

Islamic Perception Of Paranormal Beliefs; Psychological Interpretation

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Abstract

The present research aimed to find what paranormal belief is and how it impacts the overall society. For this purpose five interviews and one focus group were conducted. The present research is qualitative in nature; hence the data analysis was based on Interpretative Phenomenological Approach (IPA). The themes were extracted and conclusion was formulated over it. The result showed that paranormal beliefs are normal these days due to pragmatic approach of people to get inner satisfaction and instant consequences. Whereas it is strongly prohibited in Islam. People need to be trained to get awareness regarding this evil. The results are discussed in the light of Islamic teaching and Pakistani cultural context.

Keyword: paranormal belief, interpretive phenomenological approach, islamic teachings

Introduction

Majority of the scientists believe that parapsychology is the study of paranormal and psychic phenomena (Randi, 1982) such as psychokinesis (Irwin, 2007) near death experience, precognition, clairvoyance, reincarnation, apparitional experiences and many other supernatural claims (Alcock, 1981).

The term paranormal belief inclines towards sketchily used if it is referring to a massive faith in phenomena for which science has no description. Those who conduct research in this domain are usually belong to general

public, journalists, academic colleagues etc showing their interest in the paranormanon (Irwin, 2007). Paranormal literally means “beyond normal” and may refer to any occurrence which cannot explained by present scientific concepts. Paranormal beliefs and spiritual beliefs are part of a wide-ranging view which is eminent by a personal opinion on life and how the world works (Zusne & Jones, 1982) and are escorted by other events, such as selecting to view movies or television depictions with paranormal themes (Sparks & Miller, 2001; Tobacyk & Milford, 1983). Para-normality uses three criteria: (1) it is a phenomena that can never be explained by the recent science; (2)

phenomena that can only be best described only when there will be revisions in basic laws of science and (3) phenomena are mismatched with normative perceptions and expectations about reality. Paranormal belief are different form of beliefs including beliefs in religious principle such as powerful divinities, power of prayers, survival of soul, and mystical phenomena, beliefs in psychic abilities such as psychokinesis and clairvoyant perception, belief in irrational, pseudoscience such as astrology, déjà vu and reincarnation, and belief that the earth is stayed by the extra-terrestrials life forms (Irwin, 2009).

In fact parapsychology is the new field of psychology which basic purpose is to analyze human nature and behavior with the help of some mechanism which are beyond the senses. Sometimes it is called telepathy, in which the behavior of human is controlled by extra sensory perception (ESP) (Flexner, 2004).

Actually, parapsychology movement coincided with two parallel movements in the United State and United Kingdom during the same time. The first is basically spiritualism, which is infact religious movement. By the help of spiritualism, people could communicate with spirits though a psychic medium after Spiritualism by the help of theosophy, parapsychological and supernatural ideas were accumulate in many people's minds. (White, 2011).

Power of ESP, religion and spirituality are normally considered synonymous. ESP and spiritualism are considered as offshoot of religion. Though close affiliation of two can be found in Islam, yet some discrepancy is made between the formal religion (Sharī'ah) and real religion (Tarīqah). If someone wants to understand parapsychology, firstly the person must know about the difference between spiritualism and psychical point of view. Psychicism is basically a scientific and empirical

theory while spiritualism is based on a specific religious faith. Parapsychology only deals with psychical phenomena like E.S.P. and pragmatic theory. Psychology believes that the only source of human perception are sensory and motor nerves. Parapsychology acknowledges the sense organs in the acquisition of knowledge, but as a parallel this domain claims some extra supernormal power in a man by which if he uses them, the person can achieve that knowledge which is beyond the human imagination without the use of sense- organs.

Parapsychology research is accompanied by many institutions in eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, during the post-modern era in twentieth century it was consider as critic, due to which it break the avaricious and physicality views of modernity (Yaghoobian, 2015).

Parapsychology was invented in 1889 by theorist Max Dessoir as the German "Parapsychologie." (Bringmann, Luck Miller, & Early, 1997). The term instigates from the Greek: παρά para meaning "alongside", and psychology (Melton, 1996).

The Parapsychological Association splits psi into two types: psi-gamma for telepathic perception and psi-kappa for psychokinesis. In modern time, "psi" has many tantamount with special psychic, mental, and "psionic" aptitudes and powers (Thouless, 1942).

