Fatwa no. 13171

Q: My father died while he was an employee at Aramco Company. He has

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savings in the company as there was about 10 % deducted from his monthly salary. After his death, the company informed us that this sum of money was the profit of the monthly cuts in his salary: The deducted sum of money amounted to 15,065.49, and the company gave him a bonus for having saved this sum which amounts to 21,5065.49. The profit of the first sum is 222,100.47 whereas the profit of the second sum is 201,504.78, i.e. the profit of the bonus.

The question now is: Are these sums of money Halal (lawful) for us as his heirs, or not? If they are Halal, Praise be to Allah, and if not, what should we do with them? Is it permissible for us to use them, if they are not Halal, to settle the debts of our dead parental uncle who has minor children and with no one to pay these debts on his behalf? Is it also permissible to give his relatives, whom he used to treat kindly but are not legal heirs, or to build a Masjid (Mosque) or spend this money in any charitable venture? Furthermore, there are one million, four hundred Lebanese Liras deposited in the bank; what should be done with its profit? May Allah reward you best!

A: You have the right to take the sums deducted from your father's salary, and that is Halal just like the rest of the estate. The bank interest should be spent in charitable ventures. The same applies to the Liras that take the same ruling as the estate, except for its profit which should be spent in charity, rather than building Masjids.

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

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