

Fatwa no. 5301

**Q: His mother loves pasturing sheep but it increases her sickness. One day, he made an oath to divorce his wife if he did not sell the sheep or give them to a Bedouin but he did not do so. There is a grazer near his village and he will give him the sheep for four days in order not to break his oath. Is this duration enough as he did not fix a certain date?**

**A:** You will not be breaking your oath if you sell them or give them to one of the Bedouins and this depends on your intention. If you do not do so and you have the intention to divorce your wife, one time of divorce will be counted. If you meant to urge yourself to sell them or give them to one of the Bedouins, your oath must be expiated. The expiation of an oath is illustrated in Allah's Saying:

**Allâh will not punish you for what is unintentional in your oaths, but He will punish you for your deliberate oaths; for its expiation feed ten Masâkîn (poor persons), on a scale of the average of that with which you feed your own families, or clothe them or manumit a slave. But whosoever cannot afford (that), then he should fast for three days. That is the expiation for the oaths when you have sworn. And protect your oaths (i.e. do not swear much).**

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

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