

A photograph of a mosque at sunset. The scene features a tall, slender minaret on the left and several domes of varying sizes. The domes are covered in intricate, light-colored geometric patterns. The sky is a mix of soft orange, yellow, and blue, with the sun low on the horizon. The mosque's interior lights are glowing, creating a warm, golden glow. The overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

The Detriments of Khamr (Intoxicants)

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We praise Allâh that made permissible for his servants all the good and pure things, and impermissible all impure and harmful things. I bear witness that there is no god worthy of worship except Allâh Alone, having no partner with Him. He has bestowed his great favors and comprehensive bounties on His creatures. I bear witness that Muhammad ﷺ is Allâh's slave and elected and noble Messenger. May the peace and blessings of Allâh be upon him, his family, his Companions and everyone following in their footsteps.

O people! Fear Allâh and take delight in the good and pure things that Allâh has made permissible for you. Thank Him for this by fulfilling His rights upon you. With gratitude these bounties and favors shall continue and increase. Beware of what Allâh has prohibited you to eat or drink, for if they were any good for you, He would not prohibit them. He only prohibits what is harmful for you in your life and religion to have mercy on you, as He is the Generous One, the Merciful and the Compassionate. For this Allâh ﷻ had prohibited all the alcoholic and intoxicating beverages. This prohibition was relayed to us through the Book (the Qur'ân), the Messenger and the consensus of the Muslim Nation at large. The Messenger of Allâh ﷺ called these beverages the mother of all vices. He said:

«هِيَ مِفْتَاحُ كُلِّ شَرٍّ.»

“It is the key for all evil.”

Allâh ﷻ says:

﴿رِجْسٌ مِّنْ عَمَلِ الشَّيْطَانِ﴾

“An abomination of *Shaitân*'s (Satan's) handiwork.” (5:90)

Furthermore, many *Ahadith* have been narrated stating the prohibition of all alcoholic drinks and warning of their dangers. These narrations also threaten those who drink them. One of these *Ahadith* is what Anas Ibn Malik رضى الله عنهما narrated saying:

لَعَنَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ فِي الْخَمْرِ عَشْرَةَ: عَاصِرَهَا وَمُعْتَصِرَهَا وَشَارِبَهَا وَحَامِلَهَا
وَالْمَحْمُولَةَ إِلَيْهِ وَسَاقِيَهَا وَبَائِعَهَا وَأَكَلَ ثَمَنَهَا وَالْمُشْتَرِيَ لَهَا وَالْمُشْتَرَاةَ لَهُ.

“The Messenger of Allâh ﷺ had cursed ten people who have contact with *Khamr* (Intoxicants). He cursed the one who extracts it, the one for whom it is extracted, the one who drinks it, the one who carries it, the one to whom it is served, the butler, its seller, the one who benefits from its proceeds, its purchaser, and the one for whom it is purchased.”

All these people are cursed by the Prophet ﷺ, who also said:

«لَا يَشْرَبُ الْخَمْرَ حِينَ يَشْرَبُهَا وَهُوَ مُؤْمِنٌ».

“He who drinks alcohol is not a believer at the time of drinking it.”

It was also reported that the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ had said:

«مُذْمِنُ الْخَمْرِ إِنْ مَاتَ لَقِيَ اللَّهَ كَعَابِدٍ وَتَنٍ».

“He who dies addicted to the intoxicants will meet Allâh (i.e. on Judgement Day) as an idol worshipper.”

He will also be forbidden from drinking the *Khamr* of the Hereafter as reported in a *Hadith*:

«مَنْ شَرِبَ الْخَمْرَ فِي الدُّنْيَا ثُمَّ لَمْ يَتُبْ مِنْهَا حُرِمَ فِي الْآخِرَةِ».

“He who drinks the intoxicants in this life will be deprived from drinking the *Khamr* of the Hereafter.”

The Alcoholic will not enter Paradise, as reported in another *Hadith* saying:

«لَا يَدْخُلُ الْجَنَّةَ مُذْمِنٌ خَمْرٍ».

“He who is addicted to the intoxicants shall not enter Paradise.”

The Messenger of Allâh ﷺ also said:

«إِنَّ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ عَهْدًا لِمَنْ يَشْرَبُ الْمُسْكِرَ أَنْ يَسْقِيَهُ مِنْ طِينَةِ الْحَبَالِ» قِيلَ وَمَا طِينَةُ الْحَبَالِ؟ قَالَ: «عَرَقُ أَهْلِ النَّارِ أَوْ عَصَارَةُ أَهْلِ النَّارِ الْقَيْحُ وَالِدَمُّ، وَمَنْ

شَرِبَ الْخَمْرَ لَمْ تُقْبَلْ لَهُ صَلَاةٌ أَرْبَعِينَ يَوْمًا .

“Allâh has vowed to make the drinker of intoxicants drink from *Tinat al Khabaal*.” It was asked: “what is *Tinat al Khabaal*?” He ﷺ said: “It is the sweat of the dwellers of the Fire or their puss mixed with blood. He who drinks the intoxicants will have his prayer rejected for forty days.”