There are several types of extra sensory perception which are recognition – The ability to see into the future. Retrocognition – The ability to see into the distant past. Clairvoyance – The ability to see events without being physically present. (Britannica Online Encyclopedia, 2018) Mediumship – The ability to communicate with spiritual world and talk to the deceased. Clairsentience – The ability to feel the emotions of others (Pigliucci, & Boudry, 2013), Clairaudience – The ability to receive messages and information through “psychic-hearing”. Telepathy – The ability to read the minds of

others and know what they're thinking. Clairallience – The ability to get psychic impressions from the sense of smell (White, 2011).

Paranormal is not completely discounted in Islam. However, the actual reason behind that magic is more of a psychological in nature than anything supernatural. Even most of the time, few methods and skills are successful and in-fact their success is not inescapably due to unusual means. Scholars believe that certain form of black magic is also included in this category. Psychological power can be achieved if someone is prone to believing its effect, then they may feel its result (Thouless, 1942).

Islam also discuss paranormal matter like belief in miracles, angels, Jinns, spell, witchcrafts and so on are part of Islamic belief system, but the use of such things are prohibited. The reason of prohibiting them are that these practices cut believes from Allah and shaken his Iman. If believers want to achieve the level of spiritual excellence then many positive doors are open and much effective like the recitation of Qur'an, supplication (Du'a), remembrance (Dhikr) of Allah. As Qur'an says: "Those who believed and whose hearts find rest in the remembrance of Allah: verily, in the remembrance of Allah, do hearts find rest" (Al Quran, 113:04).

Islam discourages paranormal activities and discuss them in various places of the Qur'an like Allah says in His book, "And from the evil of the witches who blow on knots (to cast a spell)" In the era of Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) a women who were occupied with casting spell on Prophet that is why this verse was revealed. Prophet declared that the evil eye is an undeniable fact so similarly sorcery is unquestionable truth. The Qur'an speaks about the witchcraft that is experienced to cause a rift between spouses. According to Islam, sorcery and casting spell are sinful and the accused will be charged for it in the

day of Qiyamah. Although our Messenger of Allah (upon him be peace and blessings) have met a jinn, preached him the religion of Islam and took their allegiance. But he never explained how it happened, still he gave the message that jinn can approach and seek to control us, so how human should behave and protect him-self against the evil. A number of narrations are found about spell like Al-Bayhaqi reported: Ibn Abbas, may Allah be pleased with him, said, "If these three sins are not found within a person, then Allah the Exalted will forgive after that whatever he wills: one who died without associating partners with Allah, one who never turned to black magic, and one who never harbored malice towards his brother (Al Bayhaqi, 2008). Another place Prophet of Allah said "Whoever ties a knot and blows on it has performed magic, and whoever performs magic has committed idolatry. Whoever hangs something as a charm will be entrusted to it (Ibid).

Research questions

What is paranormal belief according to Islamic perspective? How it impact life of people in relation to the society.

Objectives

- To identify the psychological reasons behind the mindset that are responsible for the prevalence of paranormal beliefs in the society.
- To find out the affect/ consequences of paranormal activity in the society

Method

Qualitative method was used for the current research. Data was collected through one focus group and five extensive structured interviews. For data analysis Interpretive Phenomenological Approach (IPA) was used.

Participants

In this research total 13 participants were used to collect data. Five of them belong to the field of psychology fields and other was from the area of Islamic Studies. The age range of the participants was 25-35 years. All the participants were frequent observer of paranormal beliefs which are prevailing in society rapidly. Through unstructured, interviews, maximum information was collected. In focus group, participants were allowed to discuss the topic freely with each other.

Demographic information

Gender, age, class, family system, monthly incomes were collected from the participants.

Procedure

The data on the topic under study was collected from thirteen participants. Participants were selected randomly with their consent considering their frequent observation about paranormal beliefs. Participants were requested to come to research lab where interviews and focus group were conducted. All ethical considerations were taken into account. And participants were ensured about their confidentiality and their right to withdraw from the research at any time. Participants were thanked at the end of the interviews and focus group.

Data was then subjected to analyze using IPA. Themes were extracted and hypotheses were formulated to draw a conclusion from the data.

