



Fatwa No. 1452

Q: People have to fix a personal photograph in an Identification Card, Family Record, Driving License,

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Social Insurance, Exam Form in schools and universities, Passport and the like. Is it permissible to take photographs for this purpose? If it is not permissible, what should the employee do in his job? Should he leave it?

A: Photography is Haram (prohibited) according to the authentic Hadiths reported from Allah's Messenger (peace be upon him) where he cursed photo-makers and mentioned that they will receive the severest punishment on the day of judgement. This is because photography is a means leading to Shirk (associating others in worship with Allah) and it is similar to imitating Allah's Creation. As for a person obliged to fix a photo in Family Record, Passport, Exam Form or in Residence Papers or the like, it is permissible for him to take a photograph based on the degree of necessity. Therefore, taking photographs is permissible in case of necessity and in case of a person who works in a job and has to take a photograph, or his job is for a public interest that can not be achieved except through him. Allah (may He be Glorified and Exalted) says: [while He has explained to you in detail what is forbidden to you, except under compulsion of necessity](#) .

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

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