

Review of: "“Healing is having faith in Allah, the healer, and the medicine”: An exploratory qualitative study of Islamic-based healing practices in Northern Ghana"

Christopher McKevitt¹

¹ King's College London

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This is a fascinating article that explores Islamic-based healing practices in Northern Ghana. It examines Dagomba traditional practices through interviews with six Islamic-based (male) healers and through healing sessions and practices. For this, the study is described as an exploratory qualitative research design. The project may be small, but it is well researched.

I have a few questions that may be followed up.

1. Very well written; sometimes a bit long and repetitious.
2. In the abstract, faith-based healing practices are becoming widespread in Ghana. My contention is that some faith practices are not *becoming* Islamic-based healers. Perhaps they always were?
3. Yidana, A. (2014) used a PhD; why?; an anthropologist or sociological text?
4. *Although a few studies have examined Dagbon traditional medical practices among the Dagomba of Northern Ghana...* How many?
5. *As a result, the focus was to gain insight into and generate new knowledge (Creswell & Creswell, 2018; Creswell & Poth, 2018).* I could not see them; maybe these references were not included.
6. *As native Dagomba, we also observed all Dagbon traditional cultural protocols guiding social interactions.* Do the authors mean they were native Dagomba?
7. Data Analysis

Themes were built around the healers' medical beliefs, spiritual practices, gendered perceptions, and healing knowledge acquisition.

Results

Significant among these findings are the healers' medical philosophies, ritual practices, and medical therapy

What are the differences?

1. *My wife couldn't conceive for seven years after marriage...*

Could there be more to say about this man and wife?

1. Medical Pluralism

The healers who use Ruqyah believe it to be a powerful form of therapy...

Ruqyah: What form of therapy is it?