

IMPACT OF BLACKMAGIC AND WITCHCRAFT IN A MUSLIM COMMUNITY

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Abstract

This research paper entitles the Impact of black magic and witchcraft in a Muslim community. An effort has been made to explore how the black magic and witchcraft penetrate in the societies, why these are used and influence the masses. Since, the entire creature living under the oceans over the land and in the skies is created and controlled by the Lord and their destiny and fate is controlled by God therefore, it is forbidden to practice black magic and witchcraft so that the people may not lose their faith on God. Black magic is a knowledge which was acknowledged and practiced in ancient people who were the firm believer of this craft, but now it has being used for misleading innocent people by doing different tricks and making people believe that this is the only resurrection for their frustrations but, the repercussions are always dire. The main purpose of this research was to highlight and discuss the negative impact of black magic and witchcraft in the social framework. An attempt has been made to explore how Muslim community is affected by this kind of evil craft. This research focuses on many important aspects which include frustration, the existence of black magic, fake magician, opposite effect of black magic, unawareness of people, media impact and waste of time because of black magic. Now a day's black magic and witchcraft are increasing day by day and people are trying to

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solve their problems through short cuts by adopting wrong ways and methods and keep their eyes away from the realities and repercussions. This research was conducted in Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad Pakistan. The qualitative anthropological research methods were used to collect empirical data.

Keywords: *Black Magic, Witchcraft, Superstition, Frustration, Selfishness, Prohibited, Muslim Community*

Introduction

Black Magic and witchcraft are the acts of the devil's disciples, which are strictly prohibited in every religion, but these have the history since the Renaissance. The Greece mythology and history is full of magic and horoscopes. It is also revealed in the Holy Quran, verse of Sura "YOUSUF" once Pharos called all his magicians in his court and asked them to show their witchcraft against Moses. It is also known that the some enemies of Prophet Mohammad ﷺ did some black magic on him and to dissolve the magic, last two Sura of Quran commonly known as "Quls" were revealed.

We understand that witchcraft is a knowledge and also very much attributed in Hindus religion and being used in India. A non-Muslim community in Pakistan is using these mischievous acts boldly and 90% of women are the victim, some people are using religion for this purpose and earning a lot and they are victimizing many innocents' people and those people are using black magic and witchcraft that do not have firm believe in Allah. Many women have lost their properties, wealth and even chastity to fulfill their reasonable or even unreasonable wishes. Black magic is defined as the negative use of energies and powers by envious or hateful human beings who look for unnecessary advantage of people around them. The different methods are used like voodoo dolls, owl blood, hypnotizing and evil spirits etc.

Black magic is used to hurt or harm that person who is even a thousand miles away from them. Its stories and believes exist almost in every society in the world. Some people call it JADU, some call it witchcraft and the others call it magic. From the lands of sand "Egypt" to the lands of worrier "Greece", there are many tales of magic. Magic was also used in African society, like in the Kula

community. Moreover, they used magic tools and spells for their safety and wellbeing when they aim to get into the sea for certain tasks.

In our society magic is increasing day by day and becoming out of control. This is due to increase of jealousy, greed, selfishness, and negativity. Some people don't want to see the others happy. The uses of witchcraft have become most ordinary method of taking out the aggravation and get an evil sort of satisfaction. The roots of magic came from the Celts. The people living during 700 BC to 100 AD started the magic. There are different types of magic including black magic, grey magic, white magic, green magic, and folk magic.

Review Literature

There are hundreds of books on the black magic and witchcraft. In these books the writers have explained the black magic and its effects and for what reasons it is used. The term black magic means different things to different people, although it is commonly defined as magic with an evil, nefarious or selfish purpose. The definition of black magic used in the context of this book is "malefic witchcraft", which is interdicts to cause harm, although the judgment of whether it is evil or not is a subjective one."(DiGregorio, 2013)

"Magic is the science of the art of causing changes to occur in conformity with the will. White magic if the will is righteous and Black magic if the will is perverse." (Summers, 2000). Black magic is very dangerous. It is not easy to perform. Spells and black magic is a very complex phenomenon. A lot of things are needed to perform it. Timing is very important for black magic. It is done in different phases. Witch in his book "Book of Shadows: Spell" has briefly written about the moon phase. He says, "The moon is a powerful source of energy and is at its most powerful when full. Stories about the influence of the full moon have been around for centuries. The full moon phase is very important in witchcraft. The full moon phase starts at night, when the moon is fully round and ends when it begins to shrink again" (witch, 2013).

