

# To be or not to be an MD/PhD, that is the question

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**HARVARD**  
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CENTER FOR  
**BRAIN SCIENCE**



MASSACHUSETTS  
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**NEUROSURGERY**

# What is our goal? What is our purpose?

And everyone has a **goal** to which he turns his *whole* attention.

Then **vie with one another in good works** [2:149]

You are the best people, **raised for *the good of mankind***; you enjoin good and forbid evil and believe in Allah [3:111]

In the creation of the heavens and the earth and in the alternation of the night and the day there are indeed Signs for men of understanding; Those who remember Allah standing, sitting, and *lying* on their sides, and **ponder over the creation of the heavens and the earth** [3:191-192]

**GOAL:**

Reflecting on/studying  
Allah's creation

Serving mankind

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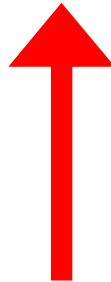
**scientist**

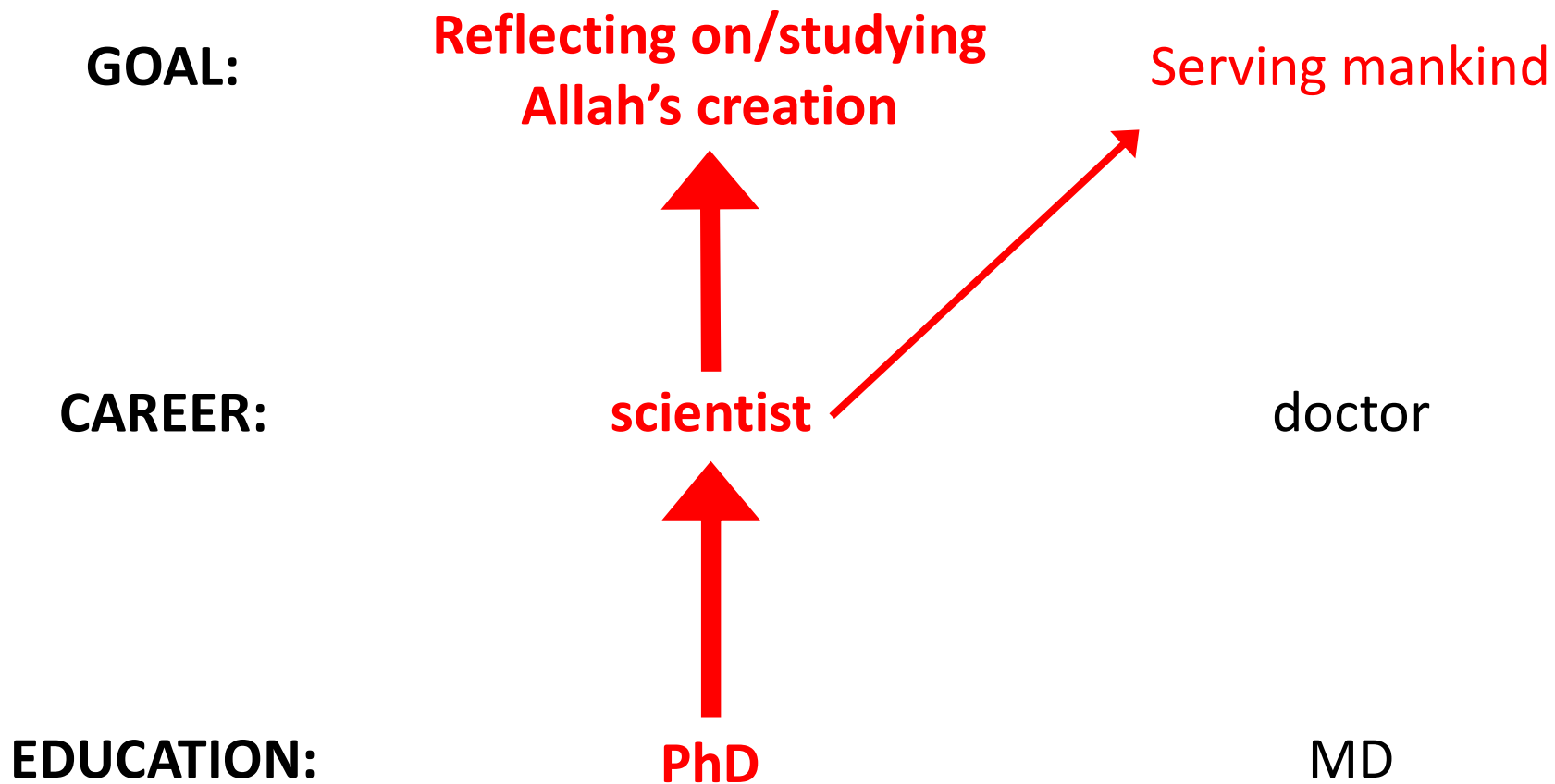
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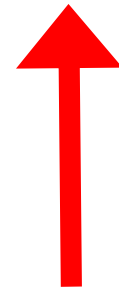
