

ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVE ON POLIO VACCINE
AND IMMUNIZATION FROM THE
ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC CONFERENCE
(O.I.C)

AND

COLLECTION OF PAPERS AND SPEECHES
FROM ISLAMIC SCHOLARS IN SOKOTO STATE

Prepared by

SOKOTO STATE

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APRIL 2012

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FORWARD

This publication was produced by the **Sokoto State Primary Health Care Development Agency (SSPHCDA)** in collaboration with the **Northern Traditional Rulers Forum on Polio Eradication and Immunization** under the chairmanship of **His Eminence Alh. Muhammad Sa'ad Abubakar CRF, mni, the 20th Sultan of Sokoto.**

The aim is to enlighten our people on the views of Islamic Scholars on the safety of Polio Vaccine and other preventable childhood killer diseases, in order to guide and protect the millions of children from incapacitation as a result of polio epidemic. It also centered on unfounded rumors about vaccine safety which many people believed need to be cleared. The agency and Sultanate Council considered it imperative and a duty to ensure the eradication of polio disease and protect mother and child from incapacitation, to produce healthy children in line with the WHO Vision, 2012.

The Hon. Special Adviser, Sokoto state Primary Health Development Agency (SSPHCDA) in collaboration with The Hon. Commissioner of Health contributed a lot towards the production and printing of this pamphlets to achieve the objective of polio eradication initiatives.



**Comrade Ibrahim Jibrin Sokoto (FHR)
Hon. Special Adviser
(SSPHCDA)**

3.0 CONTRIBUTIONS OF MUSLIM SCHOLARS ON THE RESEARCH.

3.1 Muslim scholars issued Fatawa on the Polio vaccine, the scholars include:

- (a) The Grand Imamu of El-Azhar Al-Sharif.
- (b) The International Union of Muslim Scholars.
- (c) The Mufti of Egypt.
- (d) Religious Scholar of Pakistan.
- (e) Dr. Youssouf Al-Qardawi, Chairman, European Council for Fatawa and Research, Member of High Assembly of the World Muslim League together with a number of scholars from Pakistan, Syria, Lebanon, Kuwait, United Arab Emirate, Bahrain and many others sent a letter to the WHO/RD re-affirming religious ruling of the necessity to vaccinate children against polio to prevent their incapacitation or death.

3.2 STATEMENT MADE BY MUSLIM SCHOLARS ON POLIO VACCINATION.

All these Fatawa made it clear that parents will be committing a major sin if they do not protect their children against polio by vaccinating them.

قد خسر الذين قتلوا أولادهم سفها بغير علم
سورة الأنعام آية

"Those who expose their children to death are the lasers".

It is a responsibility of official in each country to enact laws and develop system capable of protecting children's health through ensuring their vaccination.

يقول الرسول صلى الله عليه وسلم "كلكم راع كلكم مسئول عن رعيته"

The Prophet Muhammad peace upon him says:

"You are all patronizes and are all responsible for your dependents"

4.0 UNFOUNDED ROMOURS ABOUT VACCINE SAFETY

The genuine interest of those speaking about safety of the vaccine for the health of the children of their countries is acknowledged. They should however follow the directives of the Holy Qur'an.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

"فسءلو أهل الذكر ان كنتم لاتعلمون"

"So ask those who have knowledge and hearful of Allah if you know not"

4.1 Those who have the knowledge about this vaccine, its quality and safety are WHO specialists.

4.2 WHO/ECBS specification official, in addition to being of high technical competence are well known of their trustworthiness and knowledge of religious rulings.

4.3 The organization of Islamic Conference having been convinced of the safety and quality of (OPV) adopted more than one resolution calling on its members States to strengthen their polio eradication efforts through using Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV).

5.0 SAFETY OF ORAL POLIO VACCINE (OPV) IN ISLAMIC COUNTRIES

The OPV vaccine used in Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Sudan, Iran and Indonesia, is of the same high quality worldwide. It is the same that was used in USA, UK, France, Turkey and others.

- 5.1 The OPV vaccine procured by UN Agencies in particular UNICEF meet the specification set by the International Expert Committee on Biological Standardization (ECBS) with respect to purity and content. These specifications make it impossible for OPV to contain any other undeclared biologically active substances such as viruses, hormones or other materials.
- 5.2 No anti-fertility agent, including Oestrogen and Progesterone is added to any step of the manufacturing process of OPV. No such agents is present in the final product. Major manufacturers and supplies of Polio vaccine is Indonesia, the most populaces Muslim country in the world.
- 5.3 In addition, WHO verifies that manufacturers of the OPV used in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative meets International ECBS specification.

