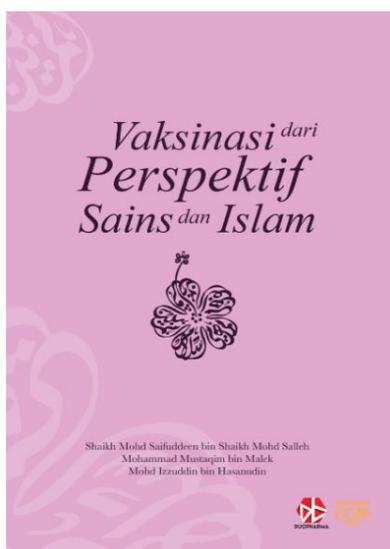


Book Review: Vaksinasi dari Perspektif Sains dan Islam

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Vaksinasi dari Perspektif Sains dan Islam (*Vaccination from the Perspective of Science and Islam*), published by Penerbit IKIM in 2024, is a timely publication in response to the global phenomenon of vaccination following the COVID-19 pandemic. The book was authored by Shaikh Mohd Saifuddeen bin Shaikh Mohd Salleh, Mohammad Mustaqim bin Malek, and Mohd Izzuddin bin Hasanudin, a team of researchers from the Institut Kefahaman Islam Malaysia (IKIM; *Institute of Islamic Understanding Malaysia*). In line with IKIM's primary function of promoting the understanding of Islam in the development of civilization, this book seeks to address and unpack the issues surrounding vaccines and vaccination from the perspectives of science, medicine, religion, and the humanities. The 153-page book is written in the Malay language. The book is divided into six main chapters: About vaccine, History of vaccine, Islam and vaccination, Current scenarios of vaccination, Issues surrounding vaccination, and Future challenges. The book also provides abbreviations, footnotes, introduction, conclusion, glossary, bibliography, and index. In the introduction, the authors

provide five important terms in relation to vaccines (immunity, inoculation, vaccine, vaccination, and immunisations) to frame the discussion of the forthcoming chapters. Chapter 1 provided the concepts and definitions of halal, haram, and *halalan toyyiban* from the aspects of Arabic language and Shari'ah terms. Chapter 2 highlights that the understanding of pathogens and their related diseases has long been present and discussed by the Islamic scholars, including Al-Razi, Ibn Sina, and Ibn Al-Khatib. This chapter also briefly discussed the history of vaccination, beginning as early as the 10th Century in China. Chapter 3 delved into the discussion surrounding the understanding of the Islamic rulings on seeking treatment, jurisprudence (*fiqh*) principles related to vaccination, and the status of halal vaccine, including fatwas concerning immunisation and specific vaccines. Chapter 4 described the current scenarios of vaccine refusal and anti-vaccine movements, which have contributed to a rapid rise in vaccine-preventable diseases such as polio, diphtheria, and measles worldwide. The chapter stressed that the public should always verify vaccine-related information and consult trusted health authorities when in doubt, as vaccine hesitancy poses a serious risk to global health. Chapter 5 looks deeper into the factors that caused doubt, confusion, and negative perceptions among the public towards the vaccine. This includes concerns regarding vaccine safety with a brief discussion on harmful substances alleged to be present in vaccines, impacts on the immune system, the necessity of vaccination, and the halal status of vaccines. Chapter 6 delineates two major future challenges that require serious attention and effort; one is the potential threat of new pandemics; and two, is the Muslim countries' capacity to develop their own vaccine to increase self-reliant vaccine supply. The book finally concludes that vaccination is a means of effort to protect against diseases, which is in line with the Islamic rulings that safeguard human life. In summary, this book is a valuable contribution to enhancing understanding of vaccination from an Islamic perspective, with the broader aim of protecting public health against infectious diseases. Its content is well-balanced-maintaining academic rigour while remaining accessible to the general reader. It also serves as a useful reference for researchers interested in halal vaccine research, development, and innovation. Translating the book into English and other languages would extend its reach to a wider audience, while highlighting Malaysia's leadership and commitment to advancing halal vaccine development for the benefit of the ummah.

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