Fatwa no. 10812

Q: Is fasting the six days of Shawwal, the Day of 'Ashura' (10th of Muharram), and the Day of 'Arafah (9th of Dhul-Hijjah) sufficient

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to expiate for the broken oaths which one cannot remember?

A: The Kaffarah (expiation) for breaking an oath is to free a believing slave, feed ten poor people, or clothe them. If you are unable to do any of that, you should fast for three days for each broken oath.

As for your inability to count the oaths, you should try as hard as possible to remember them and give an approximate number, and then expiate for the broken ones. That would be sufficient to discharge the obligation on your part, In sha'a-Allah (if Allah wills). Furthermore, it is insufficient to fast the Day of 'Ashura', the Day of 'Arafah and the six days of Shawwal for expiating for the broken oaths, unless a person intends to fast them as Kaffarah, not as voluntary fasting.

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

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