

and so I said likewise." Then he will be struck with an iron rod and he will cry out with such a cry that everything except mankind will hear him and if man were to hear it, he would fall down.<sup>[1]</sup>

Ibn 'Uthaimin.

### Whoever claims to have Knowledge of the Unseen is a Fortuneteller, a Sorcerer or a *Taghut*<sup>[2]</sup>

**Q** What is the ruling on one who claims to have knowledge of the unseen? And what are the types of *Al-Ghaib* (the unseen) which mankind desires to know?

**A** Whoever claims to possess knowledge of the unseen is a fortuneteller, a sorcerer or a *Taghut* because none knows the unseen except Allāh, as Allāh says:

﴿وَعِنْدَهُ مَفَاتِحُ الْغَيْبِ لَا يَعْلَمُهَا إِلَّا هُوَ﴾

«And with Him are the keys of the *Ghaib* (all that is unseen); none knows them but He.»<sup>[3]</sup>

What is meant by *Al-Ghaib* is knowledge of the future, of the times of death, of one's life-span, etc.

Ibn Jibreen

### Mental Disturbances cannot be cured by Amulets

**Q** Is it permissible for me to wear an amulet since I suffer from mental disturbances?

<sup>[1]</sup> At-Tirmithi no. 1071 and Abu Dawud nos. 4751 and 4753.

<sup>[2]</sup> *Taghut*: One who has exceeded the bounds. It normally refers to any false deity. This or one who is worshipped and he is pleased with that, or one who calls others to the worship of other deities besides Allāh, and *Ash-Shaytan*, in addition to one who claims knowledge of the unseen.

<sup>[3]</sup> *Al-An'am* 6:59.

**A** It is not permissible to wear amulets according to the (previously) mentioned *Hadith*<sup>[1]</sup> and others; but it is permissible to make incantations using the Qur'an, to make supplications, perform the night prayers, make remembrance of Allāh much, perform righteous deeds, seek refuge with Allāh from Satan and avoid acts of disobedience and those who commit them. All of this will bring peace, rest and a happy life.

Ibn Jibreen

### The Ruling on Swearing by *Al-Amanah* <sup>[2]</sup>

**Q** Is swearing by "*Amanatullah*" permissible, and what is the view of the Islamic law regarding one who plays chess, backgammon and dominoes?

**A** It is not permissible to swear by *Al-Amanah*, for it has been reported in a *Hadith* on the authority of Buraidah, may Allāh be pleased with him, that the Prophet ﷺ said:

«مَنْ حَلَفَ بِالْأَمَانَةِ فَلَيْسَ مِنَّا»

«Whoever swears by *Al-Amanah* is not one of us.»<sup>[3]</sup>

As for playing chess, it is forbidden, according to what has been said by the Muslim scholars; and as for backgammon and dominoes, both of them are frivolous acts, which prevent one from the remembrance of Allāh and waste the Muslim's time in futility. The rational person regards his time too valuable to waste in things such as this.

Ibn Jibreen

<sup>[1]</sup> See "The Ruling on selling Amulets and Talismans" and related questions that appeared earlier.

<sup>[2]</sup> *Al-Amanah*: trust.

<sup>[3]</sup> Abu Dawud no. 3253.