THE ISLAMIC WORLDVIEW, ETHICS AND CIVILIZATION
Issues in Contemporary Interdisciplinary Discourse

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Euthanasia: An Islamic Perspective

Mohammad Manzoor Malik

Introduction

Euthanasia is one of the significant bioethical issues that has grown in complexity over time because of unprecedented developments in medicine, biotechnology, palliative care, and advanced medical technology. The issue is ethical and legal; new and old. To address this issue from the perspective of Islam, responses have emerged from various sections such as organizations of Muslim doctors, independent writers, fatwās, and above all from the Islamic jurisprudential bodies and Islamic medical code. In this chapter, euthanasia and its types are explained. Active euthanasia is explained with related issues which come under it and ethical guidance from the main sources of Islamic jurisprudence is taken to understand Islamic ethical position on the issue. In a similar way, passive euthanasia is explained and the issues which come under it are explained and a detailed discourse is given in understanding the issues and how Islamic approach to medical treatment solves these issues.

Euthanasia: Explanation

Euthanasia, commonly known as mercy killing, is one of the pressing bioethical issues that has grown in complexity over the past few decades because of unprecedented developments in medicine, biotechnology, palliative care, and advanced medical technology. Euthanasia is both a new and an old issue. It is new because of its understanding, forms, types and the relevant legal and ethical discourse. Moreover, it is the modern advanced medical technology that has brought this issue under extensive focus of philosophers,