

"A I D S"

AS PREDICTED AND FOREWARNED BY THE HOLY PROPHET(S.A.W.)

'Aids' - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome - a new most dreaded killer disease of our times - which destroys the human natural defensive system, has stunned the world with its fatal outcome. No t a day passes when one either reads somewhere or hears from the radio-T.V. broadcasts of increasing figures of deaths with no reliable preventive treatment available.

The British Government, as reported by Reuters, for example has established a special committee to combat the spread of this dreadful disease and a special Authority is to be established in England to deal exclusively with it. The disease has already killed 284 Britons so far and the number is doubling every year. A further 30,000 or so are believed to be carriers of the virus.

Health officials say that alarmed Britons rush to clinics to be tested for exposure to the virus. Six to seven times more number of people are asking for testing, reports Dr. Harris of the Sexually Transmitted Diseases Clinics at London's St. Mary's Hospital.

Of late the British Govt has also launched television and advertising campaign and leaflets on safe sexual practices to every household in the country. Slogans like 'Your next sexual partner can be very special person- the one that gives you 'Aids' and 'Don't die of ignorance' can be seen. An 'Aids' telephone advice line already receives 2500 calls a week and officials expect the number to rise .

Confusion persists about exactly how the disease is transmitted and fears run deep. Public anxiety in Britain and in the Western countries is highlighted by protracted controversy over who should be tested and where to establish special hospitals for 'Aids'. The controversy has assumed worldwide dimension when suggestions are made of testing foreigners particularly from Africa coming into Britain. It would appear that in order to hide their own social decadence and avoid widespread panic in the West, it is claimed that the disease has originated from Africa, whereas the illicit sexual enjoyment societies- the primary cause of 'Aids'- are well known to exist in the West.

Be what it may, this much is certain from the foregoing that the said dreaded disease- no wonder a divine wrath- is the natural outcome of indecency and unnatural evil ways of illicit sexual contacts- be they homosexuality or prostitution.

The question herewith one may like to ask is whether Islam has provided any warning and guidance on this subject. Leaving aside numerous Qura'nic ayats and traditions, let us ponder upon only the following Prophetic saying:

"Beware and seek refuge from Allah against the following:

No indecency and obscenity emerges from people becoming widely prevalent except that they are (consequently) afflicted with plague (deadly infectious disease) and such epidemic (disease affecting widely many people) which had never previously overtaken their predecessors" (Sawabul Amaal p. 226)

Arabic 44
Pasadena
28

The above saying of the Prophet (S.A.W.) obviously sounds a warning of what can happen to people in consequence of their evil and indecent practices. And what better evidence can we cite in modern times other than that of 'Aids' - the dreadful infectious disease resulting from illicit sexual malpractices of people becoming widely prevalent in many countries of the world.

The Prophet (S.A.W.) had exhorted us to seek divine protection beforehand. For this prayer alone may not be enough. We have to exercise care and precaution. We have to keep away from people and dens of vices lest their infection touches and harms us. We have the duty to arouse awareness particularly among the new generation youths of the alarming consequences of illicit enjoyments and of the unexpected things taking place in the present world.

The Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) with his divinely endowed vision may have perceived of what was going to happen 1400 years hence and as a blessing for all mankind, he took opportunity to warn the Ummah of the dreadful consequences of human misdeeds and indecent malpractices.

The foregoing should provide food for thought for what is happening in the world today and what worse can still happen in times to come.