمْ قُلُوبٌ يَعْقِلُونَ بِهَا .

(سورة الحج - من آية ٤٦)

"Do they travel through the land so that hearts may thus learn wisdom." (Qur'an 22:46)

■ The process of Divine inspiration has been indicated by the impression of the Divine message on the heart of the Prophet (PBUH)

نَزَلَ بِهِ الرُّوحُ الْأَمِينُ . عَلَى قَلْبِكَ

لِتَكُونَ مِنَ الْمُنذِرِينَ .

(سورة الشعراء - آيات ١٩٣ ، ١٩٤)

"With it came down the spirit of faith and truth - to your heart that you may admonish." (Qur'an 26:193,194)

■ On the day of judgment all hearts will be in agitation.

قُلُوبٌ يَوْمَئِذٍ وَاجِفَةٌ

(سورة النازعات - آية ٨)

"Hearts that day will be in agitation." (Qur'an 79:8)

The hearts of the blessed ones will see the beginning of the fulfillment of Allah's promise, and the hearts of the rejectors of Allah will fear His judgment.

■ The Peace and security in the hereafter is promised to those who possess a heart which is attached to Allah, and devoted to Him.

مَنْ خَشِيَ الرَّحْمَانََ بِالْغَيْبِ وَجَاءَ

بِقَلْبٍ مُّسِيَّبٍ .

(سورة ق - آية ٣٣)

"Who feared (Allah) Most Gracious unseen, and brought a heart turned in devotion (to Him)." (Qur'an 50:33)

By contrast, many of the dwellers of hellfire from humans and *jinn* have hearts which do not comprehend (the reality of creation).

وَلَقَدْ ذَرَأْنَا لِجَهَنَّمَ كَثِيرًا مِّنَ

الْجِنِّ وَالْإِنسِ لَهُمْ قُلُوبٌ لَّا

يَفْقَهُونَ بِهَا .

(سورة الأعراف - من آية ١٧٩)

"Many are the jinns and humans we have made for Hell : they have hearts herewith they understand not." (Qur'an 7:179)

Qur'anic Examples of Sound and Diseased Hearts

The sound heart is a heart which is free from all kinds of moral evils and weaknesses of faith, free from every trace of unbelief and *shirk*, doubt and suspicion, from every feeling of disobedience and rebellion, from every crookedness, confusion and complexity, and free from every evil inclination and desire. It is a heart which neither cherishes any malice, jealousy and ill-will against any one, nor has any evil intentions. The Qur'an mentions the heart of Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) as an example of the sound heart.

إِذْ جَاءَ رَبَّهُ بِقَلْبٍ سَلِيمٍ .

(سورة الصافات - آية ٨٤)

"He came to his Lord with a sound heart (attached to Allah alone and none else, worshipping none but Allah)." (Qur'an 37:84)

Examples of diseased hearts are those of the hypocrites.

فِي قُلُوبِهِمْ مَّرَضٌ .

(سورة البقرة - من آية ١٠)

"In their hearts is a disease and Allah has increased their disease." (Qur'an 2:10)

Hearts of the Believers

■ Allah (SWT) guides the hearts of the believers and makes *Iman* (faith) beautiful in them.

وَمَنْ يُؤْمِنْ بِاللَّهِ يَهْدِ اللَّهُ قَلْبَهُ .

(سورة التباين - من آية ١١)

"And whosoever believes in Allah, He guides his/her heart (to the true faith with certainty)." (Qur'an 64:11)

وَلَكِنَّ اللَّهَ حَبَّبَ إِلَيْكُمُ الْإِيمَانَ

وَزَيَّنَّهُ فِي قُلُوبِكُمْ .

(سورة الحجرات - من آية ٧)

"But Allah has endeared the faith to you and has beautified it in your hearts." (Qur'an 49:7)

■ Some characteristics of the hearts of the believers are mentioned in the following three verses of the Qur'an:

الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَتَطْمَئِنُّ قُلُوبُهُمْ

بِذِكْرِ اللَّهِ أَلَّا بِذِكْرِ اللَّهِ تَطْمَئِنُّ

الْقُلُوبُ .

(سورة الرعد - آية ٢٨)

"Those who believe and whose hearts find rest in the remembrance of Allah. Verily in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find rest." (Qur'an 13:28)

إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ الَّذِينَ إِذَا ذُكِرَ اللَّهُ

وَجَلَّتْ قُلُوبُهُمْ .

