

The fourth and seventh questions of Fatwa no. 10701

Q 4: A wife cannot afford Hajj, however her husband is rich. Should he pay for her Hajj?

A: A husband is not obliged by Shari'ah (Islamic law) to cover the expenses of his wife's Hajj, even if he is rich. This is done by way of kind treatment and she is not obliged to perform Hajj, because she cannot afford it.

Q 7: I am an Egyptian citizen and the head of a household, with a wife and two children. My salary in Egypt barely covers the necessities of life. I do not have any other income. I worked in one of the the Gulf countries for four years and saved an amount of money which I deposited in one of the Islamic banks to provide me with an income to help me deal with different burdens of life. My salary and the income from this investment are just sufficient for me and my family. Am I obliged to spend some of this deposited money to perform Hajj in light of these circumstances? It should be noted that if I spend this amount from my bank account on Hajj expenses, this will affect my monthly income and will make things very difficult for me financially. What do you advise me to do?

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May Allah reward you with the best!

A: If your situation is as you describe, you are not obliged to perform Hajj, because you are not able to do so according to the criteria stipulated in Shari'ah (Islamic law). Allah (Glorified be He) says: (And Hajj (pilgrimage to Makkah) to the House (Ka'bah) is a duty that mankind owes to Allâh, those who can afford the expenses (for one's conveyance, provision and residence)) He (Exalted be He) also says: (So keep your duty to Allâh and fear Him as much as you can) And says: (...and has not laid upon you in religion any hardship)

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

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Source: Fatwas of the Permanent Committee