



## Islam and Addiction

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### ABSTRACT

Addiction is a kind of disease that affects all the body, brain, behavior, and personality of a person. Although narcotics have been used for a long time, we cannot determine the exact time that human was acquainted with it. Tobacco was introduced to Muslims in 17<sup>th</sup> A.D (10 centuries after creation of Islam). Although, narcotics' abuse was not so important during the time of Honorable Prophet Mohammed and innocent Imams (S), and we don't have any specific verse or narration in this regard, since Islam is a universal and eternal religion, and have completely provided all the needs of the society at all ages, and has met all the humankind's wishes, so it has paid attention to this subject and has warned people from different sides about not using narcotics. Because of many adverse effects of drugs and smoke, and referring to some verses of Quran and some hadith, which have forbidden the malevolence we can conclude that muslims should avoid of smoking and drug abuse.

### Introduction

Addiction is a kind of disease that affects all the body, brain, behavior, and personality of a person. Tolerance occurs in the body of an addict to the first dose of the drug and persuades one to increase the first dose to get the primary results of it, so frequently the person addicts the drug physically and physiologically. It means that no access to the drug causes the appearance of the withdrawal syndromes such as headache, nausea, diarrhea, feel of alteration, crabbing, insomnia, spasm, anxiety, and ... . Therefore the one gets very enthusiastic to find and use the drug again, and becomes ready to get the needed drug at any price, even commitment of a crime or ostentation. At the end, the addict feels comfortable, and so to speak he does the job. Addiction which is a kind of intense abuse of drugs, not only causes and extends infectious diseases such as AIDS, Hepatitis, tuberculosis and increasing the rate of death, but also results some serious problems such as increasing the rate of crime, unemployment, and losing the tremendous resources of the countries.<sup>1</sup> So that, for example, in the United States of America, more than 0.5 trillion dollars is spent for addiction and campaigning it.<sup>2</sup> A research in the USA showed that the rate of narcotics' abuse had been reached the highest point in 70s, decreased in 80s, and increased again in 90s, but remained constant till

now.<sup>3</sup> The drivers who abuse drugs are more exposed to the danger of driving accidents. As an example, the study on the drivers who had died in car accidents on the roads of France from 2003 to 2004 showed that 39.6% of their blood samples contained illegal drugs and among them 80.2% were cannabinoids, 7.4% amphetamines, 1.9% opiates, and 4.8% cocaine.<sup>4</sup> A study on 6752 Nigerian adults showed that abusing alcohol, tobacco, hypnotics, cannabis, stimulant drugs, and cocaine had the most and the least rate of consumption among them respectively.<sup>5</sup> Drug abuse often begins in adolescence and youth, but elders do mistake in the dose or the kind of the prescribed drugs.<sup>6</sup> Many studies show that the people who abuse illicit drugs have experienced smoking (12.7%),<sup>7-12</sup> or alcohol (13.8%)<sup>8,13</sup> for the first time and some have reported using marijuana<sup>14</sup> as a first step in drug abusing. A study shows that participating in religious activities has been recognized as preventing factor in inclination to drug abuse.<sup>15</sup> Recently a new drug called gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB) has been added to the drugs abused by American youths in night clubs.<sup>16</sup> The drugs which are prevalent by Iranian youths include amphetamines, beta-blockers, metil-phenidate, cannabis, tobacco, and opium. A study on 173 male students of the dormitory of Tabriz University of

