

Fatwa no. 5388

Q: One day, I got angry with my colleagues and took an oath of Talaq (divorce pronounced by a husband) if I ever eat with them again. Two months later, however, we went to perform Hajj and we sat and ate together. Please inform me about your opinion regarding my oath and what I must do. I am really embarrassed and confused. May Allah reward you.

A: If the reality is as you mentioned; that you were angry and took an oath of Talaq, if you were terribly angry that you were not aware of what you said and you were only informed about this oath through your friends, your oath of Talaq is not considered and you are not liable to pay Kaffarah (expiation). However, if you were not enraged and you were fully aware of what you said and what was said to you, you have broken your oath not to eat with them and you are liable to pay Kaffarah for an oath. Nevertheless, this ruling is only applicable if by taking this oath you intended to prevent yourself from eating with them and you did not mean to divorce your wife. Otherwise, it would be considered one revocable divorce. In such a case, you may take your wife back in marriage in the presence of two just witnesses as long as she is in her `Iddah (woman's prescribed waiting period after divorce) and you have not divorced her twice before.

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 Qa`ud

Deputy Chairman
`Abdul-Razzaq `Afify

Chairman
`Abdul-`Aziz ibn `Abdullah ibn Baz