



Q 4: What is the treatment for Sihr (witchcraft) approved by Shari`ah (Islamic law)? Is it permissible to use nerve-sedatives, which are commonly used for treating patients with psychological disorders, knowing that they contain anesthetics?

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How should we deal with our mother who is afflicted by Sihr and seeks the help of a sorcerer for treatment? We have advised her that her doing so is considered Shirk (associating others with Allah in His Divinity or worship) and we will read to her your answer, In sha'a-Allah (if Allah wills). Is she considered a Mushrik (one who associates others with Allah in His Divinity or worship), bearing in mind that when she goes into a fit due to the disease, she becomes so disturbed in her mind that she appears to be mad, but she is sage in the best sense of the word once she regains sanity.

A: First, it is not permissible to treat Sihr with Sihr; rather, it should be treated with Ruqyah (recitation for healing or protection) through reciting the Qur'an and the Prophetic Adhkar (invocations and remembrances said at certain times on a regular basis) reported to be used as Ruqyah and asking Allah to heal her. Books such as Al-Kalim Al-Tayyib by Ibn Taymiyyah, Al-Wabil Al-Sayyib by Ibn Al-Qayyim, Riyad Al-Salihin and Al-Adhkar Al-Nawawiyyah by Al-Nawawy (may Allah be merciful to them all) contain many useful Adhkar and supplications for this purpose. You are thus advised to read such and like books to seek guidance for yourself, your family, and loved ones.

Second, continue to advise your mother and express disapproval of her wrong behavior always in a polite manner while being keen to deal with her kindly. This is based on the general instruction given in the Ayah that reads: [﴿And We have enjoined on man \(to be dutiful and good\) to his parents. His mother bore him in weakness and hardship upon weakness and hardship﴾](#) Up to the Ayah saying: [﴿But if they \(both\) strive against you to make you join in worship with Me others that of which you have no knowledge, then obey them not; but behave with them in the world kindly, and follow the path of him who turns to Me in repentance and in obedience.﴾](#)

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Third, if when she goes into a fit of the disease, she becomes so disturbed in mind that she seems to be mad, this may be considered an excuse for her and it is thus hoped that Allah will forgive her for whatever she commits while in such a state. Indeed, Allah is the Healer and the One Who guides to the straight path.

May Allah grant us success. May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions.

Member	Member	Deputy Chairman	Chairman
`Abdullah ibn Qa`ud	`Abdullah ibn Ghudayyan	`Abdul-Razzaq `Afify	`Abdul-`Aziz ibn `Abdullah ibn Baz