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News Journal

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In this issue of the News Journal

This issue of the News Journal is a Supplement on the Corona Virus Disease of 2019 (COVID-19). The article analyses the situation and offers advice for the Muslim Community of North America.

You can read the News Journal archive at:

<http://newsjournal.muslimplanet.org/archive.html>

We invite the community members, mosques, and other institutes to contribute articles to this News Journal.

We urge you to [DONATE](#) to help us with our operational and developmental expenses. This is the best Sadaqa in the modern times. It does not seek a fish for the hungry; rather, it seeks a fishing rod, a long term solution. So please do [Contribute](#).

May you and your community be blessed in the new 2020 decade.



The Muslim Planet Project

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COVID-19

COVID-19 stands for Corona Virus Disease of 2019. Corona Virus is a family of viruses, including those responsible for the common flue. There are a large number of these viruses. New ones keep arising, and that is why we need a new Flue Vaccine every year.

What is unusual about the corona virus that is responsible for the COVID-19 disease? The new thing is that it has appeared so suddenly that the industry has had no time to develop a vaccine for it. Nor has the industry analyzed it to be able to

offer an effective treatment for it. That vaccine and treatment is 12 to 18 months into the future. Therefore, right now we cannot prevent it via a vaccine, nor can we confidently treat it if someone gets infected. However, in about a year, it would be a familiar virus that would be dreaded no more.

The immune system in the human body can still deal with COVID-19. Allah has created living systems with absolutely superb capabilities. So, if you do get infected by COVID-19, please do not panic. Remain hopeful from the loving care of Allah. In this case it would come to you through your immune system that Allah built into yourself. There is 95% statistical chance that you will be fine.

Why do we have all the ubiquitous upheavals? The reason is not entirely in the loss of human life. The reasons also involve the economic and financial engines and the political priorities.

The Virus first appeared in China. They took gigantic steps to deal with it. They largely succeeded in the sense that there are no new cases of infections within China, and the people who had been infected have recovered. Less than 5000 of the infected people did die in China.

The Chinese government demonstrated extra ordinary capabilities in accomplishing these results. For example, they put in place a 1000 bed hospital, fully functioning from start to finish, just in 10 days. They deployed new technologies like 3-D printing to build the hospital buildings. No other country has such Herculean capabilities for peacetime use.

So, when the COVID-19 hit Italy, it caused more damage in Italy than it had done in China. That is despite the fact that Italy had the benefit of knowing the results from the case study in China.

Europe and USA have had the opportunity to research the new data since the disease first broke out in China. However, they have not discovered any new

measures beyond what the Chinese had already taken. The Social Isolation is an obvious measure to recommend. Beyond that, EuroAmerica is taking trillions of dollars to prop up the banks, businesses, and industrial complex. These gigantic spending are not towards saving lives; rather, they are towards keeping the capitalism afloat.

Such measures helped in 2008: but this is far more complex than the 2008 recession. It is not clear if EuroAmerica has a plan other than hoping that social isolation and quantitative easing will do the trick. However, we know that it is not adequate. For example, in USA we still do not have adequate capabilities for testing for COVID-19, nor do we have hospital beds for treating the COVID-19 patients; and even there are insufficient capacity for morgues, funerals, burials, and cremation.

While all that is going on in EuroAmerica, one cannot do much except to hope and keep the fingers crossed in their pockets. That is rather iffy, and does not give the warm and fuzzy feelings for confidence building. The Stock Markets are saying that loud and clear. Until there is a convincing plan, we will ride the rollercoaster of uncertainty. If things go reasonably well, it would take 6 months to begin to see some light. Otherwise it would take at least a year.

Many of the things that we are trying out in this emergency mode will stay with us for much longer. For example distant learning, telemedicine, telecommuting may stick around with us. Some jobs that are lost during the epidemic may not come back. Some of the habits acquired during social isolation may prove sticky. It would be a new world after the epidemic. Nobody knows what it will look like.

Many of us have choices between EuroAmerica and our countries of origin. Some of us are retired, some are in retirement communities, and some are living with our children. We might take a pause and evaluate our choices. Many of us, young and old, will be here when the epidemic is gone. What do we want to be doing then? We

can take a pause from this panic mode, and we can have an honest and no-holds-barred conversation with our inner-self. As Surah Shams states, our inner-self speaks the spiritual language of the Quran. One can take a new start at any time and at any age.

There is another consideration. Quran says that the focus should be on the Worship of Allah. The focus cannot be the financial systems, the business wellbeing, or the military-industrial-complex. The 2 Trillion dollar relief package that USA is putting forward does not have its focus right. The worship of Allah is most universal when it seeks to serve the meek and the poor. That is where the Kingdom of Allah is centered, for Allah lives in their hearts and Allah responds to their callings when they call. People are not the focus of big spending in USA; the corporations are the focus. That is not the right focus because it is nowhere close to being the worship; rather, it tends to ignore the meek and the poor.

No country in the world today has their focus correctly situated.

We live in USA. Here the treatment of Muslims is openly oppressive. At the same time, the focus of its activities is far removed from the Worship of Allah. Rather, its focus is its hegemony in the world through its Military-Industrial-Complex. We have two choices. Either we remain the sitting ducks for the champions of Islamophobia, or we take charge of our destiny and deliver a befitting response to the demigods of racism and bigotry. The opportunity is knocking at our door step; the 2020 elections are here inviting us into action (the greater Jihad).

So what do you say? Among other things you can empower yourselves by joining us. We are the only platform in the entire North America that is dedicated entirely for these [objectives](#). You can start to [Contribute](#) even if it be just one dollar. Do you recall when a poor Muslim brought some dates in response to the appeal for contribution that the Prophet had made? The Prophet took those few dates and

spread them over the entire heap of the contributions. You [Contribute](#) according to your Niyah. Do not ask about tax deductions and what is in it for your worldly affairs. [Contribute](#) for your Akhirah, because it is Sadaqa-e-Jaryah. May Allah bless you.



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