

129687 - Should he give the interest to his parents so that they can pay off their debts?

the question

Praise be to Allah, I have withdrawn all my savings that were in one of the riba-based banks, and I have resolved to get rid of the interest, if Allah wills. Is it permissible for me to give it to my father or my mother for them to pay off part of the debts that they owe, and is putting the money in one of the Islamic banks permissible?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

We praise Allah, may He be exalted, for having enabled you to give up dealing with the riba-based bank, and we ask Him, may He be glorified, to forgive your sin and accept your repentance.

The basic principle with regard to interest is that it should be got rid of in ways that do not bring any benefit to the one who is disposing of it. So it should be spent on good causes and in the public interests of the Muslims.

It is not permissible to give it to your parents for the purpose of maintenance, because if they are poor, you are obliged to spend on their maintenance, so giving the interest to them would be saving your wealth and would bring benefit to you.

But it is permissible to give it to them to pay off their debts, because the son is not obliged to pay the debts of his parents.

And Allah knows best.