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# Madani Q/A Time

24th Q/A

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**Question:24.****Are Amulets (ta'awīdh) Permitted in Islam? Answer:****Answer:**

All praise is due to Allaah as many times as the number of His Creation and May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon the Final Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, his family and companions, and all those who follow them in righteousness till the Day of Judgment.

**Summary:**

The scholars of the Standing Committee said:

“The scholars are agreed that it is haraam to wear amulets if they contain anything other than Qur’aan, but they differed concerning those which do contain Qur’aan. Some of them said that wearing these is permitted, and others said that it is not permitted. The view that it is not permitted is more likely to be correct because of the general meaning of the ahaadeeth, and in order to prevent means of shirk. “

Shaykh ‘Abd al-‘Azeez ibn Baaz, Shaykh ‘Abd-Allaah ibn Ghadyaan, Shaykh ‘Abd-Allaah ibn Qa’ood. (Fataawa al-Lajnah al-Daa’imah, 1/212)

**A Comprehensive Answer with Proofs:**

It was narrated from ‘Uqbah ibn ‘Aamir al-Juhani that a group came to the Messenger of Allaah (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam) [to swear their allegiance (bay’ah) to him]. He accepted the bay’ah of nine of them but not of one of them. They said, “O Messenger of Allaah, you accepted the bay’ah of nine but not of this one.” He said, “He is wearing an amulet.” The man put his hand (in his shirt) and took it off, then he (the Prophet (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam)) accepted his

bay'ah. He said, 'Whoever wears an amulet has committed shirk.'  
(Narrated by Ahmad, 16969)

This hadeeth was classed as saheeh by Shaykh al-Albaani in al-Silsilah al-Saheehah, 492.

**Shaykh al-Albaani** (may Allaah have mercy on him) said: "This misguidance is still widespread among the Bedouin, fellahin (peasants) and some of the city-dwellers. Examples include the pearls which some drivers put in their cars, hanging them from the rear-view mirror. Some of them hang an old shoe on the front or back of the car; some hang a horse-shoe on the front of their house or shop. All of that is to ward off the evil eye, or so they claim. And there are other things which are widespread because of ignorance of Tawheed and the things which nullify it such as actions of shirk and idolatry which the Messengers were only sent and the Books were only revealed to put an end to. It is to Allaah that we complain of the ignorance of Muslims nowadays, and their being far away from their religion."  
(Silsilat al-Ahaadeeth al-Saheehah, 1/890, 492)

It was narrated from Zaynab the wife of 'Abd-Allaah ibn Mas'ood from 'Abd-Allaah that he said:

"I heard the Messenger of Allaah (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam) say, 'Spells (ruqyah), amulets and love-charms are shirk.'" I said, "Why do you say this? By Allaah, my eye was weeping with a discharge and I kept going to So and so, the Jew, who did a spell for me. When he did the spell, it calmed down." 'Abd-Allaah said: "That was just the work of the Shaytaan who was picking it with his hand, and when (the Jew) uttered the spell, he stopped. All you needed to do was to say as the Messenger of Allaah (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam) used to say: 'Adhhib il-ba's Rabb al-naas ishfi anta al-Shaafi laa shifaa'a illa shifaa'uka shifaa'an laa yughaadiru saqaman (Remove the harm, O Lord of mankind, and heal, You are the Healer. There is no healing but Your healing, a healing which leaves no disease behind.'"

(Narrated by Abu Dawood, 3883; Ibn Maajah, 3530) This hadeeth was classed as saheeh by al-Albaani in al-Silsilat al-Saheehah, 331 and 2972.

Forms and kinds of polytheism forbidden from the Hadith: The notion derived from the Hadith that all (Ruqyah, Amulets and love-charms) are all types of shirk, however this is not the case for all kinds of Ruqyah. This general rule has exceptions. “Ruqaa are ok unless it entailed shirk (polytheism)” [Sahih Muslim]

Ruqyah (spells): Plural of Ruqya (spell), it is read on the sick or ill person to acquire recovery for this patient, type of incantation. It was stated by the prophet sallallahu alayhi wa sallam that he applied permissible Ruqya, had it done and done it to others.

Thus not all kinds of Ruqya promote polytheism, except some, these ones that include shirk (polytheism) and rely on other than Allah for aid. As for the Ruqya that includes supplication to Allah is permissible and favoured.

Al-Tiwala (love-charms): A type of Magic done believed to make a husband love his wife and vice-versa. It's a form of magic, where a woman wins through it the love of her husband. It's known to people by the names Sarf (dismissal, dismissing the heart to love her) and 'Atf (Caring or being compassionate, having affection towards her). This practice is an act of Shirk, intended to bring benefit and prevent harm with something other than returning to Allah Almighty.

Amulets: It's the plural of amulet, hanging from the neck like a necklace or on the upper arm. The Arabs used to put it around a child's neck, necklace made of beads or a round shaped metal like iron and gold. It is thought to ward off envy, evil eye and the effect of devils or any kind of general harm. Forms and shapes of various Amulets There are various forms and shapes of amulets, this applies to any thing hanged (on the neck), believing that it would fully bring

benefit and prevent harm or thought to be one of the causes, in reality Allah almighty didn't make this practice a cause religiously or fatally. Thus, the amulet could take the form of spells or incantations covered with leather or paper and worn on the chest or the upper arm. Its common amongst a lot of people, they even tie it to their bellies' for prevention or cure from inner diseases. Amulets could be made from diverse material, like beads, strings, bones, sea shells, nail or even names of devils and Jinn, Talisman and other countless forms. A horseshoe or a shoe heel could be used as an amulet, hanged on top of a house door, or a fruitful tree and such kinds. A common practice among people is hanging amulets in cars, like red or green strings, a rabbit or a head of an animal, to repel evil eye and accidents, while some use a copy of the Holy Qur'an for this reason instead of reciting it!

Why is it called Amulet?

It is called Tamimah (Amulet) meaning the illness is completely cured or the matter is solved, derived from the arabic word (tamma yatimmu) i.e. complete, where the person using it believes that the reason he wore it for will be cured or done sufficiently. That's Why the Messenger of Allah sallallahu alayhi wa sallam supplicated against such person that his affairs don't get solved.

So He sallallahu alayhi wa sallam said, "Whoever hangs an amulet, May Allah forfeit his affairs." [Narrated by Ahmad, 16951]

Allah Knows Best

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