Fatwa no. 18560

Q: My sister's husband traveled to France for work. He continued writing to her for a period of time, then she lost contact with him. We all tried to contact or locate him, but to no avail. After two years or more, my sister went to court to ask for Talaq (divorce pronounced by a husband) in absentia. While she was waiting for the verdict of Talaq, her husband returned and we did not know the reason behind his long absence. He asked his wife and all of us to forgive him, and wanted to return to his wife and his young son who was born a few months after his travel. What should his wife do in this regard? Bear in mind that she wants to return to him, and the Talaq verdict has not been issued by court.

A: If the reality is as you mentioned, that the religious official has not nullified the marriage contract and declare her divorced, then she is still this man's wife.

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

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