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Medical Sciences of revealed that 16% of them had used alcohol, 6% cannabis, 6% opium, and 2% heroin during 6 months before.<sup>17</sup> A similar study on 1783 (13.7%) students of a high school in Tabriz showed that 10.1% of them used to drink alcohol and 2.2% of them used to abuse drugs.<sup>18</sup> A study on the students of Shiraz University of Medical Science showed that 4.4% of them used to abuse opium and its derivations.<sup>19</sup> Another similar study on 400 students of the nursing faculty of the same university showed that 27.3% of students used to abuse drugs and this included 23.2% smoking, 5.8% alcohol, 8.5% opium, 1.5% cocaine, and 2.3% cannabis.<sup>20</sup> Another study on 213 students showed 52% smoking, 25% alcohol, 21% opium, 12% cannabis, and one case heroin.<sup>21</sup> A research on 397 students in Shiraz showed that 30.23% used to abuse drugs and 25.4% of them had experienced smoking, 9.6% alcohol, 3.5% opium, 3.8% cannabis, 2.5% heroin, 0.5% LSD, 1% cocaine, and 0.8% morphine.<sup>22</sup> The above mentioned studies have been compared with a study which had taken place in Iran on 607 students from all over the universities of Iran before the Islamic Revolution of Iran and had showed that 24% of them had experience of drug abuse.<sup>23</sup> This comparison shows no remarkable difference in the rate of the youth's tendency to drug abuse during 30 years. Smoking, especially cigar is a big problem which all the communities, even the developed ones, encounter with. Reduction of production and using narcotic drugs are two important patterns that are used as overall policies to control the illicit drugs. In spite of applying such policies, the statistics show that the using narcotic drugs in developing countries is increasing day by day.<sup>24</sup> There are 1.3 billion users of narcotic drugs in the world that 80% of them belong to the developing countries.<sup>25</sup> Smoking is one of the causes of many diseases in the USA which can be predicted and controlled. Smoking causes some kinds of cancers (especially lung, esophagus, kidney, brain, and blood), bronchitis, emphysema, aneurysm, etc. Death rate which is caused by cancer among smokers is twice as many as the nonsmokers. On the average, the smokers die 14 years earlier than the nonsmokers.<sup>26</sup> From 1964 to 2004 using narcotics caused the death of 12 million people which 4.1 million persons affected by cancer, 5.5 million had suffered from heart and blood vessels diseases, and 2.1 million had breathing problems and chronic pulmonary obstruction. There were also 94000 abortions because of the mothers' smoking problem.<sup>27</sup> Five million deaths are being reported every year in the world caused by using tobacco and is predicted that this rate will increase to 10 million people till 2025. Total expenses related to using narcotics (like diseases and deaths) in America are 200 billion dollars each year. Almost 8200 to 9900 young people begin using narcotics everyday.<sup>24</sup> Regression analysis shows there is a direct correlation between the diseases such as esophageal cancer, coughing, bronchitis, asthma, tuberculosis, bladder cancer, breast cancer, Crohn's

disease, colon cancer, etc and the rate of smoking.<sup>28-33</sup> Meanwhile, the children who live with smoker parents are strongly exposed to such diseases. We observe such problems in the families with low incomes and educations. Neuro-biologic researches show that nicotine stimulates dopaminergic mesolimbic in the brain and increases drug tendency.<sup>34</sup> A study on 400 nursery students of Shiraz University of Medical Sciences showed that 27.3% used to abuse drugs and among them 23.3% used to smoke cigar.<sup>20</sup> Another study on 213 students of this university shows that 52% have experienced smoking.<sup>22</sup> A study on 397 Shirazian students of a high school showed that 30.23% used to abuse drugs and among them 25.4% had tried cigar.<sup>21</sup> Another research on 1095 high school students in Tehran showed that 29% used to smoke and 5% smoke every day.<sup>35</sup> A similar research on 11966 Iranian students aged 11 to 18 showed that 42.2% of them had used tobacco products daily.<sup>36</sup> Another research on 1335 people showed that 26% men and 3.6% women were the daily users of tobacco products.<sup>21</sup> Depression is the most important factor for the inclination of the university students to use narcotic drugs. Psychological problems that these students encounter with during their education, being disappointed and losing hope about their future, undesirable accommodation and substandard presence of them in one room and cultural problems all might be risk factors for their tendency to the drugs. Studies show that youths often begin using tobacco in the friendly parties<sup>37,38</sup> and state that they smoke just for fun and releasing from the life and job stresses.<sup>39</sup> More than 80% of the smokers begin smoking before the age of 20.<sup>40</sup>

