ABSTRACT BOOK

Seminar On:

"ISLAMIZATION OF MEDICAL CURRICULUM AND PRACTICE"

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Gender Identity Disorders in Islamic Perspective

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A person with this disorder often experiences great discomfort regarding his or her actual anatomic gender. People with gender identity disorder may act and present themselves as members of the opposite sex and may express a desire to alter their bodies. Negative attitudes towards transsexuals often accompany certain religious philosophies or social values. Some of them are raised in faiths that condemned their actions as immoral or wrong. They remain confused about transsexuality. Eventually sufferers usually stay in stress when they feel themselves trapped in the wrong body. The relationship between transgenderism and religion varies widely around the world. In Islam, the term MUKHANNATHUN is used to describe gender-variant people. A mukhannath is the male who carries the characteristics of a woman. There are many legal issues and religious aspects of transsexuals. The most often mentioned are, which bathroom to use, which section of the mosque to use for prayers? How to address their civil rights and sexual rights? Employment, eligibility to participate in games, vote casting, and heirship issues, are usually main concern with gender identity disorder. Homosexuality and suicidal tendencies are known consequences. Public view upsets the psychological and emotional state of a transgender; consider them as deviant in culture that is unable to play a constructive role. An example which classically illustrates gender identity disorder is the case of a young Muslim man from Brunei Darussalam, who was seen and treated. This presentation will highlight the cultural and religious perspective of this Disorder.