

MSL Fatwā – Is it allowed to make du‘ā’ for the forgiveness of the one who has committed suicide



In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

MSL Fatāwā : 1/1439

Question: Is it allowed to make du‘ā’ for the forgiveness of the one who has committed suicide.

Shaykh Zulfiker Ibrāhīm Memon al-Atharī al-Madanī (دللا هظفح) answered:

First: Killing oneself is a Major Sin, It was narrated from Thābit ibn al-Dahhāk (من ع دللا يضرر) that the Messenger of Allāh (صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم) said:

«وَمَنْ قَتَلَ نَفْسَهُ بِشَيْءٍ عُدَّ بِهِ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ»

«“Whoever kills himself with something in this world will be punished with it on the Day of Resurrection.”» [Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī, #5700; Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim, #110.]

Secondly: Yes, It Is permissible to seek forgiveness for the one the who committed suicide. The Proof is the saying of Allāh (ﷻ) in the Qur’ān :

«تَرَىٰ إِنَّمَا عَظِيمًا إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَغْفِرُ أَنْ يُشْرَكَ بِهِ وَيَغْفِرُ مَا دُونَ ذَلِكَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ ۗ وَمَنْ يُشْرِكْ بِاللَّهِ فَقَدِ افْتَدَىٰ

«Verily, Allāh forgives not that partners should be set up with him in worship, but He forgives except that (anything else) to whom He pleases, and whoever sets up partners with Allāh in worship, he has indeed invented a tremendous sin.”» [al-Nisā’ 4:48]

And, also the saying of Prophet Muḥammad (ﷺ) :

«...النَّارِ مَنْ قَالَ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ، وَفِي قَلْبِهِ وَزَنُ دَرَّةٍ مِنْ خَيْرٍ وَيَخْرُجُ مِنْ»

«..And whoever said, “Lā ilāha illā Allāh (There is no deity worthy of worship in truth but Allāh) and has in his heart good (faith) equal to the weight of an atom will be taken out of Hell.”»

[Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī #44]

The Permanent Committee for Scholarly Research and Ifta (Consisting of Former Chairman ‘Shaykh ‘Abdul-‘Azīz Ibn ‘Abd Allāh ibn Bāz, Deputy Chairman ‘Shaykh ‘Abd al-Razzāq ‘Afīf and Member ‘Shaykh ‘Abd Allāh ibn Ghudayyan said : Whoever killed himself, has committed a major sin and deserves Allāh (ﷻ)’s torment. However, it is permissible for Muslims to invoke Allāh (ﷻ) to be merciful to him and to invoke Allāh (ﷻ) for him. It is also permissible to offer condolences to his family and relatives because he did not commit Kufr (disbelief) when he killed himself. [Fātawās of the Permanent Committee, (9/23-24)

Suicide is not a Kufr that puts a person beyond the pale of Islām as some people think, rather it is a major sin that is subject to the will of Allāh (ﷻ) on the Day of Resurrection: if He wills, He will forgive it, and if He wills He will punish for it.

[Answered on 20th June,2018 Corresponding to 6th Shawwāl, 1439]

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