(سورة الأنفال - من آية ٢)

"The believers are those who, when Allah is mentioned, feel a fear (a

tremor) in their hearts." (Qur'an 8:2)

ذَلِكَ وَمَنْ يُعَظِّمْ شَعَائِرَ اللَّهِ فَإِنَّهَا

مِن تَقْوَى الْقُلُوبِ .

(سورة الحج - آية ٣٢)

"Whoever holds in honor the symbols of Allah, such (honor) should come truly from piety of the heart." (Qur'an 22:32)

■ The believers enjoy the feeling of tranquility as a result of their hearts having assurances from Allah.

وَمَا جَعَلَهُ اللَّهُ إِلَّا بُشْرَىٰ لَكُمْ

وَلِتَطْمَئِنَّ قُلُوبُكُمْ بِهِ .

(سورة آل عمران - من آية ١٢٦)

"Allah made it but a message of hope for you, and an assurance to your hearts." (Qur'an 3:126)

■ Allah (SWT) gave two examples in the Qur'an of believers whom He gave strength to their hearts : the people of the cave, and the mother of Prophet Moussa (PBUH).

وَرَبَطْنَا عَلَىٰ قُلُوبِهِمْ إِذْ قَامُوا

فَقَالُوا رَبَّنَا رَبُّ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ

(سورة الكهف - من آية ١٤)

"We gave strength to their hearts : behold, they stood up and said : "Our Lord is the Lord of the Heavens and the earth"." (Qur'an 18:14)

لَوْلَا أَن رَّبَطْنَا عَلَىٰ قُلُوبِهَا لَتَكُونَ

مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ .

(سورة القصص - من آية ١٠)

"We strengthened her heart (with faith) so that she might remain a (firm) believer." (Qur'an 28:10)

■ Allah (SWT) unites the hearts of the true believers.

"and He (Allah) has put affection between their hearts; not if you had spent all that is in the earth could you have produced that affection, but Allah has done it." (Qur'an 8:63)

The unity of hearts is a gift from Allah (SWT). It includes understanding; pure and sincere affection. With it there is strength and success. Without it there is humiliation and moral degradation.

Hardening and Sealing of Hearts

■ When a person deliberately refuses to accept the truth because of ignorance, prejudice, selfishness, or lust; then he/she becomes so obdurate that he/she persists in error without paying any attention to his/her observations. As a result of the persistent rejection of the truth by such person, Allah (SWT) seals his/her heart. The person can neither hear, understand, or perceive the truth.

كَذَلِكَ يَطْبَعُ اللَّهُ عَلَى قُلُوبِ الْكَافِرِينَ .

(سورة الأعراف - آية ١٠١)

"Thus does Allah seal up the hearts of those who reject faith." (Qur'an 7:101)

وَنَطْبَعُ عَلَى قُلُوبِهِمْ فَهُمْ لَا يَسْمَعُونَ .

(سورة الأعراف - من آية ١٠٠)

"And We seal up their hearts so that they could not hear." (Qur'an 7:100)

وَطَبَعَ عَلَى قُلُوبِهِمْ فَهُمْ لَا يَفْقَهُونَ .

(سورة التوبة - من آية ٨٧)

"Their hearts are sealed and so they understand not." (Qur'an 9:87)

وَطَبَعَ اللَّهُ عَلَى قُلُوبِهِمْ فَهُمْ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ .

(سورة التوبة - من آية ٩٣)

"Allah has sealed their hearts, so they know not." (Qur'an 9:93)

■ Those who reject Allah's message and signs may have their eyesight and hearing but their hearts exhibit spiritual blindness.

فَإِنَّهَا لَا تَعْمَى الْأَبْصَارَ وَلَكِنْ

تَعْمَى الْقُلُوبَ الَّتِي فِي الصُّدُورِ .

(سورة الحج - من آية ٤٦)

"Verily it is not their eyes that are blind, but their hearts which are in their breasts." (Qur'an 22:46)

■ The diseases of the heart are mentioned in nine verses of the Qur'an. The results of these diseases is to

behave in an unseemly manner. For example :

وَلَيَقُولَ الَّذِينَ فِي قُلُوبِهِمْ مَرَضٌ وَالْكَافِرُونَ مَاذَا أَرَادَ اللَّهُ بِهَذَا مَثَلًا

(سورة المدثر - من آية ٣١)

"Those in whose hearts is a disease and the unbelievers may say "What symbol does Allah intend?"." (Qur'an 74:31)

إِذْ يَقُولُ الْمُنَافِقُونَ وَالَّذِينَ فِي

قُلُوبِهِمْ مَرَضٌ غَرَّ هَؤُلَاءِ دِينُهُمْ .

