

END OF LIFE

The Islamic Perspective

March 17, 2013

South Bay Islamic Association, San Jose, CA

AL – QUR'AN

- Every soul will taste death, and you will only be given your [full] compensation on the Day of Resurrection. So he who is drawn away from the Fire and admitted to Paradise has attained [his desire]. And what is the life of this world except the enjoyment of delusion. (Ale-'Imraan 3:185)
- Say, "Indeed, the death from which you flee - indeed, it will meet you. Then you will be returned to the Knower of the unseen and the witnessed, and He will inform you about what you used to do." (Al-Jumu'ah 62:8)
- So direct your face toward the correct religion before a Day comes from Allah of which there is no repelling. That Day, they will be divided. (Ar-Room 30:43)
- And spend [in the way of Allah] from what We have provided you before death approaches one of you and he says, "My Lord, if only You would delay me for a brief term so I would give charity and be among the righteous." But never will Allah delay a soul when its time has come. And Allah is Acquainted with what you do. (Al-Munaafiqoon 63:10-11)

DEATH

- It is inevitable
- Don't fear it
- Discuss it
- Prepare for it
- Hadith: Allah has left no excuse for the person who lives to be 60 or 70 years old. Allah has left no excuse for him, Allah has left no excuse for him. (narrated by Abu Hurayrah, recorded by Imam Ahmad)
- Hadith: The common lifespan of my ummah is between 60 and 70 years, and very few pass this age. (narrated by Abu Hurayrah, recorded by Imam Tirmidhi and Ibn Majah)

CARING FOR THE ELDERLY

- **Islam makes it mandatory for children to be responsible for the maintenance of their parents once the children have become independent.**
- Thy Lord hath decreed that ye worship none but Him, and that ye be kind to parents. Whether one or both of them attain old age in thy life, say not to them a word of contempt, nor repel them, but address them in terms of honor. And, out of kindness, lower to them the wing of humility, and say: “My Lord! bestow on them thy Mercy even as they cherished me in childhood.” [Al-Qur’an 17:23-24]
- A man came to the Prophet and said, ‘O Messenger of God! Who among the people is the most worthy of my good companionship? The Prophet said: Your mother. The man said, ‘Then who?’ The Prophet said: Then your mother. The man further asked, ‘Then who?’ The Prophet said: Then your mother. The man asked again, ‘Then who?’ The Prophet said: Then your father [Hadith from Bukhari and Muslim]
- He is not one of us who does not show tenderness to the young and who does not show respect to the elder. [at-Tirmidhi]
- If a young man honors an elderly on account of his age, God appoints someone to honor him in his old age. [at-Tirmidhi]

WISHES

- Let your wishes be known
- Prepare a will based on Islamic Law (know the rules before you begin to distribute your estate), even if you are not 'wealthy'
- Protect your loved ones from the anguish of tax attorneys
- Ensure that distribution is according to *Shari'a*
- Most online wills are useless
- www.IslamicInheritance.com
- www.PlanIslam.com

ORGAN DONATION

- There's difference of opinion – no one has given a general unconditional permission for it
- Generally, receiving is allowed
- Giving, there are conditions
- www.daruliftaa.com

DYING

- Don't be in denial
- Be aware of the dying persons condition
- Let one person take the lead
- The issue of 'unplugging'
- Talqeen / Yaseen

GRAVE

- Remember, you will live/sleep here for hundreds, if not thousands of years to come
- Priority: Not distance, but burial of other Muslims - Frequent Visits
- Beauty of grave is on the inside, not outside
- Transportation of the body

END OF LIFE

- Hadith: One who desires to meet Allah, Allah desires to meet him/her.
- Hadith: One who uses the *siwaak* frequently, will have ease in saying the *shahadah*.
- Hadith: The wise one is the one who takes heed and prepares for the afterlife.