### History

Although narcotics have been used for a long time, we cannot determine the exact time that human was acquainted with it. Nevertheless, it seems because of the different factors and occasions humankind experienced and knew narcotics from the first social careers and have used them in remedying the diseases, decreasing pains, controlling appetite and dietary, increasing and quieting stress and nostalgia, being released from pressures, satisfying curiosity, opening new life views, creating friendly relationships, increasing sexual activities, and even giving meaning to life. Humankind has known narcotics for 7000 years. Sumerians had referred to tobacco in their general tablets. Avesta has referred to a kind of numbing substance Called Kanalize. During the reign of Darush Achaemenid Indians knew opium and sent it to China.<sup>41</sup>

In historical works of Egypt there are some hints to narcotics and their applications. Ave Sina and Razi have used narcotics as effective medicines. The first form of narcotics had been used in medicine for the welfare of humankind and finally entered the society and their applications changed. In 1804, morphine was used in medicine to save the people. In 4<sup>th</sup> BC,

Hippocrates and Galen had referred to opium as a strong tranquilizer and had used it as a pain killer. As mentioned above, existence of these materials had medical applications and was used to relieve the pain of the sick people, but opportunists were using them in other ways. Since the last century, expansionist countries especially Great Britain increased the tendency toward the narcotics in the undeveloped countries and rushed such materials to these countries and then paved the same way in other countries. But there are different ideas in this regard about Iran: Sheikh-Al-Raees Ave Sina and Razi used these materials for their tranquilizing effects and some believe that they were brought to Iran during Genghis's attack to Iran. Others believe that narcotics sloped to Iran from India since the battle of King Nader. But historians and researchers say these materials were used specially by courtiers and then entered the society. Using these materials flourished in the reign of Pahlavi and since 1936 till 1339 cultivation poppy was widespread. In 1955 planting poppy was abandoned by WHO.<sup>42</sup> However, planting poppy continued in the neighboring countries like Afghanistan and Pakistan and since Iran is in the transit path of this substance to Europe, it enters Iran through several ways. Part of it goes to Europe by Mafias and the main part of it is used in Iran and the destructive calamity of addiction has destroyed many youths' life. Entering the chemical psychedelics medicines is increasing as the west culture is penetrating through satellite, internet, and irregular trips to the west societies.

Tobacco was discovered by Spanish navigators in the America's coasts in 15<sup>th</sup> A.D, and distributed in all over the world in a way that most of the families are affected the tobaccos influences. At the beginning of 17<sup>th</sup> A.D, the Europeans distinguished the harmful effects of tobaccos and different European countries determined some rule against them according to their own taste. Tobacco was introduced to Muslims in 17<sup>th</sup> A.D (10 centuries after creation of Islam).<sup>43</sup>

### Reviewing the Related Verses and Narrations

Addiction is the most important factor of immortality and adversity and undoubtedly can be accounted as the cause of adversity and destruction of the society and human race. Although, narcotics' abuse was not so important during the time of Honorable Prophet Mohammed and innocent Imams (S), and we don't have any specific verse or narration in this regard, since Islam is a universal and eternal religion, and have completely provided all the needs of the society at all ages, and has met all the humankind's wishes, so it has paid attention to this subject and has warned people from different sides about not using narcotics. Before talking about the addiction, we would rather to discuss about the verses of Quran concerning the prohibition of alcohol. There is no verse about the prohibition of alcohol, but it warns about the drinks containing alcohol, which are called wine. As we understand the

verses, although wine has been strongly forbidden, this prohibition was step by step. In such a manner, we observe in surah Nisa (Women), verse no. 43:

"ياايهاالذين امنوا لاتقربوا الصلوة وانتم سكارى حتى تعلموا ما تقولون....."

