



The first question of Fatwa no. 6127

Q 1: Is it permissible for a Muslim to offer Salah (prayer) in a house where the walls are covered with pictures of human beings or animals?

Q 2: Is it permissible for a Muslim to offer Salah with a garment embellished with pictures of animals?

A 1: Photographing an animate being is Haram (prohibited), and keeping their pictures hung on the wall and the like is also Haram. Offering Salah in a place containing such pictures is not permissible, except in the case of necessity. The same ruling applies to praying in garments embellished and decorated with pictures of animals, though the Salah is valid, it is a sin if the person knows the Shar`y (Islamic legal) ruling. It is authentically reported from the Prophet (peace be upon him) that: *(when he saw a curtain in `Aishah's house that was decorated with pictures of animates, he got angry and tore it into pieces. He said that those who make such pictures would be punished on the Day of Resurrection and it will be said to them: Breathe a soul into what you have created.)*

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(Related by Muslim who graded it as a Sahih Hadith 'a Hadith that has been transmitted by people known for their uprightness and exactitude; free from eccentricity and blemish.')

A 2: The ruling on photographing animate beings has been mentioned before. As to the Salah of whoever prays in a garment decorated with pictures of animate beings, it is impermissible, though it is valid as has been mentioned as well.

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

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