(سورة الأنفال - من آية ٤٩)

"The hypocrites and those in whose hearts is a disease say, "these people their religion has misled them?"." (Qur'an 8:49)

Relation Between the Heart and other Organs of the Body

The human heart controls and mobilizes the other organs of the body. If the heart issues the right instructions to the other organs, it can enhance the functioning and improves the health of the entire body. The spiritual uplifting resulting from these instructions can produce physiological and psychological balance, which can in turn lower high blood pressure, decrease the level of chronic pain, and relieve anxiety and depression. The person will then have a meaningful life, a life which is consistent with the commands of Allah, and will finally reach Allah in a sound state.

On the other hand, if the human heart issues the wrong instructions to the other organs, it can cause physical malfunction and disorders in the body. The body will be corrupted, and the person will have spiritual blindness which leads to his/her perdition.

Many of the ethical and spiritual diseases of the heart are mentioned in the Qur'an and in traditions of the Prophet (PBUH). They include : anger, envy, greed, love of power, and arrogance. All of these diseases result from instructions by the heart, which mobilize the other organs of the body to act and react in a manner destructive to the body. Preventive measures are

mentioned in the Qur'an and in sayings of the Prophet (PBUH), to each of these diseases.

Qur'anic and Prophetic Supplications

رَبَّنَا لَا تُزِغْ قُلُوبَنَا بَعْدَ إِذْ هَدَيْتَنَا وَهَبْ لَنَا مِنْ لَدُنْكَ رَحْمَةً إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْوَهَّابُ . (سورة آل عمران - آية ٨)

"Our Lord- let not our hearts deviate after You have guided us, but grant us mercy from your presence; for You are the grantor of bounties without measure." (Qur'an 3:8)

اللهم إني أعوذ بك من علم لا

ينفع ، ومن قلب لا يخشع ، ومن

نفس لا تشبع ، ومن دعوة لا

يستجاب لها .

O Allah, I seek refuge in you from the knowledge which does not benefit, from the heart which does not entertain the fear (of You), from the soul which does not feel contented, and from the supplication which is not answered.

يا مقلب القلوب ، ثبت قلبي

على دينك .

O Allah! the turner of the hearts, keep my heart steadfast in your religion.

I pray to Allah (SWT) to guard and protect our hearts and make them sound until the day we meet Him. Ameen ☐

Important Dates

Ramadan 1, 1416

January 22, 1996

Eid-ul-Fitr

February 20, 1996

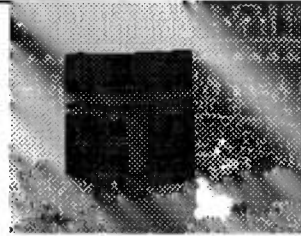
Eid-ul-Adha

April 28, 1996

Note: Please contact the National organizations listed on the back page for confirmation about these dates.

The Greatest Sign of Allah

المعجزة الكبرى



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
﴿لَقَدْ رَأَى مِنْ آيَاتِ رَبِّهِ الْكُبْرَى﴾

(سورة النجم - آية ١٨)

"For truly did he see, of the signs of his Lord, the Greatest." (Qur'an 53:18)



Allah (SWT) supported Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) with many miracles. Some were material miracles observed by the companions, and other people at the time. Examples include water flowing from his fingers; clouds providing shadow for him wherever he went; and the moon once appeared cleft asunder in the valley of Mecca, when the Prophet (PBUH) pointed at it. However, the greatest miracle, which no human being could witness, was the *Mir'aj* - the ascension of the Prophet (PBUH) to heavens. He went to a place in heavens where even the angel *Jibreel* could not go to. Allah (SWT) provided the Prophet (PBUH) with a special mechanism which allowed him to go beyond *Sidrat-Al- Muntaha* (the farthest Lote tree), and to come near the throne of Allah (SWT).

ثُمَّ دَنَا فَتَدَلَّى . فَكَانَ قَابَ قَوْسَيْنِ
أَوْ أَدْنَى .

