



## Woman as a trader

### The fifth question of Fatwa no. 2761

#### Q 5: What is the ruling on a woman who works as a trader in her country or abroad?

**A:** The basic principle is that it is permissible for men and women to trade and make money while traveling or while inside their country because of the general meaning of the saying of Allah (may He be Praised): ﴿whereas Allâh has permitted trading and forbidden Ribâ (usury).﴾ (When the Prophet (peace be upon him) was asked what type of earnings is the best, he answered: The work done by a man's own hand, and every good sale. ) Moreover, it was authentically established that women in the very beginning of Islam used to buy and sell in a modest manner while avoiding showing their adornment. However, if the woman's work as a trader leads her to commit forbidden acts such as displaying her charms, then it is impermissible for her to take part in this work.

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Among the acts that are prohibited by Allah (may He be Exalted) are showing her adornments including uncovering her face, traveling without a Mahram (spouse or unmarriageable relative), or mixing with Ajanib (men lawful for the woman to marry) in a way that causes Fitnah (temptation). In such a case, it is obligatory to prevent her from this work which is regarded as Mubah (permissible), but involves Haram (forbidden).

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

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