"O you who believe! Do not go near prayer when you are intoxicated until you know (well) what you say...."

It can be observed that wine was not prohibited at the beginning of Islam and there were some believers who used to drink it and become drunk. Meanwhile, wine is blamed in this verse, because it obliterates the mind.

Surah Bagharah (cow), a part of verse No. 219 says:

"يسئلونك عن الخمر والميسر، قل فيهما اثم كبير ومنافع للناس و اثمهما اكبر من نفعهما...."

"They ask you about wine and gambling. Say: In both of them there are a great sin and few profits for men. However, their sin is greater than their profits...." Now the question is "Does this verse mean that drinking wine is useful for men?" at least the appearance of the verse does not show this. Regarding that the God on high answers the question about wine alongside the gambling, it shows that like gambling by which the man can increase his wealth, he can also get more money through the trade of wine.

At last God has given ultimatum and clearly invites the believers not to drink wine:

Surah Maidah (food), verses 90 & 91):

"ياايهاالذين امنوا انماالخمر والميسر والانساب والزلام، رجس من عمل الشيطان، فاجتنبوه لعلكم تفلحون. انما يريد الشيطان ان يوقع بينكم العداوة والبغضاء فى الخمر والميسر و يصدكم عن ذكر الله و عن الصلوة فهل انتم منتهون"

"o you who believe! Wine, gambling, (sacrificing to) idols and lottery are unclean and the Satan's works; shun it to be saved. The Satan only desires to cause enmity and hatred to spring in your midst by means of wine and gambling, and to keep you off from the remembrance of Allah and from prayer. Will you then desist?"

We can observe that Satan's works like keeping off from the remembrance of Allah and from prayer, hatred, quarrelsome, contentiousness, etc. which all can be found in drinking wine, and this is why God has banned it. Alcohol disorders all senses, causes nausea and vertigo, and decreases the judgment potency. Alcohol strongly depresses the central nerves system, especially if it is used alongside the depressant drugs such as barbiturates, benzodiazepines, opioids, antidepressants, and anti-psychosis drugs. Drinking alcohol causes fat liver, hepatitis, liver cirrhosis, pancreatitis, peptic ulcer, cardiomyopathy, malnutrition, hallucination, and insanity. It changes the strongest man to a person in tatters and disheveled with a livid face and bloody eyes. Such a person will die because of hunger, the coldness of winter, or diseases at the side of the street forlorn, without any money. By the way, we can deduce from this verse that not only is drinking wine forbidden, but also is making, trading, maintaining, and receiving it and even cultivating grapes for making wine prohibited. Now the question is

that if there are other cases other than those mentioned in verse no. 90 surah Maida (Food) which keep the man away from the mentioning God, and Satan's abominations are hidden in them (like narcotics, psychedelics, and tobaccos), and if these are prohibited or not? God willing we will answer this question at the end.

Although has not directly mentioned all the prohibited foods and drinks one by one, in several cases the prohibited ones have been called malevolence, for example: Surah Araf (The Elevated Places)

"الذين يتبعون الرسول النبي الامى الذى يجدونه مكتوبة عندهم فى التوراة والانجيل يامرهم بالمعروف وينهيهم عن المنكر ويحل لهم الطبيات ويحرم عليهم الخبائث"

"Those who follow the Apostle Prophet, the Ummi (illiterate), and find Him written down in the Torah and the bible, The Holy Prophet enjoins them good and forbids evil, and makes the good things lawful to them and makes malevolence things unlawful to them;

Undoubtedly, every right reason knows alcohol, narcotics, tobaccos, and psychedelics, which are harmful for body and society and pave the way for many sins and crimes, are malevolence things. On the other hand, there is narration from the Holy Prophet in Sahih-Al-Bukhari: "**every intoxicant is like wine and every wine is prohibited**", so many psychedelics such as hashish, cocaine, LSD, amphetamines, mescaline, etc. which intoxicate man like alcohol can be interpreted as prohibition.<sup>44</sup>

