

# The Elixir of Longevity

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*'Properly trained, a man can be dog's best friend.'* ~Corey Ford

There is a saying "You take care of dogs and they think you are God; you take care of cats and they think they are God". Since I do not want to be either, I do not like to keep pets. I do not even have enough time to give tender loving care to my lovely wife, so keeping pets is out of question. Besides I do not like to share my breathing space with them or like to inhale their exhaled carbon dioxide. My beloved wife though likes to keep cats. Once she liked her cat so much, she gave her bath with kerosene oil. Poor cat died. We do have a matrimonial agreement: I will keep on loving her as long as she does not love cats. I do keep on praying though that she would not love me the way she loved her cat. That is why I do not keep life insurance. I do not want her to get ideas.

I do not like to keep dogs for another reason. They have a tendency to lick around my private parts. I still remember vividly, I was in a bank, talking to a beautiful teller. A lady came with a dog and it started licking around my private parts. My imagination started running wild about what that lady must be teaching to her dog. Those were the times when I used to be a lonely person. I thought, if not women, at least dogs seem to have a romantic leaning towards me. I started thinking about owning a dog. Luckily before I could own a dog, I found out that the dog was in no way romantically involved with me. Dogs use smell as sight. Just by smell they can distinguish between a friend and a foe. They mark their territory with a few drops of urine. When the dog was licking around my private parts, instead of being romantic towards me, he was only confirming if I was any threat to his owner. I guess he was smelling my urine. Do I have a leaky faucet? Since then I have developed an allergy with dogs.

Besides, once a dog touch your clothes, you have to get them washed. I have been suing the dog owners right and left to recover laundry charges and for invading my privacy. Now I have found out that I did not have to wash my clothes. Though the saliva of dog is considered unclean in Hanafi and Hanbali schools of thought, it is considered clean in Maliki school of thought. Since my name starts with the letter M, I have decided to go with Malikis. Tough luck for those whose name starts with the letter H. But do not lose hope. Our Prophet<sup>SAW</sup> has said that if he was given choices, he would chose the easier path. In case of dogs, Maliki wins hands down. Thanks to Imam Malik for coming to our rescue. Now scientifically it has been proven that dog saliva is cleaner than that of humans. Hurray to Imam Malik. There is still a bad news for the dog lovers though. Most of the scholars are still unenthusiastic about keeping dogs as pets unless they are needed for hunting or safeguarding home.

There are, however, many benefits of owning a dog. Unlike children, they do not talk back. Since they consider you a God, whatever you say to them, they bow their head and say 'Amen.' You must have read in the paper that a lady has married her dog due to its loving nature and reliability. Better, hands down, than a fickle human, she said. Dogs can also be the elixir of longevity. According to a Hadeeth, angels do not enter a house where dogs live. That is one way to keep Angel Izraeel (the angel of death) out of your reach. If Angel Izraeel<sup>AS</sup> cannot get closer to you, who dare take your soul away. Hurray, I am ordering a dog to keep death away.

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### About the Writer:

The writer has authored “Secrets of Angels, Demons, Satan, and Jinns – Decoding their Nature through Quran and Science,” and “Atom to Adam – How, When and Where in the Light of Quran, Bible and Science (A Study of Human Origin),” both published by InstantPublishers.com ( <http://instantpublisher.com/> )and “Lessons from the Qur’an,” published by Ta-Ha Publishers ( <http://www.taha.co.uk/> ). These books are available from Amazon.com ( <http://www.amazon.com/> ) and Ta-Ha Publishers ( <http://www.taha.co.uk/> ), respectively. He has also published many essays on religious issues in the Charleston Gazette, West Virginia and written quite a few Islamic satires. He is a Chemical Engineer and possesses Master of Science degrees in Chemical Engineering and Chemistry and has Professional Engineers license from the State of Texas. His e-mail address is [mnajawaid@yahoo.com](mailto:mnajawaid@yahoo.com). Many of his writings can be viewed at [MahmoodJawaid.com](http://MahmoodJawaid.com).