6.0 **PRESENTATIONS BY ISLAMIC SCHOLARS IN THE STATE**

One of the scholar Malam Sani Kwanni Sokoto presented two papers as follows

6.1.1. Polio Immunization and other Related Vaccine – 30th April, 2006.

- 6.1 All praised be to Allah, The Sustainer and Creature of mankind. Blessing of Allah be upon the Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W).

I am delighted to address my Muslim brothers on the Islamic point of view on Polio Vaccine and Immunization. Islam did not prohibited Muslim children from Polio Vaccination. Its encourages the Muslim to vaccinate their children from any form of epidemic diseases. Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) stated in one of the Hadith:

"ما أنزل الله داء إلا أنزل له شفاء" أخرجه البخري

"All diseases are but with medicine" Bukhari and Muslim.

لكل داء دواء فإذا أصيب دواء الداء، برأ باذن الله عزوجل " أخرجه مسلم

Prophet Muhammad said:

"Every diseases has a medicine for he who drink it by God grace he will get well".

"ان الله لم يضع داء إلا اوضع له شفاء أو واء لإلاداء واحد"

قالوا: يا رسول الله ماهو؟ قال: الهرام" قال الترمذى هذا حديث صحيح

"There is no doubt no disease without the medicine, unless one thing. Companion of the Prophet asked what is that thing. The Prophet replied indolence of old age and death".

"ان الله لم يزل داء إلا أنزل له شفاء، علمه من علمه، وجهله من جهله" أخرجه أحمد.

"Every epidemic disease has a prepared vaccine to it, those who have knowledge of it, know it and those that did not know did not know it".

"من تصبح بسبع تصبرات من تصر المدينة لم يضره سحر ولا سم أنظرطب النبوى لابن القيم"

He who wakes up in the morning and eat seven (7) Date-palm (Dabino) miracle or other diseases will not harm him” reported by Ibn Qayyim. Muslim are strongly advised to seek for protection from the diseases in order to produce a healthy society. Al-Imam bn Bazz said the Date-palm (Dabino) said in this Hadith did not meant to that of found in (Medina) only but including the one commonly found in our society. Prophet encouraged Muslim to recite verses of the Holy Qur'an every night before going to the bed. Ayatul Qursiyu, Suratul Iklas, Falq, and Nas each to be recited 3 times. Allah will protect whoso ever recited it from any harm throughout the night.

Brothers in Islam Allah has shown us the ways and directed us to follow and seek for the protection against a disaster or epidemic diseases. Let me use this opportunity to call on all Muslim to note that the Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) was not against vaccination as such Muslim were directed to seek for medicine. Sheik Usman bn Fodeye in his book stated that Muslim are encouraged to vaccinate their children against epidemic diseases polio inclusive. I will not conclude this discussion without mentioning the importance of education. I employ all of us to seek for knowledge, both men and women, old and children. Discipline is one area that we should emphasized on, children can be trained right from their homes, and they behave on the ways their parents brought them up. I advise us to strictly observed the tradition of the Prophet Muhammad peace be upon him, to eat from the fruits as the fruits of each seasons serves as a protection against the epidemic diseases of that particular seasons.

7.0 2ND PAPER DELIVERED AT THE FLAG-OFF OF IPDs MARYAM ABACHA WOMEN AND CHILDREN HOSPITAL SOKOTO ON 21 FEB. 2012.

7.1 In the name of Allah, The Most Beneficial, The Most Merciful. All thanks be to Allah, the creator of man kind. He created diseases and provide medicine, peace be upon the Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W).

I am here to day to shade more light on vaccine against the Polio and Immunization. Since Muslim leaders concluded their findings on this matter and proffered solution in accordance with Islamic guidance.

On 18/8/1430 AH equivalent to 9/8/2009 AD, the Organization of Islamic Conference under the chairmanship of Dr Yusuf Qardawi and Muhti of Misira and Vice Chancellor University of Azhar Sheik Sharif and other Islamic scholars, has unanimously issue Fatawa that Islam accepted the Polio Vaccine and Immunization. They until the last day. References in the Holy Quran was cited as follows:

Suratul Tini - 34.

لَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ فِي أَحْسَنِ تَقْوِيمٍ (الآية ٤)

Suratul Al-Imran 34

هُنَا لَكَ دَعَاؤُكَ يَا رَبُّهُ قَالَ رَبُّهُ لِي مِنْ لَدُنْكَ ذُرِّيَّةً طَيِّبَةً إِنَّكَ سَمِيعُ الدُّعَاءِ (الآية ٣٨)

Suratul baqara 195.

مَنْ أَجَلَ ذَلِكَ كَتَبْنَا عَلَى بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ أَنَّهُ مَنْ قَتَلَ نَفْسًا بِغَيْرِ نَفْسٍ أَوْ فَسَادٍ فِي
الْأَرْضِ فَكَأَنَّمَا قَتَلَ النَّاسَ جَمِيعًا وَمَنْ أَحْيَاهَا فَكَأَنَّمَا
أَحْيَا النَّاسَ (الآية ٣٢)

Suratul Isra aya 31

ولانقفتلو اولالادلم حيشة املاق نحن نرزقم وإياحم إن قتلهم كان حطاء كبير

Suratul maida aya 32

وَلَا تَلْقُوا بِأَيْدِيكُمْ إِلَى التَّهْلُكَةِ وَأَحْسِنُوا اللَّهُ يُجِبُ الْمُحْسِنِينَ (الآية ٣٢)

Suratul Nahal aya 43

فا سئلوا حمل الذخران كنتم لاتعلمون

Suratul Ambiya aya 107

وما أرسلنا لك إلا رحمة للعالمين

HADITHS

كل اللحم راع روة الحارى وملم (١)
كفى بالامرء إسمآن يضيع رواه صحيح
فرح الدرى شرح البحارى
الأخذ بالتدوى والأسباب الشفاء والعلاج
فعدأقر الإسلام هذا المبدأ فقدرح الحديث عن النر من تصبح بسبع قمرات من
قمر المدرثة لم يضره سحر ولا سم
إذ سم بما فلا تحرجوا منعا . (الأخرجه البحارى) ٤
المؤمى القوى خيرا وأحيب إلا الله من المؤمن ضعيف

HADITHS

From the above verses and Hadiths, vaccination and immunization has
be come important for Muslim Umah to allow their children to be

vaccinated. At this junction, I will like to conclude by calling all the Muslims to support the efforts of **His eminence The Sultan of Sokoto** on Polio Eradication Initiative. This task being carried out by the Sultan can only achieve with our cooperation, the benefit is for all the Muslims, what the Sultan is doing towards eradication of Polio is for our own good and benefit. For any Muslim in Nigeria undermining the efforts of the Sultan in Polio and Immunization vaccine is at the cause of Allah. Almighty directed Muslims to obey Him, His Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and the leaders. The war against Polio Epidemic is in accordance with the teaching of Islam, our rejection to this, no doubt, it is a sign of disobedient to Allah's and His directives and a lost to us.

8.0 **CONCLUSION**

8.1 In conclusion, based on Islamic point of view, this collected presentations and speeches were decided to be produced in a pamphlet to enlighten Muslims brothers and sisters on the safety of Polio vaccine and Immunization. Federal, State, Local Governments and International Organizations i.e WHO UNICEF, TSHIP etc., are making efforts in ensuring the complete eradication of child incapacitation and killer diseases.

The primary objective is to ensure the support from all Muslims in Sokoto State and Northern Nigeria at large on Polio Eradication Initiative. Cases of non compliances was recorded in some areas of the State, which as a result some evidence of the disease were discovered. It is also aiming at the highlights on the works of Muslim leaders in the world and support they are given to Polio Eradication. Traditional Institution and Religious leaders are

complementing the efforts of Initiative by the Government Agencies which include sustainability introduced to the political and traditional institutions S.I.As and R.I (Supplemental and Routine Immunization) as well as Surveillances for diseases to ensure detection of A.F.P. (Aquite Flacid Paraliasies), to achieve the goals in Polio Eradication by 2012.

Ultimately, the rejection of Polio vaccine is a clear manifestation of Islamic ignorance or knowledge on the works of Islamic scholars on Polio vaccine. The Commitment to free our children from deadly diseases lies on the type of support and encouragement iven by the parents, religious and traditional institutions and to some extent Government officials,* particularly the Local Government Council.