Results

After the collection of the data Interpretive Phenomenological Approach (IPA) was used for coding, extracting themes and data analysis to draw a conclusion. Interpretive

Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) is a qualitative approach with idiographic and psychological focus, which describe person's experience in a context and describe how a person explains any phenomena. Usually such phenomena are related to experience of personal significance - such as a major life event, or the building of an important relationship. IPA has its origin that is rooted in phenomenology and hermeneutics (Smith, 2007). IPA is one of the several approaches to qualitative, phenomenological psychology approach. IPA is different from other approaches because of its combination of psychological, interpretative, and idiographic components (Gill, 2014). Tables (1,2,3,4) and Figure 1 are given. At first initial themes of the interviews were extracted (table 1). On the basis of initial themes central themes were developed (table 2). This led to the formulation of master themes (table 3). At the end final super ordinate themes were developed.

Discussion

The current study is grounded with qualitative research approach i.e IPA. This research highlights the main reasons, related consequences and behaviors which are caused for abundance of paranormal beliefs prevailing in the society. The data which is collected from the various students and teachers, discusses the main reasons such as media, parents, family, friends, envy are responsible to nourish such beliefs which has no benefit in this world even in the life hereafter. People are spending a huge amount and time to fulfill their desires and even they do not think that they are choosing wrong way which is prohibited in Islam. Pride, envy seems a major cause of increasing such beliefs and practices in a society. In this research the interviews were conducted and after that initial theme were collected. From these initial themes the central themes were made which are resulted to extract Master themes, and master themes helped to find out the super ordinal themes, which finally resulted forming and developing a directional model showing the relationship of the themes.

First super ordinal theme is “Paranormal beliefs are normal”. Question arises why these beliefs are normal and from where they came from? Firstly these concepts start when first man was sent to in this world. Secondly it became more popular through internet, TV shows, newspapers and witchcrafts who claimed to access with paranormal word and even they change situation according to a man’s desire. Some of these people/organizations guarantee everyone that situation can be handled through Black Magic. Mostly people using such ways to satisfy their desires and also want to degrade others. As said by one of participant in interview,

پیرانارمل عقائد اس لئے نارمل ہیں کیونکہ ان کا
تعلق بچپن کی سنی سنائی قصے کہانیوں پر ہے۔

This research indicates that paranormal beliefs are normal because of some tales that were

based on childhood. Like kids generally show interest in the stories especially their grandparents used to tell that are mostly based on witchcrafts, ghosts, black cats etc. Therefore, when they grow up they start believing on it, as a result family and environment become the basic source of spreading this beliefs. On the other hand we find that different religions have different concepts of paranormal beliefs. Like Hindus believe on ill-omens, inauspicious, and unlucky things, etc. To save them from these all unhappy things Hindus do magic. Similarly same concepts can be found in Judaism, Christianity, and Buddhism etc. But Islam does not allow acting upon such concepts and even Muslims are not allowed to perform any sort of activity which is related to such concept.

Being human everyone wants to spend a prosperous life and wants to achieve his goal but when he feels, things are not happening according to him and other people are enjoying then the disease of envy starts. This is the main cause of developing belief on paranormal in which black magic is on top of the list. Infact these all things are useless and sinful. In Arabic language sorcery is known as sahar and it is one of the tricks that Satan uses to lead humankind astray. Therefore, Islam warns against magic. Allah warns against it in the Quran. “And indeed they knew that the buyers of it (magic) would have no share in the hereafter. And how bad indeed was that for which they sold their own selves, if they but knew.”¹ Abu Huraira reported: The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him) said, “Whoever ties a knot and blows on it has performed magic, and whoever performs magic has committed idolatry. Whoever hangs something as a charm will be entrusted to it” (Al-Nasā’ī).

Second ordinal theme was “Society promoting paranormal beliefs”. As reported by one of the participant in interview:

ہندستان میں رہنے کی وجہ سے مسلمان بھی اب ایسی باتوں پہ یقین رکھتے ہیں۔ اور ہمارے معاشرے میں یہ سب عام ہے۔

It is indeed a truth that environment, people and society play a vivacious role in spreading such concepts. Furthermore, we conclude that now these things are not part of religion but such things are now part of our culture. Like during marriages people do different rituals which are not relevant to religion but these actions are due to some ill-omens. Like throwing rice behind newly married couple for good luck and spreading mustard oil when married couples enter into the house towards bad omens and many more. When Muslims were living in India they adopted different paranormal concept which now has become the part of culture but there is not room for such concepts in Islam. So, these are major reasons of promoting such practices in society. Media plays a vital role in this regard like some TV shows in which so called religious scholars guarantee the people in solving their issues. On the other hand kids watch cartoons and they think these magic tricks really exist; hence they believe on it and take it as normal. Another factor is families concern; mostly people go to witchcraft to satisfy their envy because people cannot tolerate other happiness. Envy could be on anything like marriage, job, kids, business, money, status and beauty as well. Hasad (envy) is basically a psychic state in which a person wished for the deprivation of a blessing e.g., merit, talent, etc. possessed by another person. Allah does not like such person who always blames his fate because this division is from Allah, and He knows what is good and bad for the mankind. "Al-Qurtubi said, "Allah Almighty said in some of his scriptures: "The envier is an enemy of My blessings, displeased with My decree while not satisfied with My distribution" (Al-Qurtubī, 2013).