(سورة النجم - آية ٨ ، ٩)

"Then he approached and came closer. And was a distance of two bow-lengths or (even) closer." (Qur'an 53:8,9)

The Prophet (PBUH) received the command of prayers directly from Allah. The daily prayers were gifts from Allah (SWT) to the Prophet (PBUH), and are gifts to all of us Muslims, providing us with a means to communicate directly with Allah five times every day. Prayers are a symbol to our servitude to the one true God - Allah. If prayers are performed properly, they provide us with a means to charge our spiritual battery. They give us the tranquility and the mental comfort which allow us to face the daily challenges, and to stand the pressures we are often subjected to.

The *Isra'a and Mir'aj* (the night journey of the Prophet (PBUH) from the sacred mosque of Mecca to the farthest mosque in Jerusalem, and his ascension to Heavens) included many

miracles and signs of Allah, such as:

■ Leading the prayers, with all the known Prophets, in the farthest mosque of Jerusalem.

■ Seeing the following samples of the people in Heavens and Hell.

1. The *Mujahideen* (those who strive hard) in the way of Allah putting seeds in the ground, and immediately, the crops come out and are ready for collection; and the process is repeated.

2. The people who deal with *Riba* (usury) are floating in a sea of blood and are being fed stones.

3. The married people who commit adultery are served good-looking meat, but they leave it and eat raw, rotten meat.

4. The ones who are lazy in performing their daily prayers have stones thrown at their heads until the heads break; then the heads are put back together, and the process repeated.

5. Three scenes for the ones who indulge in backbiting : a group having their finger nails made of copper and they use them to scratch their faces; another group cutting their own flesh and eating it; and the third group eating rotten flesh of other people.

But, of all the signs of Allah (SWT) shown to the Prophet (PBUH) during *Isra'a and Mir'aj*, coming near the throne of Allah and receiving the gift of prayers, was the greatest.

Allah (SWT) mentions the word *A'ayatena Alkubra* (Our Greater signs) also for Prophet *Moussa* (PBUH):

لُنُرِيكَ مِنْ آيَاتِنَا الْكُبْرَى .

(سورة طه - آية ٢٣)

"That We may show you (some) of our grater signs." (Qur'an 20:23)

Two of the Greater signs mentioned in that *Surah* are: the rod turning into a snake, and Prophet *Moussa's* hand becoming white and shining. Both signs were on earth, and not in heavens like the greatest sign shown to Prophet

Mohammad (PBUH).

The spiritual meeting of Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) with Prophets *Issa, Moussa, and Ibrahim* in the moment of prayer is a very strong demonstration of the unity of religions experience and life, a unity constitutive of the world as it tends to value and perfection. Yet, the greatest sign of Allah shown to the Prophet (PBUH) during the *Miraj* surpassed all human understanding. Allah (SWT) suspended the limitations of space and time for Prophet Mohammad (PBUH). He came to know the totality from beginning to end, the illusions of the present world, and the ultimate reality. He entered into communion with all existence and all life, as it were *ipso facto* (by that very fact). □

Prayer Schedule

The calculated prayer times in the monthly prayer schedules, provided to the subscribers of Perspectives, are based on the following assumptions :

■ Noon time is the moment when the sun's center is on the meridian. *Azan* for *Zuhr* should be called a little later (e.g., two minutes after noon time shown in the schedule).

■ *Asr* time corresponds to a shadow ratio equals one (shadow ratio is the ratio of the length of the shadow of a vertical object at the time, minus the length of the object's shadow at noon, divided by the length of the object).

■ *Maghreb* time is the moment of sunset.

■ *Fajr* and *Isha* times are taken to be those at the onset and end, respectively, of astronomical twilight, at which the sun's zenith distance is 108 degrees.

Qur'anic Supplications

أدعية قرآنية للتغلب

على مفزعات الحياة

Terrifying things in life are : fear, grief and sorrow, distress, anxiety, and loss of bounties. The Qur'an taught us supplications we should make when afflicted with each of these, and described to us the result of making each of these supplications.

■ When afflicted with calamity (or disease), we make the supplication of Ayyub(Job):

أَنْتَى مَسْنَى الضَّرِّ وَأَنْتَ أَرْحَمُ
الرَّاحِمِينَ .

(سورة الأنبياء - من آية ٨٣)

" I have been afflicted with distress (disease) and You are the Most Merciful. " (Qur'an 21:83)

The result of this supplication is mentioned in the succeeding verse:

فَاسْتَجَبْنَا لَهُ فَكَشَفْنَا مَا بِهِ مِنْ

ضُرِّهِ . (سورة الأنبياء - من آية ٨٤)
"We answered his call and relieved him of his distress." (Qur'an 21:84)

■ When afflicted with grief and sorrow, we make the supplication of Zun-nun:

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ سُبْحَانَكَ إِنِّي كُنْتُ
مِنَ الظَّالِمِينَ .

