Q 5: If a patient seeks treatment from this woman or one of those who claim to practice ancient medicine, they think that the patient, whether he is cured or not, has no choice except to continue treatment with them. They decide the mode of treatment for him; they might even prevent him from seeking treatment with somebody else. If he goes without consulting them, they think they can influence him, and they threaten him with diseases or insanity. The patient may be affected by such suggestions out of fear of being harmed. Do they have the affect they claim to have? Please advise, may Allah reward you.

A: No one can harm or benefit anybody except by the will of Allah. Ibn `Abbas (may Allah be pleased with them) narrated that the Prophet (peace be upon him) stated, (Remember that if all the people gather to benefit you, they will not be able to benefit you except with that which Allah has foreordained (for you); and if all of them gather to harm you, they will not be able to afflict you with anything other than that which Allah has predestined for you. The pens have been lifted and the ink has dried. )Narrated by Al-Tirmidhy who said it is Hasan (a Hadith whose chain of narration contains a narrator with weak exactitude, but is free from eccentricity or blemish) or Sahih (a Hadith that has been transmitted by people known for their uprightness and exactitude; free from eccentricity and blemish).

It was previously mentioned that it is impermissible to seek treatment from the likes of such a woman, ask them or believe them. They should be denounced

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and reported to the rulers so that they will be punished accordingly. It is impermissible to protect or defend them, as they are extremely dangerous and deceitful to the Muslims.

May Allah grant us success! Peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family and Companions.

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