

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"

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This article is interesting and explores Islamic faith-based healing as a main alternative to healing in Northern Ghana. Using an exploratory qualitative approach based on deep interviews with 6 native healers, this article aims to answer two key questions: (1) how is Islamic healing practiced among the Dagomba? (2) how do the Dagomba culture and health beliefs influence Islamic-based healing?

It is a well-written article with a scientific logical flow. The results provide insight into what healers' medical philosophies are, how ritual practices are carried out, and what types of medical therapy are. After several times reading the article, here are some suggested recommendations:

1. The healing carried out is not purely Islamic-based but is also influenced or mixed with local Dogomba culture and customs. It is important to clarify which ones are relevant to Islamic principles as stated in the Al Qur'an as well as with the Sunnah conveyed by the Prophet Muhammad SAW as Islamic sharia-based treatment. Which ones are approaches or influences from local culture?
2. Comparison with other religion-based healing such as Christianity will also clarify which ones come from religious-based spirituality aspects and which ones come from social-cultural aspects
3. Since the interview was conducted in 2016 – more than 5 years ago, it is necessary to add how it is different and relevant to current Islamic-based medical practices in Ghana
4. This article has also explained the weaknesses or limitations faced. What about recommendations for further research in the future? What questions or aspects are worth exploring? Especially after the COVID-19 pandemic occurred. Does spiritual-based healing have a new trend or phenomenon?

Thank you for this good article. Hopefully, this will inspire further research for various parties.