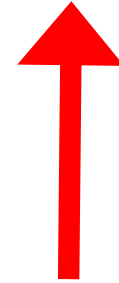
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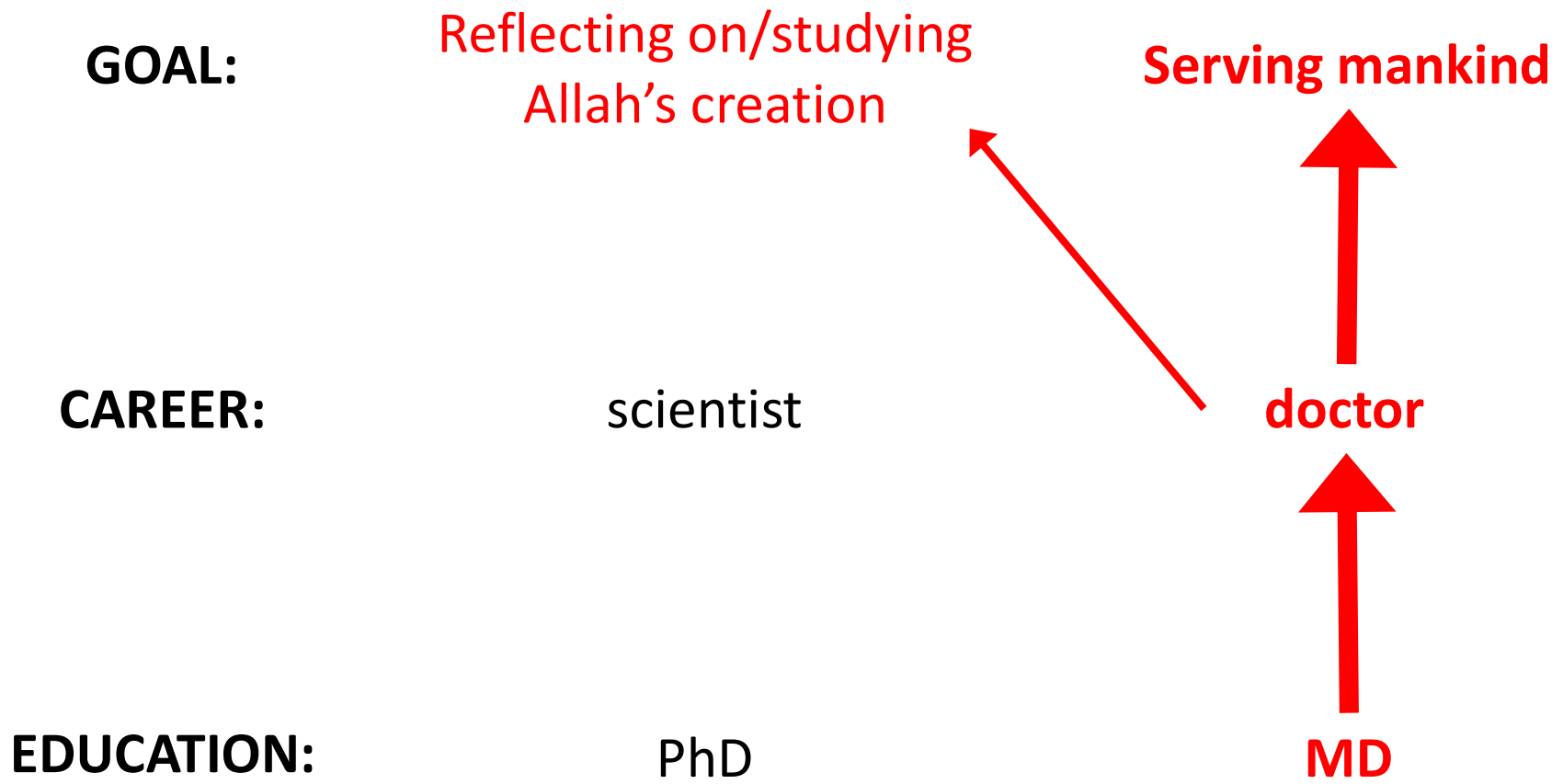
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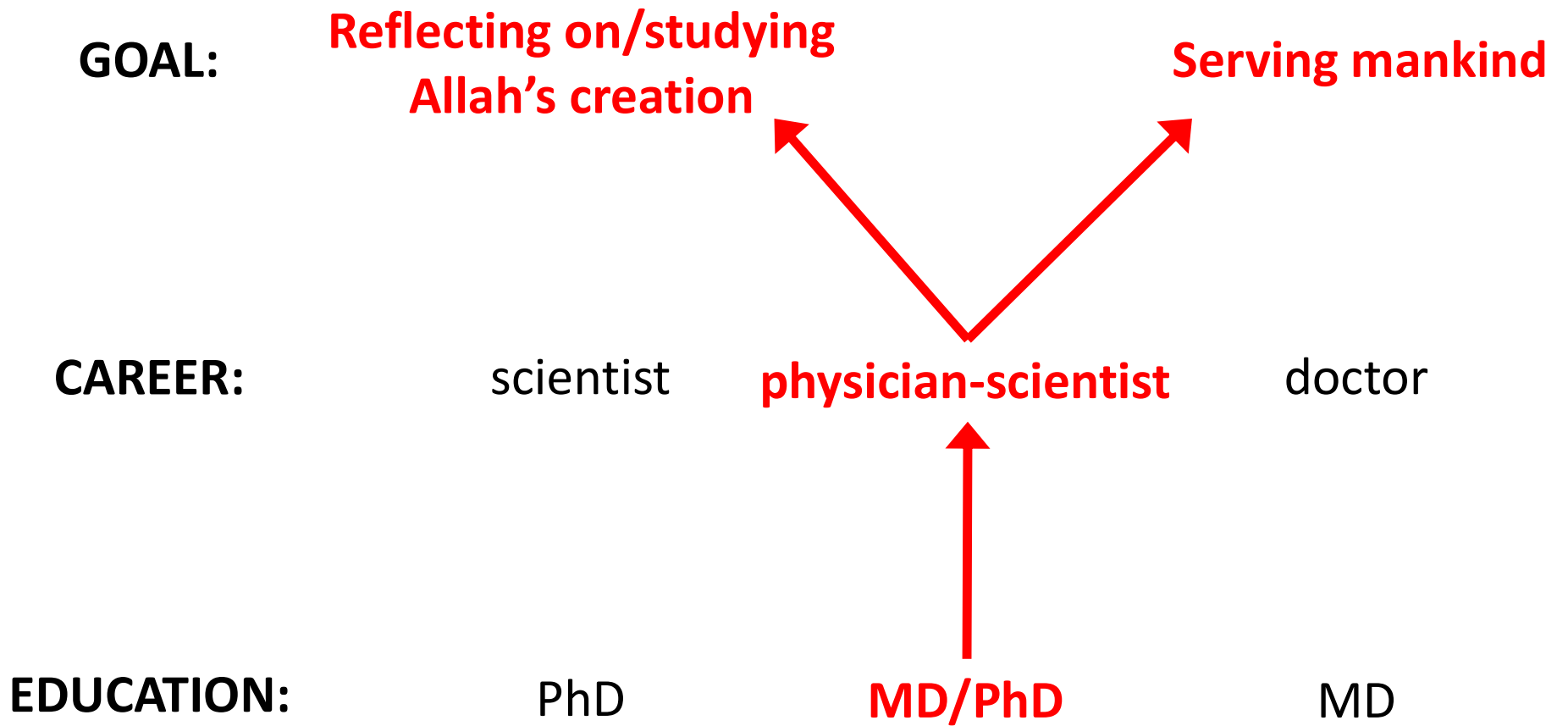
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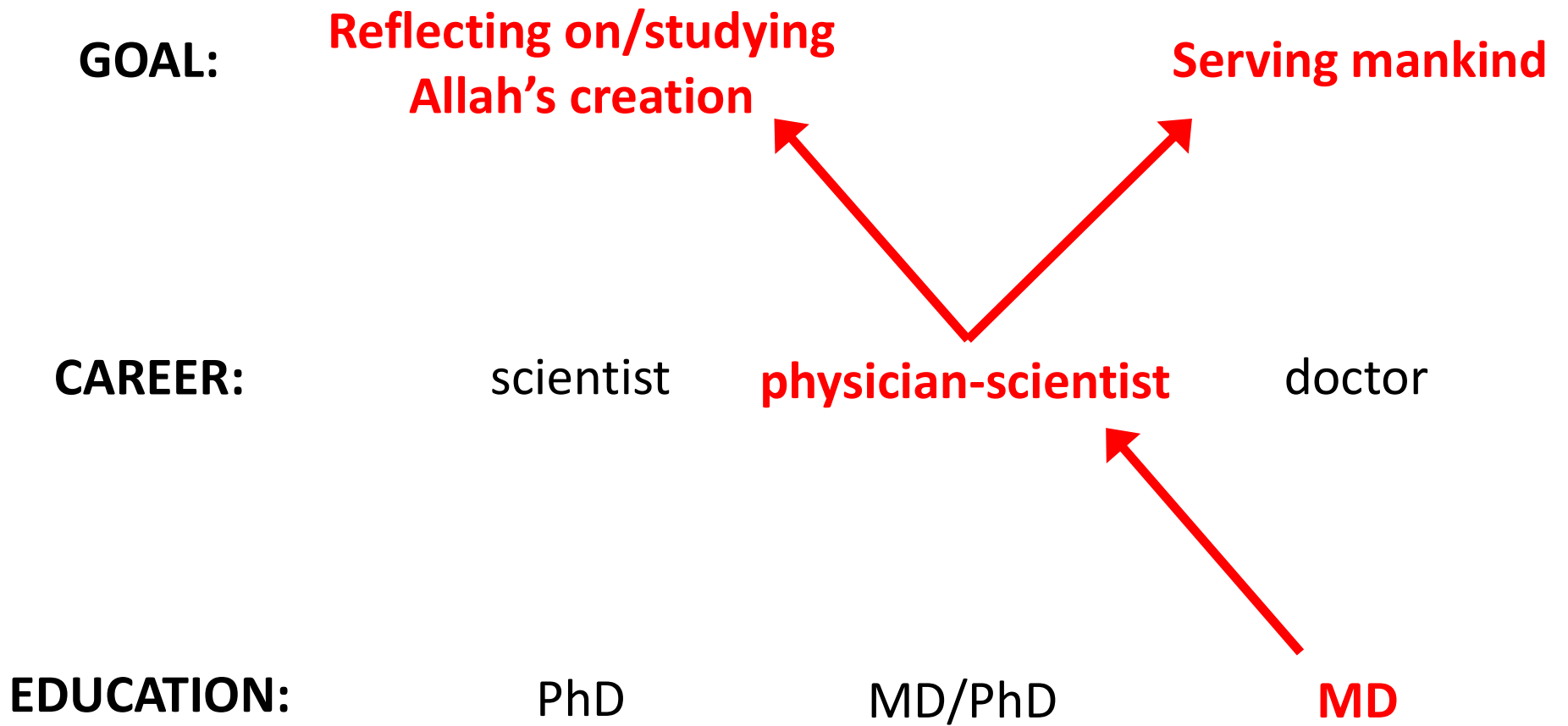
doctor

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# My journey

- Public High School
- Interested in science, math
- B.S. Biomedical Engineering at The Johns Hopkins University
- Shadowed doctors, worked in a lab for 3+ years, did summer research internships
- M.D./Ph.D. at Harvard Medical School
- Ph.D. in Neurobiology
- Neurosurgery residency at Massachusetts General Hospital
- Future: neurosurgeon-scientist iA



# What to do

- Pray
- Write to Hadhoor for prayers/guidance
- Talk to people doing what you want to do
- Go to the best schools you can
- Get the best grades/scores you can
- Gain experience, perform as well as you can
- Compete – “vie with one another in good works”
- Remember: there are different paths, each with advantages/disadvantages, find the best path for your long-term goal
- Pray





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