Every religion dislikes paranormal activity, even the nation of Musa (A.S) was punished due to casting spell. The incident of

Harut and Marut also describes the bitterness of such practices. This knowledge is widely existing but the use and misuse are in man's hand. Due to such activity and practices the real Islamic structure is damaging. Islam is the religion of peace, it teaches us to be humble and patience in every situation. Fate and Allah's will should not be blamed. Mostly those people are involved in such practices, those who remain very far away from their religion and do not follow the instruction of their prophets. Numbers of supplication are taught by all the prophets, a person can protect himself from the evil by practicing all of them. Moreover strong belief on Allah is required because the fate is written by Allah and He knows best, which is preeminent and may be worst for the man. Furthermore dua (Supplication) and zikr (Remembrance) are mentioned in Qur'an and Hadith which are sufficient to cure unbearable circumstances (Al-Quran).

Another super ordinal theme was "inner peace and satisfaction" People usually participate in such activities just because of inner peace. They think inner peace and satisfaction can be achieved after using mischievous behavior. As one of the participant said,

اللہ پر عقیدہ کمزور ہونے کی وجہ سے ایسے بلیوز شروع ہو جاتے ہیں۔

This is the main reason that a rapid change in the society is caused by one's weak faith. We are muslim and very first characteristic of muslims is his faith on Allah. When a person does not believe that Allah is all in all and He is master of everything then, such useless concepts prevail in the society. Remembrance of Allah is the source of inner peace and satisfaction but the person with weak faith, thinks that he may achieve peace and serenity after performing those things which are prohibited. How it is possible to attain serenity and satisfaction from the proscribed rituals and activity?

People ruminate that the worldly things are source of happiness and peace but it is fake. Allah

says in Quran. "Those who believe, and whose hearts find their rest in the remembrance of God - for, verily, in the remembrance of God [men's] hearts do find their rest" (Al Qur'an 13:28). Another place Allah subhan wa Tallah says: "Every human being is bound to taste death: but only on the Day of Resurrection will you be requited in full [for whatever you have done] - whereupon he that shall be drawn away from the fire and brought into paradise will indeed have gained a triumph: for the life of this world is nothing but an enjoyment of self-delusion. (Al Qur'an 3:185). To think that using spell or charm a person can achieve whatever he wants, maybe he will get all those things which he desires, but it's not necessary these all things will stay with him for a long time. Being a muslim we should always rush towards the commandments of Allah and follow the teaching of his Messenger (S.A.W). There is no room for such paranormal activities and malice behavior in Islam. Because its ruins the real image of Muslims and Islam and eventually the Islamic structure is being affected.

There are two types of Jinns, believers and non-believers. Believers are muslim and they are called Jinn rather non-believers are called devils. Iblis is Devil because he disobeyed Allah and refused to prostrate in front of the first prophet Adam (A.S). Iblis put the evil thoughts in human mind and because of Iblis, Adam and Eve were sent in this world. This iblis was given the chance till Qiyammah as Allah says in Qur'an "Said [Iblis]: "Grant me a respite till the Day when all shall be raised from the dead." (Al Qur'an 7:14). People are busy in paranormal activities because they have forgotten the real message of Allah and his Prophet that's why devil is playing his role. When a person do not follow the teaching of Allah and his Messenger (S.A.W), devil easily destroys his faith because as Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) says "Verily, satan flows through the human being like the flowing of blood (Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim, 2174).

There are different kinds of witchcrafts that may distress people physically and psychologically. Sahar (Magic or witchcraft) is a word mentioning to something hidden. Without any doubt it happens with the will of Allah because devils are also the creations of Allah, they do nothing by their own. It is a devilish action, which is only achieved by means of shirk (polytheism). These necromancers claim that they have knowledge of everything and will help people in solving their problem. Usually they may ask to slaughter a pig while saying Bismillah over it, or slaughter any permissible animal without Bismillah or with the name of one of the devils. The purpose of this is to tell devils that they are disobeying Allah (S.W.T) and ready to follow their instruction because of fulfilling their desires.