Khamr is a name for every thing that intoxicates and dulls or excites the mind and faculties of man, regardless of its type or given name. The scholars of *Sharia*, the physicians, the psychologists, and the scientists attributed many disadvantages, harms and detriments to drinking intoxicants. The first and most important one is that it averts man from remembering Allâh ﷻ and performing his prayers. Being addictive, it makes man cling to it and not do anything else except that. Even when he is not drinking at that moment, yet his heart is attached and occupied by its awe. The second harmful matter attributed to intoxicants is the harsh punishment and warning that Allâh ﷻ has threatened the drinker with. Medically, a lot of harmful things could happen to drinkers, such as stomach problems, fitness problems—especially when they develop metabolic problems that are related to the body’s chemistry. That is why you see a lot of the drinkers with big stomachs. Many drinkers get old early and some of them develop cirrhosis and intestinal ulcers. Moreover, some of them become sterile. These are some of the physical harms that may occur to those who indulge in intoxicants. As for the psychological adverse effects of drinking, they can be summed up in the following: weakening of the intellectual ability, depression and terrible thoughts, insanity, paranoia and the desire for committing suicide. Drinkers do not behave normally amongst each other. They often fight and sometimes become dangerous psychopaths with the urge to hurt others regardless of their situation, whether they are under the influence or sober. Many of them fall into sinning easily, which means that drinking makes them lose their morality and self-control. That is why many of them have fallen into all kinds of sinning such as: fornication, sodomy and other major sins. Prophet ﷺ who called the intoxicants the mother of all sins, and

“the key of all evil.” Intoxicants hurt the drinker financially as well as because he spends every penny he earns on nurturing this detrimental habit. Thus, when he runs out of money, he becomes willing to do anything and sell any of his possessions, even his honor if he must, just to quench his thirst for this poison. The modern non-Islamic countries realized the dangers of the intoxicants and waged a war against them. They have established many special agencies to enlighten their people about the dangers of drinking and indulging in any intoxicating materials and then impress upon them to quit and keep away from these substances for the harmful moral, social and financial effects they have. However, Islam has warned against these substances for a long time. It even prescribed certain punishment in this life and the Hereafter for indulging in them. All Muslims are now aware of this punishment as stated in a *Hadith* that the Prophet ﷺ had said:

«إِذَا سَكِرَ فَاجْلِدُوهُ، ثُمَّ إِنَّ سَكِرَ فَاجْلِدُوهُ، ثُمَّ إِنَّ سَكِرَ فَاجْلِدُوهُ، فَإِنْ عَادَ الرَّابِعَةَ فَاقْتُلُوهُ» .

“If he gets drunk, lash him; if he gets drunk again, lash him; and if he gets drunk (a third time), lash him. Then if he gets drunk a fourth time, kill him.”

When the intoxicants were first forbidden, the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ ordered all the containers and barrels of wine to be broken and poured on the streets of Al-Medina. ‘Umar رضى الله عنه also burned the house of a man whose name was *Ruwayshid* (little pious one), who used to sell wine from his home. ‘Umar رضى الله عنه called him and said to him: “You are not *Ruwayshid*. Rather you are *Fuwaysiq* (little criminal) Hashish is one of the intoxicants. It is even worse in terms of adulterating the intellect, and the morality of the abuser. He will display signs of femininity and lack of jealousy. Thus a man, who is addicted to hashish, loses his masculinity, jealousy and even his sexual prowess. May Allâh save us all from perversion in our behavior and ethics, and from the wickedness of our deeds and desires. May Allâh protect us from the defects and diseases of our hearts. O Allâh! Guide us all to repent and regret our sins, and to return to You!

﴿يَأْتِيهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا إِنَّمَا الْحَمْرُ وَالْمَيْسِرُ وَالْأَنْصَابُ وَالْأَزْلَامُ رِجْسٌ مِّنْ عَمَلِ الشَّيْطَانِ فَاجْتَنِبُوهُ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ ۝ إِنَّمَا يُرِيدُ الشَّيْطَانُ أَنْ يُوقِعَ بَيْنَكُمُ الْعَدَاوَةَ وَالْبَغْضَاءَ فِي الْحَمْرِ وَالْمَيْسِرِ وَيَصُدَّكُمْ عَن ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ وَعَنِ الصَّلَاةِ فَهَلْ أَنْتُمْ مُنْهَوُونَ ۝ وَأَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَأَحْذَرُوا فَإِن تَوَلَّيْتُمْ فَأَعْلَمُوا أَنَّمَا عَلَي رَسُولُنَا الْبَلَاغُ الْمُبِينُ﴾

“O you who believe! Intoxicants (all kinds of alcoholic drinks), and gambling, and *Al-Ansáb*, and *Al-Azlám* (arrows for seeking luck or decision) are an abomination of *Shaitân*'s (Satan's) handiwork. So avoid (strictly all) that (abomination) in order that you may be successful. *Shaitân* (Satan) wants only to excite enmity and hatred between you with intoxicants (alcoholic drinks) and gambling, and hinder you from the remembrance of Allâh and from *As-Salât* (the prayer). So, will you not then abstain? And obey Allâh and the Messenger (Muhammad ﷺ), and beware (of even coming near to drinking or gambling or *Al-Ansáb*, or *Al-Azlám*) and fear Allâh. Then if you turn away, you should know that it is Our Messenger's duty to convey (the Message) in the clearest way.” (5:90-92)

May Allâh ﷻ bless us all with His Book and benefit us with its *Áyat* and wisdom. By this, I conclude my speech and ask Allâh ﷻ to forgive all our wrongdoings. So seek His forgiveness as He is the All Forgiving Most Merciful.