

**THE EFFECTS OF GAMBLING ON ONESELF AND FAMILY**  
**11 JAMADIL AKHIR 1443H / 21 JANUARY 2022**

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ  
أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يَضِلَّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ.

وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ  
وَرَسُولُهُ.

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.  
أَمَّا بَعْدُ،

فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَأَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

Let us increase our righteousness to Allah the Almighty by doing all that He prescribes and leaving all that He prohibits. May we be blessed by Him in this life and the hereafter.

**Dear brothers and sisters**

Islam commands its followers to seek sustenance from good and halal sources. It is strictly forbidden for us to get our livelihood from non-halal ways such as gambling. In Arabic, gambling is referred to as 'Al-Maisir'. Al-Maisir means a form of game that uses money etc. as a bet and the person who wins in the game will get the bet. Islam has banned all elements of gambling whether through games, entertainment and so on because gambling is a heinous act; an act of the devil and a great sin. Allah the Almighty says in chapter 5 (surah al-Maidah) verse 90:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

يَأْتِيهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا إِنَّمَا الْخَمْرُ وَالْمَيْسِرُ وَالْأَنْصَابُ وَالْأَزْلَامُ رِجْسٌ مِّنْ عَمَلِ الشَّيْطَانِ فَاجْتَنِبُوهُ

لَعَلَّكُمْ تَفْلِحُونَ ﴿٩٠﴾

**Which means:** “O believers! Intoxicants, gambling, idols, and drawing lots for decisions<sup>1</sup> are all evil of Satan’s handiwork. So shun them so you may be successful.”

Indeed, the devil (*syaitan*) uses gambling as a place to cause enmity and hatred among human beings, as well as to prevent gamblers from remembering Allah the Almighty and from performing prayers. Allah the Almighty says in chapter 5 (surah al-Maidah) verse 91:

إِنَّمَا يُرِيدُ الشَّيْطَانُ أَنْ يُوقِعَ بَيْنَكُمُ الْعَدَاوَةَ وَالْبَغْضَاءَ فِي الْخَمْرِ وَالْمَيْسِرِ وَيَصُدَّكُمْ عَنْ ذِكْرِ

اللَّهِ وَعَنِ الصَّلَاةِ فَهَلْ أَنْتُمْ مُنْتَهُونَ ﴿٩١﴾

**Which means:** “Satan’s plan is to stir up hostility and hatred between you with intoxicants and gambling and to prevent you from remembering Allah and praying. Will you not then abstain?”

### Dear brothers and sisters

Even though Islam has banned gambling, there are still some Muslims who disobey and commit this prohibited act such as buying lottery tickets or 4-Digits simply with the expectation of getting a lot of money through easy means and wanting to get rich quick.

Gambling is a dangerous social disease if left untreated because it is a symptom of a life-destroying disease not only to the gambler but also to the family, society and country. The hearts of people who are influenced by gambling are closed and blind; causing them to be willing to do anything to get money to gamble.

Gambling also causes people to be lazy, greedy, jealous, envious and vengeful. Gambling can also cause disputes and fights as well as loss of property and lack of dignity which can eventually lead people to become miserable, neglect their responsibilities to their wives, children, society, country and even worse, responsibilities to the command of Allah the Almighty. The Prophet (pbuh) said in a hadith narrated by Abu Daud:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ حَرَّمَ عَلَيَّ ، أَوْ حُرِّمَ الْخُمْرُ وَالْمَيْسِرُ وَالْكُوبَةُ

**Which means:** “*Verily Allah has forbidden upon me, or forbidden alcohol, gambling, al-kubah (a kind of game that uses boards, dice, also known as tabal or nard)*”.

Therefore, do not be involved in gambling because it can make the gambler addicted and difficult to abstain from. Gambling is an immoral act. Money earned from gambling is illegal and it cannot be used; what more if it is used to feed wives and children. The Prophet (pbuh) has reminded us that the fire from hell is waiting for every bribe eaten from a forbidden source. Thus, be careful in seeking sustenance and always seek what is halal. Stay away from things that are haram and doubtful (*syubhah*). Be thankful, even if the sustenance is small, as long as it is halal and has blessings from Allah the Almighty.

Allah the Almighty says in chapter 2 (surah Al-Baqarah) verse 168:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

يَأْتِيهَا النَّاسُ كُلُّوا مِمَّا فِي الْأَرْضِ حَلَالًا طَيِّبًا وَلَا تَتَّبِعُوا خُطُوَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ  
إِنَّهُ لَكُمْ عَدُوٌّ مُبِينٌ ﴿١٦٨﴾

*Which means: “O humanity! Eat from what is lawful and good on the earth and do not follow Satan’s footsteps. He is truly your sworn enemy.”*

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ  
وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ  
قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ،  
وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ .