The first question of Fatwa no. 9258

Q 1: My wife is affected with a physical illness called "Al-Zar." It is a type of epilepsy which is a result of our friendship with some people suffering from the same illness. When they love or befriend someone, they transfer it to them. If a person catches it, they will not be cured until

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one of those friends treats them. The question is: My wife wants me to offer a sacrifice to Allah to cure her from this illness. As I don't know whether this is intended for Allah or her friend, I refused. However, she mortgaged her jewelry to offer a sacrifice. Is this permissible or not? What should I do? Answer me please. May Allah reward you.

A: Offering sacrifice for anyone other than Allah is considered an act of Shirk Akbar (major form of associating others in worship with Allah). The Prophet (peace be upon him) cursed those who offered sacrifices for anyone other than Allah. So offering a sacrifice is not permissible in the case mentioned above for seeking a cure for your wife. The permissible treatment should be through lawful medication and Shar'y (Islamically lawful) Ruqyah (reciting Qur'an and saying supplications over the sick seeking healing). You should advise your wife not to offer sacrifices to anyone other than Allah and to pursue the permitted ways of treatment. May Allah grant her recovery and quidance.

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

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