(سورة الأنبياء - من آية ٨٧)

"There is no god but You (None has the the right to be worshipped but You) : glory be to You. I had indeed committed a wrong." (Qur'an 21:87)

The result is given in the succeeding verse

فَاسْتَجَبْنَا لَهُ وَنَجَّيْنَاهُ مِنَ الْغَمِّ
وَكَذَلِكَ نُنْجِي الْمُؤْمِنِينَ .

(سورة الأنبياء - من آية ٨٨)

"So We answered his call, and delivered him from the affliction." (Qur'an 21:88)

■ When fearing the evil plots of people, we make the supplication of the believing man from among the kinsfolk

of Pharaoh (who kept his faith hidden for some time):

وَأَفْوِضْ أَمْرِي إِلَى اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ بَصِيرٌ
بِالْعِبَادِ .

(سورة غافر - من آية ٤٤)

" To Allah I entrust my affairs : He is ever watchful over His servants" (Qur'an 40:44)

The result is:

فَوَقَاهُ اللَّهُ سَيِّئَاتِ مَا مَكَرُوا .

(سورة غافر - من آية ٤٥)

" Allah saved him from all these evil plots that the people devised against him" (Qur'an 40:45)

■ When rumors are being spread about the power of the enemy, we make the supplication made by the sincere believers in Medina before the battle of Uhud:

حَسْبُنَا اللَّهُ وَنِعْمَ الْوَكِيلُ .

(سورة آل عمران - من آية ١٧٣)

" Allah is all sufficient for us, for He is the best protector" (Qur'an 3:173)

The result is:

فَانْقَلَبُوا بِنِعْمَةِ مَنْ اللَّهُ وَفَضْلٍ لَمْ
يَمْسَسْهُمْ سُوءٌ وَاتَّبَعُوا رِضْوَانَ اللَّهِ
وَاللَّهُ ذُو فَضْلٍ عَظِيمٍ .

(سورة آل عمران - من آية ١٧٤)

" Ultimately they returned home with the blessing and grace of Allah; they did not suffer any harm at all. Besides this, they had the honor of following what pleased Allah, and Allah's bounty is infinite" (Qur'an 3:174)

■ When feeling alarmed by danger, remember what the Prophet (PBUH) told Abu Bakr when the unbelievers reached the mouth of the cave where they were hiding:

لَا تَحْزَنْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَنَا .

(سورة التوبة - من آية ٤٠)

"Be not distressed : indeed Allah is with us" (Qur'an 9:40)



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■ The aforementioned verses show that the whole humanity with its diverse races, was originally one, deriving its existence from the one creator - Allah (SWT). All the barriers that separate humanity by race and color must vanish, and the superiority of a person must be judged by his/her conduct only.

■ All prejudices are strongly condemned by Islam. The Prophet (PBUH) said:

مَنْ قَتَلَ تَحْتَ رَايَةِ عَمِيَّةٍ يَدْعُو

عَصْبِيَّةً فَتَقْتُلُهُ جَاهِلِيَّةً

(مسلم)

Anyone who dies while fighting for prejudices, or calling for prejudices, or supporting prejudices, he/she dies on Jahiliya (ignorance).

The Prophet (PBUH) spent a great deal of effort to eradicate the racial and tribal prejudices from the Muslim community. Out of the highly race -and tribe- conscious society of Mecca came a unique example of brotherhood among the followers of Islam, such as Abu Bakr, the Qureshite; Bilal, the Ethiopian; Salman, the Persian; and Suhaib, the Roman.

■ Muslims are called upon to be " the standard bearers of Justice - Quran 4:135".

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا كُونُوا قَوَّامِينَ

بِالْقِسْطِ .

