

Where Faith And Prayer Helped to Heal

Sometime during Feb 1983, a young boy named Minhal was admitted into the Addenbrooke Medical Centre in Cambridge. Following a car accident in which he had received some serious injuries, expert surgeons had to be brought in to treat his fractured nose, swollen eye and head injury affecting his brain membrane. So delicate was a surgery that in one care some muscle had to be removed from his thigh in order to cover up the mislaid membrane over his brain. So badly was his brain affected that he didn't realize what nonsense at times he was talking.

In the course of the treatment, at one stage he had developed a very high temperature of 106 degrees which if had persisted would have proved fatal for him. All efforts made to lower the temperature were of no avail. His Jewish surgeon Mr. David Hardy in charge of him had lost hope and concluded that he was then on the brink of an end of his life. He could think of no further treatment except mumbling a few words of silent prayers and walked out of the patient's room.

Only Allah knows whose prayer He had accepted and in finally seeing the young patient recover from this trauma. By His Grace, the temperature thereafter gradually went down and he came out of danger. When the next morning the surgeon paid him a visit, the following noteworthy conversation took place between them.

- Mr. Hardy: You were in a bad shape yesterday?
Minhal: I know that doctor but how come you couldn't treat a simple case of fever?
Mr. Hardy: It was not a simple in any way Minhal.
Minhal: Okay, but after all your methods failed, what were you mumbling?
Mr. Hardy: You see I had admitted failure as I could not understand what caused the fever and why it persisted. Frankly I had lost hope in your recovering and so as a final resort I prayed to God to help. After all He is the Healer and see you are well and normal. Do you recite the Qur'an Minhal?
Minhal: Yes doctor, I do
Mr. Hardy: Have you ever read the translation together?
Minhal: No doctor I haven't
Mr. Hardy: Come with me. The Qur'an is filled with treasure and knowledge and Islam as a religion is unique.

(In his office he handed me a thick heavy volume of the holy Qur'an and asked me to look up Sura Yaseen and read its meaning)

- Mr. Hardy: See Minhal, this is what I do in my spare time. Being a Jew myself I read your Holy Book and I must say you Muslims are very lucky and well blessed. Now go and obey your mother and pray regularly with sincerity and thankfulness. You are lucky to be alive.

From the foregoing conversation between a Jewish doctor in one of the famous hospitals in the West and a Muslim patient, the following conclusions can be derived:

1. It is the will of Allah which ultimately works in the process of healing and malady and it is to Him and Him alone that one needs to pray for help whilst doing all that one can do in obtaining treatment. How true are the words of Dua e Jawshan Kabir: 'YA SHAFIA MAN ISTASHFAHO' meaning Oh the One who heals him who seeks remedy in Him. It is the one who lacks faith in Allah and does not pray that is a loser.
2. In the eyes of a non-Muslim doctor, Islam as a religion is unique and the Holy Qur'an is filled with treasure of knowledge, Sura Yaseen being an important chapter

If a busy Jewish doctor in the West values the Holy Qur'an so much as to study it with its underlying meaning whenever he found time in his surgery office, how shameful and unfortunate it is for Muslims who can find time in gossiping and reading Western newspapers, novels but make no effort to study and understand their own holy book.

Let us truly treasure our Islamic heritage