

The seventh question of Fatwa no. 16053

Q 7: A Muslim person underwent an operation and one of his relatives went to visit him. The patient took an oath of Talaq (divorce pronounced by a husband) that he would slaughter an animal for his guest, but the guest took a similar oath not to eat any of it. Should the patient slaughter the animal and distribute the meat among the weak and poor people or is there a Kaffarah (expiation) for breaking his oath?

A: The man who took an oath of Talaq to slaughter a goat to entertain his guest and he did not slaughter it must offer Kaffarah for breaking his oath. The Kaffarah is to feed ten needy people, or provide them with clothing - one piece of clothing for each, or to emancipate a believing slave. If he cannot do any of these, he must observe Sawm (Fast) for three days. This is because the oath of Talaq takes the ruling on breaking an oath if the person does not actually intend to divorce his wife.

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

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