(سورة النساء - من آية ١٣٥)

The verse implies that Muslims not only have to do justice, but also to bear standard of justice in order to eradicate injustice and establish right and justice in its place. Muslims are required not to let hatred or ill-feeling towards others make them depart from justice.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا كُونُوا قَوَّامِينَ

لِلَّهِ شُهَدَاءَ بِالْقِسْطِ وَلَا

يَجْرِمَنَّكُمْ شَنَاٰنُ قَوْمٍ عَلَىٰ ءَلَا

تَعْدِلُوا (سورة المائدة - من آية ٩)

New Generation of Educational Multimedia Facilities on Islam

Three new programs have been developed by *Sakhr Computer Company* in Egypt for teaching Islam on the IBM PC. The three programs are on CD-ROMs and require 4 MB of memory and 16 MB of free space on the hard disk. The programs are distributed in the U.S. by *Digitek International Inc.* (the address is listed on page 1). The three programs are described subsequently :

The first is a bilingual (Arabic and English) program entitled *Treasure of Islamic Information*. It has sound and animation facilities. It provides brief information about basic principles of Islam, pillars of Islam, the *seerah* of the Prophet (PBUH), and Islamic history. The information is presented in the form of a historical story, adventure and questions. The information is supported by verses from the Qur'an and sayings of the Prophet (PBUH).

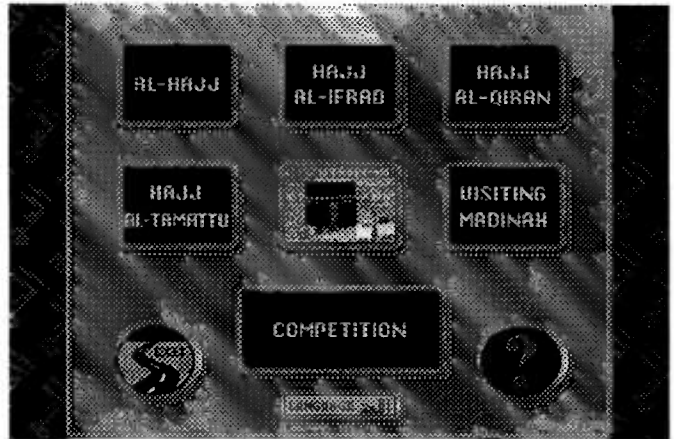


The second program is an Arabic program entitled *Islamic History*. It has an album of maps, famous mosques, coins, and Islamic arts. It provides brief information about famous Muslim personalities (including the Prophet (PBUH) and the rightly guided Caliphs); the history of Islamic states; the major battles of the Islam; and the famous cities in Muslim countries. It also has pictures, sound, and video clips.

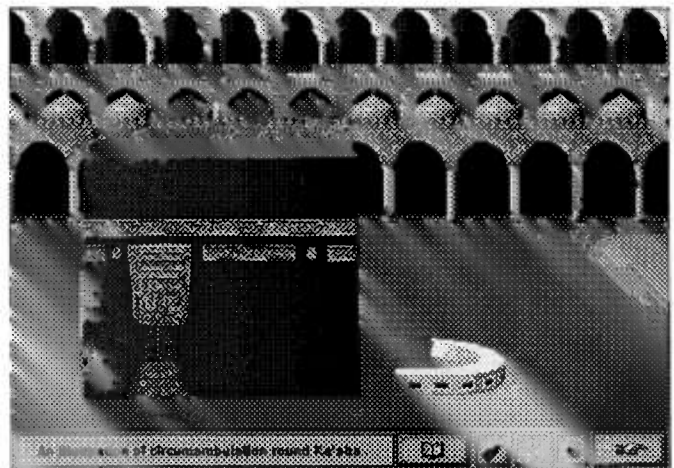


The third program is *Journey to Mecca*. It is a bilingual (Arabic and English) educational program which provides

detailed information about *Umrah* and the different types of *Hajj* (*Hajj Al-Ifrad*, *Hajj Al-Qiran*, and *Hajj Al-Tamattu*).



The program has elaborate graphics, animation and sound facilities. It displays most of the Qur'anic verses and sayings of the Prophet (PBUH) about *Hajj*. It has a competition with questions about various Islamic subjects. □



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"O ye who believe! stand out firmly for Allah and be just witnesses and let not the enmity and hatred of others make you swerve to wrong and depart from justice." (Qur'an 5:9)

Also Muslims must join efforts in supporting justice whenever needed. In so doing, their sole aim should be to please Allah (SWT), without any tinge of partiality, or self interest, or fear, or favor in it.

■ The dignity and worth of the human person is one of the fundamental principles of Islam.

وَلَقَدْ كَرَّمْنَا بَنِي آدَمَ. (سورة الإسراء - من آية ٧٠)

"We have honored the descendants of Adam." (Qur'an 17:70)

Allah (SWT) raised the human race to a position of honor; granted them talents and faculties. These gifts are given to the white and the black; the Aryan and non-Aryan; the occidental and the oriental. □