Islam dislikes such activities and does not permit anyone to seeking help from Jinn. As the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "Whoever goes to a fortune-teller and asks him about something, his prayer will not be accepted for forty days" (Shahi Muslim, 2009). It was also narrated by the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "Whoever goes to a fortuneteller and believes what he says has disbelieved in that which was revealed to Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)" (Sunnan Abu Dawood, 2009). Furthermore another hadith indicates that the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "He does not belong to us who observes bird omens or has that done for him, or who seeks divination or who has that done for him, or who practices witchcraft or has that done for him. Whoever goes to a soothsayer and believes what he says has disbelieved in that which was revealed to Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)."

These narrations of Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) demonstrate that it is forbidden to go to fortune-tellers, witches and do believe they are source of solving problems. Moreover hadith designates

these witchcraft are practiced by non-muslims because they claim to have knowledge of unseen, besides they worshipping and seeking help from jinn instead of Allah, this is also kufar and they practice shirk.

It is the utmost duty not just for the religious scholars but the community leaders and those who are in the position by using their power; they must take action seriously to stop such activities which are increasing day by day. It is not just for the people's concern it is about the real image of Prophet Muhammad's (S.A.W) Sunnah and Islam.

Conclusion

There is no room for such paranormal beliefs/activities in Islam. The present research postulates, why people believe over it and why and how it is increasing rapidly and prevailing day by day in society. Because people have started believing it as something normal. Moreover, it has become a habit and faith on Allah has decrease day by day. Sometime people believe on it because they want to save themselves from bad-omens and most of the time it is just to gain inner satisfaction and to fulfil one's revenge against other people. Moreover, believing on this is the source of happiness and satisfaction is infact wrong, It is just wastage of time, energy and money. As Allah Almighty says in Qur'an, "Have you not seen those to whom a portion of the Book was given? They believe in baseless superstitions and taghut (false deities) and say about the unbelievers that they are better guided than those who believe. Thought it is not at all accepted." (Al Nisa: 51).

In Islamic terminology the word Jibt signifies divination, sorcery, soothsaying and including all superstitions. One of the tradition of Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) says: "to divine things from the cries of animals, or the traces of animals' paws, or the flight of birds, constitutes jibt."(Bin Hanbal, 2001). According to this Hadith the Jibt is translated as superstitions.

Another verse of Holy Qur'an also discusses it in such a way: "We have fastened every man's omen to his neck. On the Day of Resurrection We shall produce for him his scroll in the shape of a wide open book, (saying)." (Al-Quran, Al Isra, 13). This verse clearly indicates that one should not take any omens from any birds. Disbelievers used to take omens from birds that are why Allah Almighty mentions, this is superstitions and useless activity. The Arabic word Ta'irah (lit something that flies) actually describes man's deeds which fly from him. As Ibn' Abbas said, "it included both good deeds and bad deeds, he will be forced to acknowledge them and will be rewarded or punish accordingly. (Ibn Kathir, (2000)."

This was necessitated because inane people always blame that external causes are the source of misfortunes. Nevertheless, a person's fate depends on its own deeds (good or bad). If people try to investigate the caused they will find that fate was unequivocal by their own bad or good judgments and qualities.

The present study highlighted the issues related to (paranormal beliefs) as well as also pointed the immense need to make people aware of its non-significance in one's religion, as it is something non empirical.

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Table 1 Initial themes of the interviews