"Black magic is the selfish perversion of magical arts to destroy other, or for personal gain. The conscious use of black magic rituals are for the exercise of evil. The black magician is a person who wants power for himself. A magician may summon the devil or one of his demons and remain a white magician, as long as the purpose for the summoning is benevolent. Black magicians are usually

those who made a part with the devil. They invoke diabolic and infernal power by black magic rituals and spells.” (Winstanley, 2008)

Many different methods are used for black magic which may include horror, Voodoo, dolls, etc. Voodoo is especially used for black magic. There is a complete book on voodoo magic, wherein the writer said, “The word voodoo means “spirits of God” contrary to popular belief voodoo is the first and foremost about healing. It is a religious system based on three levels of spirits: God, the loa and the ancestors. Voodoo believers accept the existence of one ultimate god referred to as loas.” (Donise Alvarado, 2011)

“Because black magic was done in the night and in secrecy, it aroused constant suspicion and threat to the ordinary people. This provoked the black magician to protect themselves with every success, like in every powerful incantation of protection; they become both feared and revered most of all. These black magicians would become more passionate and faithful and engrossed in their causes and tasks.” (Flynn, 2012)

“Magic was defined by Alister Crowley as the science and art of causing change to occur in conformity with will” (M.E.Brines). Black Magic exists and believed to be effective, that’s the reason that our society is fully entangled in the poisonous claws of it. The writer is of the view that The truth is we are not alone on this planet, but we are surrounded by all kinds of intelligences, which exists outside most people perception. Many, if not most, of these entities are hostile to mankind or evil. Those who practice black magic acknowledge the existence of evil. Black magic is strongest protection and sometimes it the remedy against it.” (Kaelin, 2011).

“The Power you will experience can be overwhelming at first and you will need to become accustom to it slowly. These are bad and good practices of magic and the lesser magic will seem like child’s play after you experience the greater magic.” (Nacht, 2011). “Mental Preparation is more important in some ways than physical evolution. The mind is where the Magic is truly begins ...deep within the creative side of your brain”. (Nacht, 2011). “Spells are more than just thoughts or wishes, while these things may play a role, there is a procedure to conducting spells, which involves gathering and focusing directed psychic energy, followed

by a controlled release, of course , conducting any kind of spell doesn't guarantee the desired outcome the situation, but it may influence it.” (Kaelin A. , 2012)

Research Methodology

Anthropological methodology is different from its perspective and had a wide range of application. The qualitative anthropological research tools were used for comprehensive and detailed data collection to comprehend my academic work in my ethnographic research. The data presented in this article were collected in Quaid-i-Azam University Islamabad. In this university approximately 8000 students are studying in different departments. Students of Department of Anthropology were taken as the target population out of which 10 respondents were selected as a sample for in-depth interviews through convenience sampling. During the interviews, researchers tried to investigate about their views about the black magic and witchcraft.

Results and Discussion

Back to the history during the Renaissance and Greece civilization the black magic was done to dominate the enemies. Man is different from other species because of his knowledge, which God has granted him since its creation. The hidden knowledge, horoscope, study of stars, etc. the knowledge that God has given to man for their benefit and the misuse of that knowledge for the specific purpose to damage the mankind this is always done by the satanic activities which are black magic and witchcraft. Magic is prohibited in Islam, but Islam believes in magic we have a big example of our Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. One Jewish magician had done black magic on Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. In Holy Book Quran God says,

“And they followed what the devils used to enchant in the reign of Solomon; Solomon did not commit kufr, but these devils did: they used to teach magic to people, and they followed such things as were revealed at Babylon to the angels Harut and Marut. But neither of these taught anyone (such things) without saying: we are only for trial; so do not commit kufr. These people used to learn from them that which could sow discord between a man and his

wife whereas these things cannot harm anyone without Allah's permission". (Sura: Al Baqra, Verse No. 102 (Quran))

Black magic is known as "*Kala Jadu*" in our society. Black magic and witchcraft are prohibited in Islam because these have a very negative impact on society. Lack of education and awareness are the main component which drive the people from reality. The people, who fail to understand the dire consequences of this evil, lose money and time, and face many other indescribable consequences. The Main victims in our society are mostly the females as being superstitious. To satisfy their petty desires which they want to accomplish clandestinely they find short cuts and reach out to cruel black magicians who use them very differently. Once entangled in the ugly claws of black magicians they fulfill their obnoxious demands.

