(Part No. 1; Page No. 176)

(Part No. 1; Page No. 177)

Seeking refuge

(Part No. 1; Page No. 178)

The second question of Fatwa no. 6799

Q 2: What is the ruling if a woman seeks refuge in the Name of Allah from her husband, or vice versa?

A: It is obligatory to grant refuge to the one seeking refuge in the Name of Allah, out of glorification to Allah (Exalted be He). It was reported by Abu Dawud and Al-Nasa'y with a Sahih Sanad (authentic chain of narrators), on the authority of Ibn 'Umar (may Allah be pleased with them), that the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) said, ("Whoever seeks refuge in the Name of Allah, grant him refuge; whoever asks in the Name of Allah, gives him; whoever invites you, responds to his invitation; and whoever does you a favor, reward him, but if you find nothing to reward him with, supplicate (to Allah) for him until you believe that you have rewarded him.") This applies in the case where the seeker of refuge is not duty-bound towards the person he is seeking refuge from. But if he is bound by some obligation to the one from whom refuge is sought, such as a debt, the right of a spouse, Qisas (just retaliation), or anything similar, he should not be granted refuge. Rather, he should fulfill the right he owes to him, unless his opponent exempts him from such a right.

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

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