Interview 1	Interview 2
1. psychological perspective	1. Superstitious beliefs

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. religious perspective 3. strong faith on paranormal believes 4. no history behind it 5. it is using for business purpose 6. 100% not correct 7. It has some realities 8. Something without wisdom 9. Not against wisdom 10. Negative aspect strong 11. Form of spell 12. Superstitious believes 13. Palmistry 14. Media 15. Psychological problems 16. Religious people involve 17. Educated people 18. Problem in creed 19. Miracles 20. Faith in Allah weak 21. Intention should be pure 22. Quran and psychology 23. Examples of Harot and Maroot 24. Depend on witchcraft 25. Real or not 26. May be Mirages (nazar ka dhoka) 27. Casting spell on Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) 28. Confused nation 29. No life infact 30. Everyone is believing in these days. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Religious beliefs 3. Religious point of view is different 4. Shirk is source of being paranormal 5. Disbelieving is source of being paranormal 6. Magic and Jinn 7. Role of media 8. Defend on cause and effects 9. Different perspective are involve 10. Palmistry 11. it is a business now 12. scholars are not playing their role 13. spreading day by day 14. educated and uneducated are part of it 15. patience are increasing day by day 16. Science also promoting this 17. Clash of ideology 18. Religion discussed paranormal ideas 19. Use and misuse are discussed in religion 20. Quran discussed different events and stories 21. Hadith discussed it as well 22. Role of Prophets is important 23. People are confused 24. People believe in shortcuts
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Interview 3	Interview 4
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It's a war of good and evil 2. paranormal are actual jinn 3. every negative approach is due to devil 4. magic 5. media role 6. negative effects 7. depends on situation 8. family structure is damaging 9. envy 10. people are confused 11. religious gap 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. paranormal belief are actually superstitious beliefs 2. both ways involve negative and positive 3. negative effects are more 4. due to envy 5. problems in families 6. relationship issues 7. online peer faqeer are common 8. money and time wasting 9. source of income 10. spirituality another effect

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12. belief on Allah is not strong 13. things are increasing day by day 14. reason losing trust in Allah 15. tawaqal 16. family problems are increasing 17. wastage of Money and time 18. source of business 19. paranormal examples are discussed in Quran and Sunnah 20. family to family transfer 21. Prayer (Dua'a) can be used for cure 22. Magic on Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11. scholar should pay attention 12. individual should play his role 13. religion dislikes such things 14. paranormal beliefs are as old as man 15. paranormal is a branch of parapsychology 16. paranormal is part of Extra- Sensory Problem 17. they are beyond 5 senses 18. use and misuse are in man's hand 19. tawaqal should be strong 20. Allah is giver 21. superstitious has no room in Islam
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Interview 5	Focus group
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Paranormal is of parapsychology 2. Feeling and behaviors which cannot be judged by 5 senses 3. Paranormal is part of senses 4. Extra sensory perceptions 5. Beliefs and perceptions depends on one's performance 6. Black magic 7. The things which are invisible 8. People perceive its effectiveness. 9. Understanding matters a lot 10. Paranormal stands on Belief system 11. Belief can be changed in every religion 12. Verses can be a cure for Muslim but not effective for Non-Muslim. 13. Paranormal beliefs are inculcated in next generation 14. Family parents, friends, and environment inculcate such concepts 15. Origin starts with a man's birth 16. Short goals 17. No physical evidences 18. effectiveness is felt 19. Belief system is stronger 20. Human mind is mater mind 21. A man trained his mind according to his desire 22. Effects depend on situation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Childhood stories based belief 2. Environment influence 3. Parents 4. Society 5. Media 6. No origin 7. Superstitions 8. Jinns 9. Quran discussed about jinns 10. Black magic 11. Envy 12. No scientific proof 13. Educated and uneducated both are effected 14. Faith healing 15. Media impact 16. Behaviors changing day by day 17. Patience decreases 18. Restlessness increases 19. Waste of money and time 20. Due to short cut 21. True dreams 22. Mysticism 23. Allah knows everything 24. Belief on Allah should be strong 25. Intention will be judged 26. Relationship affected 27. Family issues 28. Intention should be pure

<p>23. Sometime negative effects are because of negative thoughts</p> <p>24. But the effectiveness of Rohani/ Spiritual knowledge is positive</p> <p>25. Materialistic</p> <p>26. Material needs are more than actual needs</p> <p>27. Short wishes for short cuts</p> <p>28. Ratio is increasing day by day</p> <p>29. Prophets' miracles are exceptional cases</p> <p>30. Allah granted a lot to prophets</p> <p>31. Paranormal believers are invisible</p> <p>32. Consequences are up to a man</p> <p>33. Less patience</p> <p>34. Reasons are different</p> <p>35. May be due to requirements</p> <p>36. Religion matter a lot</p> <p>37. Religion discusses everything</p> <p>38. Uses and misuses in man's hand</p> <p>39. Educated and uneducated both are involved in such things</p> <p>40. Wish to be like others</p> <p>41. Denying the blessings</p>	<p>29. Results are based on Neyah (Intention)</p> <p>30. Reasons depend on situations</p> <p>31. Due to envy</p> <p>32. Susrali (in-laws)problem</p> <p>33. Magic or Paranormal</p> <p>34. Ratio is increasing day by day</p>
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Table 2 On the basis of initial themes central themes were extracted