Al-Bukhari and Muslim narrate a certified narration from our Holy Prophet as follow:

"**God has forbidden these to you: despising parents, burying girls alive, committing treason against trust, and what God hates and does not like you to do like vain talks, continuous suspicion, and wasting money**". Looking at this narration, we conclude that God may hate the obvious evidences of wasting money like drinking wines, narcotics, and even tobacco which impose not only body injuries, but also heavy economic harms on the users, their families, and the society.<sup>45</sup>

Jaber narrates another certified narration from God's holy prophet as follow: "**One who eats garlic or onion, it's better to stay at home and not to come near us and mosque**".<sup>46</sup>

Surely, the reason of this request of God's prophet from the people who eat garlic or onion is their bad and repellent smell. The smells of addicts and smokers are not more desirable than the smell of onion and garlic. Unfortunately, the smokers not only are not banned of smoking in the mosques, but also they are given ashtrays. In another narration from God's prophet, attributed to Al-Tabarani, we can read as follow: "**Whoever bothers others is like one who bothers me, and whoever bothers me, is like the one who bothers God.**"

No clinician, toxicologist, and scientist denies the damages of liver arising from alcohol, the brain and pulmonary damages resulting from narcotics, and carcinogenicity of tobacco, the effects which make

death smooth but painful for man at the end. Such a suicide and bothering the family and society is an obvious evidence for the verse no. 195, surah Bagharah (the cow) which says:

"ولا تلقوا بأيديكم الى التهلكه"

"Do not cast yourselves to perdition with your own hands", and verse no. 29, surah Nesa (Women) which says:

"ولا تقتلوا انفسكم ان الله كان بكم رحيمًا"

"Do not kill yourselves; surely Allah is Merciful to you". So, putting yourselves in death intentionally is a big sin and is forbidden by the great God. An addict not only afflicts and disgraces his wife, children, and family and commits treason against his country's properties, culture, and policy, but also sets his body on fire and brings his life to an end in the dark and frightening cells or on the gallows tree.

Imam Musa-Ibn-Jafar states: "**God has forbidden wine not for its name, but for its effects and corruptions**". So, anything that ends like the wine is exactly wine. (Foro Kafi, volume 6, p 212).<sup>47</sup> It means that wine is prohibited for the corruption which it causes and the result of using narcotics is the same.

Opium and its derivatives (morphine and heroin) quiet pain, but their effects fade after some hours, and unless the addict accesses the needed narcotic substance, withdrawal syndrome begins. Yawning, sleepiness, excessive perspiration, lacrimation, rhinorea, anorexia, and hypotension are all the symptoms of withdrawal syndrome. If the withdrawal syndrome lasts more than 24 to 48 hours, this will throw the addict into convulsion and tremor. He feels cold and nausea, diarrhea, stomach-ache, headache, backache, and pain in hands and feet occur. He refuses to eat food and water, so he loses weight and feels impending dying. Addiction to opium and its derivatives decreases the sexual tendencies.<sup>48</sup> The addicts who inject the narcotics every moment are exposed to several kinds of infectious diseases like hepatitis and AIDS. The addict tends to increase the dose of the narcotics to feel the similar experienced effects. He gets the needed substance in any way and commits any crime. The addict has involuntary, irritability, restlessness, and unstable condition. The morality obligations and affections destroy in addict and he is indifferent toward life and experiences a vague feeling about the time and place. Sometimes, he feels depression or is beset by fancies and becomes delirious and commits madness deeds. Sometimes, the quality and consequences of using narcotics and tobacco are much more than drinking wine which is clearly prohibited in Quran.

