

Fatwa no. 12539

Q: A dispute took place between my wife and me in 1409 A.H. In the middle of Ramadan. It happened that I performed Salah (Prayer) in the Masjid (mosque) and went to bed, but my wife said to me, "Why do you fall asleep before me?" She then stood up and removed my cover. I asked her not to remove the cover, but she did it again so I held her hand, got angry, and slept in my cousin's room. My cousin brought about a reconciliation between my wife and me. I am asking whether my wife and I are obligated to do anything because of what we have done. It is worth mentioning that when my wife told her family about what happened, they insisted that she should stay with them until I would inquire about the matter. Please provide us with your beneficial answer soon. May Allah safeguard you.

A: If the reality is as you mentioned, holding your wife's hand is not considered Talaq (divorce pronounced by a husband). Both of you are required to observe Taqwa (fear/wariness of offending Allah), deal kindly with each other, and fulfill each other's rights.

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

The Permanent Committee for Scholarly Research and Ifta'

Member
`Abdullah ibn Ghudayyan

Deputy Chairman
`Abdul-Razzaq `Afify

Chairman
`Abdul-`Aziz ibn `Abdullah ibn Baz