The first, third and fourth questions of Fatwa no. 14054:

Q 1: One day I went to a ranch but there was no one there, and I found a sickle, so I took it. When I came home, my mother asked me where I got it from, and I told her that I found it on the road. I swore to her, and she believed me. I am now in pain, because I heard that this is Haram (prohibited). At that time, I had not yet reached the age of puberty. Q 3: I was around twenty-five years old when I went to the market and found twenty Riyals on the ground. The owner came looking for them, but I denied finding them, as I thought it is Halal (lawful) to take Luqatah (a lost item found by someone else). I was illiterate at that time. The owner of the money died, and left three married daughters; each of them lives in a village that is five hundred kilometers far from the other. He also had a married son, and another wife.

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Shall I give each of the daughters the same sum of money, or what shall I give as Sadaqah (voluntary charity)? His wife died after him. Please advise. Q 4: One day, I found ten Riyals in the market. The owner came looking for them, but I did not tell him anything. I was in need of money, and I thought it was Halal to take them. The owner of the money is still alive. At that time, one could buy an animal to be slaughtered for ten Riyals. How much shall I pay to the owner nowadays? What shall I do? I am so ashamed, and I fear Allah's punishment. Please advise. May Allah reward you.

**A:** The sickle you took, or its value, and the money you found should be returned to their owners if they are still alive; otherwise, they should be returned to their heirs. May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family and Companions!

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