Fatwa no. 700

Q: A husband granted his wife one revocable Talaq (divorce pronounced by a husband) then he took her back in marriage on the basis of a Fatwa (legal opinion issued by a qualified Muslim scholar) that was issued by the Department of Ifta'. The concerned husband has then divorced his wife again by saying to her, "You are divorced, divorced, divorced." He has intended by the second and third pronouncements to emphasize the first. Is it permissible for him to revoke the Talaq?

A: We read the Fatwa that the questioner referred to in his Fatwa request. It was issued by the Department of Ifta' in 1384 A.H. And it stated that the Talaq that was first given by the husband was considered one Talaq.

Since the questioner mentions that he has divorced his wife afterwards by saying to her, "You are divorced, divorced, divorced," and that he has intended by repetition to give emphasis - not to give more than one Talaq, his statement is regarded as another one Talaq. If it is not the third Talaq granted by him, he will have the right to revoke it if the `Iddah (woman's prescribed waiting period after divorce)

has not expired yet.

However, if the Iddah has expired before the revocation of Talaq, it will be permissible for the ex-husband to remarry his divorcee with the conclusion of a new marriage contract and the payment of a new Mahr (mandatory gift to a bride from her groom), provided that she gives her consent to remarry him.

It should be noted that if any Talaq takes place in the future, it will be considered the third.

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'

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