Media played significant role to highlight this issue at large. They made documentaries with evidences to create awareness amongst people and captured and handed over some culprits to the law enforcing agencies. Many T.V channels are performing their duties. Different programs are exposing the fake magicians. One of the famous programs "*Sary Amm*" they exposed fake magician who was shaving the hairs of dead women from the graveyard and selling them. Another program, "*Jurm Bolta Hai*" in which they caught *jali pir* who was making the innocent women fools and uses them. Media had tried to depict them. Media is sometime also promoting it. People watch it and move towards black magic. Many channels have started inviting different magicians in morning shows who performs black magic and witchcrafts and solve the problems of people. Another thing media is making dramas like "*kala jadu*".

Black magic is done mostly to harm the others just for the sake of jealousy. It destroys the life of individuals. They do not think that in case of revenge and hatred, they destroy whole lives of the others. They cross all their limits. Black magic first destroys health then wealth, then everything. Because of the greed of status, wealth, revenge, jealousy and selfishness, people go to black magician and give them money and ask them to destroy the others, to whom they are jealous of, and black magic gradually starts effecting lives and households.

Black magic is also done due to the family conflicts; Politics in the offices, educational institutions and hypocritical attitude in all walks of life. Some people

just do it for coming out of their frustrations, they think they that frustration will be removed by doing the black magic and witchcraft. The people do not study religion by themselves and like to follow the advices of so called religious persons without confirming their school of thought and credibility of the words they utter. One of the respondents said, "I think mostly the people do black magic in family so that they can take all the property of that family and some do on their daughter in law so that she suffers I don't know why people do this and this is true and done in our Muslim society".

One of the biggest impact of black magic and witchcraft is the detracting the innocent minds. But the first question came in mind that how it is detracting the mind of people's? Different types of pamphlets promoting the problem solving through black magic and witchcraft in the houses. People, who are in difficult situations and suffering from different trouble, move towards black magic and witchcraft. Individuals think that it may solve the problems; especially the women are more inclined towards these things. Women who can't conceive, who are not happy at their home, who are facing other social as well as economic issues are more spending money into the black magic performers. One of the respondents reported, "This is interesting that they do not declare immediately that you are under the influence of black magic, but they call their patients in two to three sessions. During the talks, they extract much of the information about their families and the problems, and by the virtue of that knowledge they tell them that your such and such family member has done something bad for you and their patients start believing them."

Fake magicians are using the people and there are mafia's who are promoting the fake magician only for the sake of money. Fake magicians are gradually increasing day by day who even don't about the single word of black magic and they are only making fools and take money. Many cases are exposed about these fake magicians, they are known as "*jali pirs*" in the society. These fake magicians especially victimize women and girls. They first take a lot of money and then tell them to bring different things like black goat, owl blood, and black hen etc. and at last session they rape those women. This is happening in the society. These fake magicians also go to the graveyard and take the hairs of women from the grave and do wrong things. Media is playing good role in exposing such type of fake magicians. One of the respondents said that "Some of

the religious people who call them self as peer and claim that they can revoke the bad effects of black magic” Many people do not believe in black magic and spell. One of the respondents said that “Magicians are always fake because they only hypnotized the other party”.

Anything which is not properly being carried out it would defiantly have an opposite effect. As black magic is really harmful, dangerous and very pathetic and it can severely harm the living style, families, wealth, health and many other things. When peers do black magic sometimes it has very adverse effects. One of the examples is that a lady went to a “black magician” saying that she wanted him to do something so that her husband starts loving her. He gave her something to mix with water. After 3 days the husband died. In another case there was a renowned black magician who was doing it through evil spirits and dead body. Once, while he was performing the magic, it became inverses and he died on the spot. The opposite effect of black magic could also result in loss of wealth and life. Black magic is of course time wasting because people spend their whole days at the “*astannas*” of the black magician. The person who gets involved in black magic has to spend a lot of money to the *peer* (magician). It is not only the waste of money, but the time also. One of the respondents said that “yes, it is the wastage of time, but we are too much oppressed and now we need help; may be black magic can help.”

Most of the Muslims read Quran to overcome their anxiety. One of the respondents said, “our peer Hafiz Sahib has given us some Ayat of Quran and we read that everything is getting fine now in my home,” according to some of the people that this is not black magic it is just the Kalam given by the peer. It is not at all the wastage of time, every person recites Quran and this helps us a lot.

