



Fatwa no. 19134

Q 1:

A Muslim man collected money from prohibited ways such as selling Khamr (intoxicants), pork, carrion, the flesh of dead animals or drugs, but now he wants to repent to Allah (may He be Exalted). Should he get rid of all his unlawful money, or keep part of it to use in Halal (lawful) trade?

Q 2:

If he stops dealing in forbidden dealings, but refuses

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to get rid of the ill-gotten money which he used to establish a shop for selling lawful goods, such as utensils, clothes and so on, is his trade Halal?

Q 3:

Is it permissible to work for him in that shop, and as such, the wage or salary would be Halal, taking into consideration that if he is isolated himself and no dealings were done with him, he might be tempted to return to the unlawful trade once again?

Q 4:

Is it permissible to eat his food and accept his invitation or presents, even though there

is a huge possibility that they are bought from his ill-gotten money? Also, if anyone accepts any of that money, should he get rid of it, or would Allah (may He be Exalted) forgive him?

Q 5:

If the said person wants to donate this ill-gotten money or part of it, where should he pay it? Is it permissible to spend it in buying religious books and distributing them among the poor Muslims? Is it permissible that such money be spent on spreading the Islamic Call or buying or leasing a place to be a centre for calling to Allah (may He be Exalted), teaching the Qur'an and knowledge of the Shari`ah (Islamic Law) for Muslim children and seekers of knowledge as well as buying anything that this place needs in order to fulfill its duty in favor of the Islamic call?

Q 6:

Is it permissible to take a loan from that money for the sake of the Islamic Da`wah or personal benefit?

A: The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: ﴿ O people, Allah is Good and only accepts that which is good. Allah commanded the pious to follow the same commandments as He gave to the Messengers. He (may He be Exalted) says: ﴿ O (you) Messengers! Eat of the Taiyyibât [all kinds of Halâl foods which Allah has made lawful (meat of slaughtered eatable animals, milk products, fats, vegetables, fruits, etc.) and do righteous deeds. ﴾

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He (may He be Exalted) also says: ﴿ O you who believe (in the Oneness of Allâh - Islâmîc Monotheism)! Eat of the lawful things that We have provided you with ﴾ Then he mentioned a man who has travelled on a long journey and is dishevelled and covered with dust; he stretches forth his hands to the heaven, (saying) "O Lord, O Lord", but his food is Haram, his drink is Haram, all his nourishment is Haram, so how can he Du`a' (supplication) be accepted? ﴾ Related by Muslim in his Sahih. Hence, it is Haram for the Muslim to have ill-gotten earnings. A person who did any such thing must repent and give up the ill-gotten earnings. There are many permissible ways of earning a living, praise be to Allah. Allah (may He be Praised) says: ﴿ And whosoever fears Allâh and keeps his duty to Him, He will make a way for him to get out (from every difficulty). ﴾ And He will provide him from (sources) he never could imagine. ﴾ If a person repents while he still has wealth that he acquired through unlawful means, such as Riba and gambling, or by selling illegal goods such as alcohol and pork, he must get rid of that wealth by donating it to public projects, such as repairing roads and public washrooms, or he may distribute it to the needy. He should not keep any of it or benefit from any of it because it is unlawful wealth in which there is no goodness. Repenting from that requires that he must get rid of it and keep away from it, and find another way

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to earn a living. May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions!

Member	Member	Member	Deputy Chairman	The Chairman
`Abdullah ibn Ghudayyan	Bakr Abu Zayd	Salih Al-Fawzan	`Abdul-`Aziz Al Al-Shaykh	`Abdul-`Aziz ibn `Abdullah ibn Baz