Unlike opium and its derivatives, addiction to hashish (marijuana) does not cause drowsiness, but the addict gradually tends to use stronger substances. Most of the addicts of opium and its derivatives have experienced hashish, for the first time. After using hashish, the heart beats faster, white part of the eyes becomes red. Coughing, dry throat, muscle pains, diarrhea, impotence, pulmonary and digestive system diseases,

all are the next consequences. It causes abortion in pregnant women.<sup>49</sup> Hashish, at first, brings temporary happiness, self-confidence, and tranquility. One often has a feel of flying. Not accessing to narcotics, the addict will have a sense of anger, stress, and restlessness and might tend to suicide. He becomes dauntless, reckless, fierce, and ready to commit any rudeness crime and does any unintentional deed. Hashish causes talkativeness, unreason laughs, and sometimes irrelevant crying and destroys the moralities and ruins the judgment potency. The addict is involved in fancies, especially sight fancy. Such fancies are sometimes stronger than the fancies which are caused by using alcohol that God has prohibited it clearly. Recent statistics show that 80.2% of car accidents happen because of using hashish or marijuana during driving.<sup>4</sup>

Cocaine does not cause physical dependence, but the addict needs to increase its dose because of psychological dependence. He feels he is not tired anymore. The physical effects of using cocaine are heart diseases, change in the blood pressure, pulmonary diseases, headache, vertigo, peptic ulcer, seizures and tremors of feet and hands. Since the addict does not feel hunger or thirst and is anorectic, he loses weight. Sometimes, a fistula is made in the vestibule of the nose causing nose bleeding. Because of touch fancies, the addict feels combustion in his body and sometimes is involved in different skin diseases. Because of these fancies, he imagines some insects under his skin. Cocaine destroys the visual neurons, and because of visual fancies, he sees some imaginary colorful and mobile things. The body spasm of the addict is similar to an epileptic patient, and excessive using it causes death. Cocaine stimulates the neurological system, at first the addict feels happiness and prosperity and his sexual tendencies increases. In negative period, the user is nervous, restless, and stressful. Overusing causes mental diseases such as paranoia, toxic psychosis (like alcohol psychosis) and dizziness with visual, audition, and sexual frightening fancies. Because of such fancies, the user resorts to dangerous deeds which are more than his power and becomes aggressive and anti social. The psychological effects of crack, which is cocaine without water, are more dangerous than cocaine.<sup>49</sup>

Cigar consists of 443 types of toxins that 43 of them are carcinogen. Nicotine "the most part of them" is so poisonous that two drips of it can kill a dog and 5 drips of it can kill a camel. Nicotine often enters the lungs by tobacco smoking. Studies have proved that it causes addiction and is also a carcinogen. Nicotine sets on the nicotinic receptors and by stimulating ganglions stimulates sympathetic nervous system. Following overdose, it stimulates parasympathetic system, and in more overdoses, the ganglionic and muscular nicotinic receptors are blocked and its direct effect on CNS causes nausea, vomiting, and seizures. The symptoms of nicotinic poisoning are vertigo, miosis, salivation, bronchitis, tachycardia, hypertension, and respiratory

system's weakness. Lethal dose of nicotine is 40 to 60 milligram, and each cigar contains 1.5% or 10 to 15 milligram nicotine, from this amount 30 to 40% is absorbed by the body and causes toxic effects on different parts of the body.<sup>50</sup> Sudden stop of smoking causes headache, restlessness, digestive system disorders, rudeness, changing the blood pressure and decreasing neurogenic hormones' release.<sup>51</sup> Since smokers become tolerated against nicotine; its toxic effects are more on children who live with their smoker parents. Other dangerous and carcinogenic agents in cigar are CO<sub>2</sub>, benzene, polonium, cadmium, nickel, lead, tar, formaldehyde, acrolein, nitrosamine, ammoniac, and hydrogen cyanide.

