

Death, the one certainty in life

- Aisha Rowbottom

It is not Death that shocks us. It is not the stopping of breath,
the heart's failure to beat any longer, the ceasing to exist.

It is rather the suddenness of it all.

We know it is coming. We know it is our fate.

But when?

There are two significant dates - our birth date and our death date.

We become familiar with our birth date. We celebrate it annually.

It is a time reserved for happiness and merriment.

Mostly it is a time that we know will come.

God, forbid.

We are fully in the know about the anniversary of our birth,
but we know not the date of our Death.

Thus,

the suddenness rocks us to the very core.

It brings to the fore every choice, every thought, every mistake made.

Right in the middle of it all, in the middle of life – comes Death. If it
comes suddenly; a Heart Attack, a Fatal Accident, a Burst Aneurism, a
Gunshot to the head, a Global Pandemic - or if it comes pre-
determined by illness...

well, I say pre-determined, all our deaths are technically pre-
determined.

And now, Death cannot be more naked to the eye.
2020, seven months strong, has left us on our knees.
Left in the debris of these months past is death by thousands
and thousands more starving, cold and destitute.
It is not simply people that are dying, the World is dying.
And we did not see it coming.

So, as I ponder my life choices,
mull over what this Pandemic has brought out in the world,
the destruction transpired from it but simultaneously
the new breed of mankind that now exists,
the reality that nothing is guaranteed washes over me.
And as surely as our birth date comes every year, so too will our
Death.

Verily from Allah do we come and unto Him is our return.