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Type of Presentation: Workshop

The Islamic perspective on Jinn, Evil Eye, and Black Magic and their impact on mental health presentations

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Learning Goal:

For the audience to gain a basic level understanding of the Islamic concept of the self, and the Islamic concept of evil, and how the phenomena of Satan/Jinn, Evil Eye and Black Magic can affect the self with a focus on psychosis.

Abstract Text:

Over the past decade Dr Betteridge has combined her passion for working with acute and crisis mental health with that of incorporating faith and spirituality into mental health care. Whilst working as a Spiritual Care Advisor/Mental Health Chaplain in a Mental Health Trust she began receiving referrals for issues regarding Jinn, Evil Eye and Black Magic from multi-disciplinary professionals for their clients. Over the following four years this work culminated in developing a staff training around these issues. The training has proved hugely successful and now in her role as Senior Specialist Psychologist for the Tower Hamlets Black, Minority, and Ethnic Access Service she has been able to deliver the training not only to staff, but also through the local Recovery College, and developed local community groups on the Islamic concept of the self and mental health. This presentation aims to provide the audience with a basic understanding of the topic, give an overview of the work to date, and develop further discussion around the issues raised. Many of Dr Betteridge's clients who have received a diagnosis of psychosis believe that their diagnosis does not take into consideration their religious beliefs on the above topics mentioned. This leaves them feeling frustrated, unheard, confused, and disengaged from services. Dr Betteridge aims to develop the understanding of these issues for both mental health professionals/services, and Muslim clients, in order to promote a better-informed, more holistic, person-centred approach to mental health care.

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