

Sisters seeking permission

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

Question: O Shaykh – may Allaah bless you – if ones father and mother pass away – then is the eldest brother the guardian over his sisters such that they seek his permission when going out, or regarding anything; just as the father’s permission is sought?

Shaykh ‘Abdul-Muhsin al-‘Abbaad (حفظه الله)¹: First of all, if there is a trustee of the father, that can attend to the likes of these matters then the trustee is the one who is regarded – whether he is the eldest or the youngest.

As for if there is no trustee then they should all strive in bringing about good for their sisters, and protecting their sisters from harm, and they should all work together upon piety and righteousness, and upon achieving their sisters uprightness, and [they should work together] upon their sisters being far removed from doubtful affairs, and [far removed from] going to places that will end up harming them.

All of them work together between themselves – but if there is a trustee of their father then he is the one in charge. Otherwise it is upon them all to work together. Each of them if they were to see something that is not good from their sister then he should notify her and remind her. And Allaah the Most High says:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا فُؤَا أُنْفُسِكُمْ وَأَهْلِيكُمْ نَارًا وَقُودُهَا النَّاسُ وَالْحِجَارَةُ

[Meaning: O you who have believed, protect yourselves and your families from a Fire whose fuel is people and stones.]²

¹ (حفظه الله) May Allaah preserve him

² سورة التحريم - Sooratut-Tahreem; [66:6]