Black magicians assert that they have the solutions to everything. They can solve any problem within two days even some black magicians says that they can solve their problems within one hour. They also claim that there is nothing wrong with black magic as we are solving the problems and using it for the welfare of the people. The most frequent problem the people come up with is not having a baby boy. They do not even care about the after effects of the black magic which could be dangerous. Black magicians say that they can save, from everything by black magic.

All of the respondents agreed that black magic has only harmful collision and it is immoral. The thing which is prohibited by religions can never be for the benefit of people. But in our society due to lack of awareness and illiteracy the phenomenon of black magic is widespread and becoming very difficult to come out of this. That person takes it as the profession who cannot do anything in the society for livelihood. They normally have good quality to convince people, earn their trust, they claim that they have supernatural power and they know everything which is hidden. Most of the people said that this skill is transmitted from one generation to the other in the family. The father transfers all his knowledge to his son and it becomes a continuous process.

As the concept of black magic exists in our society and religion, the remedies for it removal are also suggested by the religion. The process of removing the magic from the victim is known as Islamic exorcism. The majority of the people believe that the religion has given us solutions to every problem. All of the respondents told me that they are under the influence of black magic and they were just going through the process of exorcism to solve their problems which are especially created to harm them. Exorcism exists in every religion and used for treatment also.

One of the respondents reported that she was wearing an amulet which kept her safe from the evil eye, witchcraft and black magic. She was of the view that the amulet could protect her from all evils. For exorcism threads of different colours are used, i.e. *lal dhaga* (red thread), *kala dhaga* (black thread), and *sabaz dhaga* (green thread). Some of the magicians take a black goat or a black hen and sacrifices it in front of the victim. People believe that their sickness is because of the evil eye, witchcraft and black magic. This trend is gradually decreasing due to the technologies in the modern era; especially the media has created awareness among the masses. One of the respondents said: “*I was superstitious, but now am not.*” Technology has changed the mind of people, but somewhere the concept of black magic still exists.

Exorcism is another form of black magic and it's also available. According to the research, the respondents agreed that black magic is affecting the life largely. The involvement in this activity is because of revenge, hate, frustration. The control of emotions and the frustration is important because harmful things not only destroy life of the victim, but also of that person who is going to take revenge.

Indeed, revenge became a major concern that we often find it included in traditional lists of the sins: “we must purify and cleanse our minds from our corrupt and nuclear affection... they stir up pride, envy, hatred, malice, desire of revenge, fear, and such like perturbation and the un-quietness of the mind”. (Prosser, 1971)

As the respondents were literate and educated, they did not deny the existence of witchcraft and its bad impact. Black magic is a natural force that has existed since the dawn of time. In earlier forms known to man, it was widely practiced by pagan cultures. Eventually, these cultures were subsumed into culture (Laake, 2012). There is a general perception of Muslims that if a man does not have firm faith in God, people go to shrine (*astanna*) and distribute charities in the name of other than God. Innocent people are trapped by the witchcraft professionals and detract the people righteous way. One of the respondents said, “This is your own state of mind, if you accept it, it starts affecting you.”

Conclusion

Curiosity is a human nature and human being wants to explore the hidden future destiny. To satisfy this desire sometimes the human himself reads the palmistry and seeks the services of fortune tellers who predict like to satisfy his/her unlimited, revengeful desires which are bond of his potential and limitations seeks the help of black magician and witchcraft. This witchcraft has been used in decades to defeat the enemies, to show their supremacy on other tribes or to win the love and to satisfy inner desire. Since the beginning of Islam this field has been much activated in the Arabs as well. However the teaching of Islam totally restricts to use this kind of craft to destroy another human being According to the research the impact of black magic and witchcraft is negative and it is affecting the life of every person. The unawareness is one of the major factors which take the people towards wrong ways other than that there are many other factors which lead the people to adopt these wrong methods. Like frustrations, hate, revenge, etc. The black magician uses different methods to influence people, including face reading and psychology. These fake magicians are polluting our society and making people fool. Mostly these magicians use religion in their favour or use another strategy. Basically, it is all because of the lack of education and the because of poverty. Our society is filled with these evil and devilish practices on a vast scale, which is obvious from the fact that many signboards of these black

magicians and witchcraft handlers have reappeared. Many newspapers and magazines carry their advertisement. Lack of education, awareness, detraction from their Islamic teachings easily becomes the victim of these absurdities.

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