Cigar is thought prohibited by Islam and Quran not only because of such dangers, but also for producing smoke and polluting the nature. Nature is so important for the prominent God that he swears in different verses to its components such as "fig", "olive", "sky", "earth", "sun", "moon", etc. Even, God calls smoke as an obvious characteristic of the hell: Surah Waqia (The Great Event), verse no. 43:

"... وظل من يحوم"

"... and the shade of black smoke has covered the hell." It is obvious that somebody who continuously smokes in a room has made a hell for his and his family. In Sahih-AL-Bukhari there is a narration from our holy Prophet who says: "Whoever believes in God and the judging day, should not bother his neighbor".<sup>52</sup> Smoking not only is harmful for body and pollutes the air, but also wastes the properties of the smoker and his family; furthermore, a great amount of the budget of the countries is spent for making and distributing it. For example in England, 1.7 billion Pounds is spent for supplying tobaccos. Isn't it squandering, and isn't squandering prohibited in Islam? Surah Araf, verse no. 31 says:

"...كلوا واشربوا ولا تسرفوا انه لا يحب المرففين"

"Eat and drink, but do not waste, surely God does not love the extravagant."

In addition to the physical and economical problems which are results of using narcotics, alcohol, and tobaccos, these substances have very close relationships with different crimes. Only a few prisoners might not smoke. In 1985, in the USA, the total crimes related to the narcotics and alcohol were 800000. One third of 523000 American prisoners were drunken during the committing the crimes. From 50000 car accidents, 23000 cases were drunk or had used narcotics during the driving. One third of those who suffer from AIDS, have been affected through self-injecting narcotics by contaminated syringes. Using narcotics and alcohol in America is increasing among the children who are under 5.<sup>53</sup>

### **Abandonment of Addiction in Islam**

The blessed month, Ramadan, and fasting are not only a way for more praying, obeying God, avoiding gluttony, and coming close to God, but also it's a way



that God has shown the man to keep his soul away from wickedness, which itself can provide salvation for him. Avoiding drinking alcohol, smelling the smoke, and injecting are all tries of the addict which through fasting can leave them in one step and do not come close them after Ramadan. It's obvious that without faith and religious believes such a person cannot fast. By strengthening the faith and believes in the reunions like schools, universities, and offices we can prevent the chimerical motives for seeking shelter on narcotics, alcoholic wines, and even cigar. Studies and experiences in different countries show that religious people use such substances less, unless the religion itself or the priests of religion encourage them to use these substances. As the red wine is sacred in churches and people are entertained with it. In 1960's, Christian priests used to propagate consuming LSD just for its hallucinating effects. The users claimed that they can visit Jesus and holy Mary after taking LSD. Hameed and his colleagues<sup>54</sup> in a study showed the effect of belief in Islam and fasting on keeping the person away from tobacco. Although 98% of people are Muslim in Iran, a report from this county shows that 22% of men and 2% of women use tobacco in Iran. Fortunately, among 30 Muslim countries, tobacco smoking has been recently forbidden in public places like mosques only in Iran, Syria, and Turkey.<sup>55</sup> However, smoking in public places like bus stations, banks, WCs, buses, and some mosques is still common, so the rules need to be firmer. Many Islamic scholars have announced tobacco as abominable, and Al-Azhar University in Egypt has prohibited it.

### Conclusion

There is no evidence in history that from the beginning of Islam and descending of Quran people used narcotics and tobacco for pleasure, so there is no clear verse about prohibition of them. However, because of many adverse effects of drugs and smoke and referring to verses like verse No. 157, surah Araf, which has forbidden the malevolence we can conclude that muslims should avoid of smoking and drug abuse. We can conclude that the residents of small communities like villages, who obey the greats of their religion rather than urban residents, through prohibition or not approving narcotics and tobacco and cause them to abandon the addiction or to keep them away from these drugs. We hope to have at least Islamic societies away from abusing alcohol, drugs, addictives, and tobacco. God willing...

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