

Fatwa no. 146

Q: After I married my cousin, I heard her mother saying that she breastfed my wife and I, when we were babies. When I asked about this kind of breastfeeding, it was said to me that she was unlawful for me. So I divorced her three times after I had asked a lot. If it was said to me that she was lawful, I would not have divorced her. As for my utterance of divorce, I said: "I divorce you, I divorce you, I divorce you." I did so because of what I heard from her mother. When I made sure that her mother did not breastfeed me, for she said that she held me in her arms and put her nipple in my mouth but I did not suck any of her milk. My grandmother, the mother of my father, grabbed me by force before I could suck anything. When I heard this, I divorced my wife; will she be lawful for me?

A: After the Committee has studied the question, the questioner was asked to bring his mother-in-law to make sure of the matter. She was brought in and asked about this matter and her answer comes as follows: I got married to someone while I was a virgin. This man had a nephew. When I married his uncle while he was two years old, I carried him and placed my nipple in his mouth but his grandmother grabbed him in force before he could suckle any of my milk. She said to me: Do not breastfeed him. He did not suckle from me before or after. This man married my daughter and heard that I breastfed him, so he divorced my daughter accordingly. After the Committee studied the question and the answer of the woman, **its answer comes as follows:**

This man divorced his wife by saying: "I divorce you, I divorce you, I divorce you" because he heard the mother saying that she breastfed him. When he asked, he was informed that breastfeeding is one of the prohibitions of marriage, He said: If he knew that this breastfeeding does not prohibit marriage, he would not have divorced his wife. The mother came to the Committee and said that she did not breastfeed him but just placed her nipple in his mouth and the grandmother grabbed him by force before he could suckle anything. If the matter is as mentioned, the divorce is not effective and the woman is still his wife. This man divorced her because of something that he thought had happened while it did not actually happen in reality.

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

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