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paranormal beliefs are part of parapsychology • Feelings and behaviors which cannot be judged by 5 senses • Paranormal beliefs are part of senses • Believes and perception depends on their performance • Black magic • The things which are not visible • People perceive its effectiveness. • Understanding matters a lot • psychological perspective • religious perspective • no history • No scientific proof • Educated and uneducated people • Faith healing • Media impact • Behavior changing day by day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paranormal beliefs are baseless • Childhood stories based issues • Environment influence • Parents • Society • Media • Superstitions • Jinn • Envy • Ratio is increasing day by day • Quran and hadith discussed many stories • Clash of ideology • Man trained his mind according to his desire • Human mind is master mind • Material need is more than actual need • Consequences are up to man • Paranormal beliefs are part of ESP • Tawaqal should be strong
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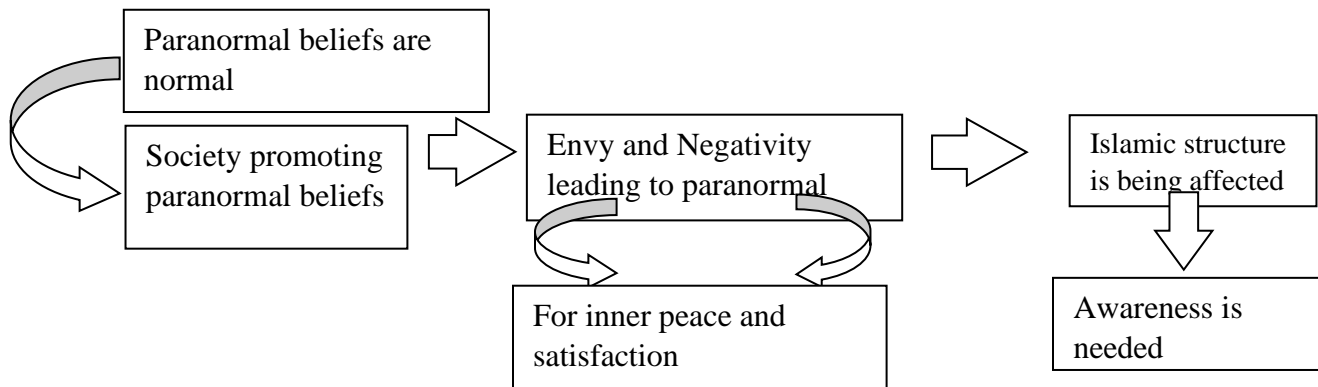
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patience decreases • Restlessness increases • Waste of money and time • Due to short cut • Allah knows everything • Belief on Allah should be strong • Intention will be judged • Relationship affected • Family issues • Intention should be pure • Results are based on Neyah (Intention) • Reasons depend on situations • Due to envy • In-laws related problem 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scholar should pay attention • Negative effects are more • Source of income • Paranormal beliefs are beyond 5 senses
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Table 3 Central themes led to the formation of Master Theme

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Use <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paranormal are part of parapsychology • Feelings and behaviors which can not be judged by 5 senses • Paranormal beliefs are part of senses • Beliefs and perceptions depends on their performance • Black magic • The things which are not visible • Educated and uneducated people both are involve in this field. • Family issue • Paranormal beliefs are part of Extra Sensory Perception ➤ Reasons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friends, society, location may be the reason • People receive its effectiveness • Understanding matters a lot • Faith healing • Media impact • Intention • Due to envy • Childhood story based things 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment matter • Superstitions • Clash of ideology • Fulfilling of desires • Source of Income • Weak iman/tawaqal ➤ Consequences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Values and norms vanished • Patience decreases • Restlessness increases • Waste of money and time • Finding shortcuts • Ratio is increasing day by day • Negative effects are more • No benefit ➤ Future direction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be stopped • Belief on Allah should be strong • Scholars should pay attention • Creed/tawaqal should be strong
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Table 4 Final Super Ordinate Themes were formulated over the Master themes.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Paranormal beliefs are normal ➤ Society promoting paranormal beliefs ➤ Envy and negativity leading to paranormal beliefs. ➤ For inner peace and satisfaction ➤ Islamic structure is being affecting ➤ Future direction

**Figure:** Tabular Representation of Super Ordinate Theme