

Fatwa no. 9273

Q: My brother assigned his wife 340,000 Riyals as Mahr (mandatory gift to a bride from her groom). He paid 82,000 Riyals in advance and delayed the rest of it to be paid at fixed times later on. He consummated the marriage and had a child but the child died. Now, his wife is pregnant. It was Allah's Will that my brother died in a car accident and we thank Allah for His Divine Decree. My brother's father-in-law claims the rest of Mahr which is around 258,000 Riyals. It should be noted that my brother did not leave behind except 10,000 Riyals. He also has a share in a piece of land but we have not distributed it until now. His share of the land is worth approximately 10,000 Riyals. I wonder if there will be any sin on him if we give his father-in-law his entire estate including the money and the land. It is worth mentioning that the money and the land together are worth 20,000 Riyals. If there will be a sin on my brother after we give his entire estate to his father-in-law, I am ready to pay the rest of the Mahr from my own money. It should be noted that my monthly salary is 5,000 Riyals. I hope you will explain things to me so if there is no sin on my brother, I can stop worrying or if there is a sin on him, I will do my best to repay the remaining money of Mahr.

A: If the reality is as mentioned, your brother's wife deserves to receive her entire Mahr once your brother consummated marriage with her. So, it is a debt for her like any other debt that has to be repaid before distributing your brothers' estate. If any dispute arises, it should be referred to the legal court for settlement. If you repay the remaining debts of your brother, you will free him from responsibility and you will be rewarded greatly by Allah.

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

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