



The second question of Fatwa no. 1984

Q 2: It is customary that Arabs seek to appease each other where necessary using different ways. Sometimes, they bring a female sheep and stand at the door of the one whom they want to appease and do not enter before slaughtering it while mentioning the name of Allah (Exalted be He) over it. At other times the person who wishes to appease brings the `Aqirah (the female sheep slaughtered to appease another) to the targeted person who takes it saying "`Aqirah is forbidden" and lifts it up to the other person. Then, he slaughters

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another one to entertain the person who wished to appease him. Is it permissible to eat the meat of either of these two female sheep?

A: Slaughtering a sheep and so forth for another person with the intention of hosting and inviting this person and those who are accompanying him to eat the meat of this sacrificial animal is permissible. It is recommended in sound Hadith, for it was reported on the authority of Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: ["...Whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day should entertain his guest generously..."](#) It was also reported on the authority of Abu Shurayh Al-Ka`bi that he (peace be upon him) said: ["Whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day, should entertain his guest generously. The guest's welcome period \(for which he has the right to be entertained\) is one day and night and a guest is to be hosted for three days, and whatever is offered beyond that, is regarded as charity. And it is not lawful for a guest to stay with his host until he puts him in a critical position".](#)

The sacrificial animal may be slaughtered for the sake of honoring and glorifying a person whether or not it is presented afterwards for eating. This is not permissible and is an act of Shirk that brings the curse of Allah (Exalted be He) because it is a form of slaughtering for other than Him. It was narrated on the authority of `Aly (may Allah be pleased with him) that he narrated: The Messenger of Allah (peace blessings be upon him) told me four things: [Allah curses anyone who sacrifices for other than Allah; Allah curses anyone who curses his parents; Allah curses anyone who shelters an innovator \(in religion\); and Allah curses anyone who changes the marks of the land."](#) Accordingly, it is not permissible to eat from

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the meat of this sacrificial animal even if the name of Allah (Exalted be He) was mentioned over it because acts are determined by intention and the `Aqirah in this case, was meant for glorifying and honoring other than Allah and not just for the purpose of eating.

However, if the person presents the sheep alive and the appeaser takes it and slaughters it or another to entertain his guests, then it will be permissible for both of them to eat from it, because it is not slaughtered in glorification of the appeaser.

May Allah grant us success. May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions.

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