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### Withdrawing from a partnership that deals in unlawful transactions

Fatwa no. 17379

**Q:** Some people have entered into a partnership with a capital of approximately two hundred and thirty million Riyals (230,000,000) for the initial start-up phase. The production and operation of the factory requires fifty million Riyals (50,000,000), but the partners do not have not this amount. All of them except one determined to take a Riba-based (usurious) loan from the bank. When this person objected to deal in Riba, the others said, "then bring your own cash money or borrow an interest-free loan". The question is: Is it permissible for this one to continue this partnership if he brings the cash through lawful means? The other partners suggested that he sells his share. This partner fears that he will not find anyone to purchase his share or that if he does he will be forced to sell at loss. Furthermore, he is not permitted to sell to anyone except one of the partners, and so they will control the sale price.

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**He may, however, after two years of the factory's operation sell to the partners or anyone else.**

**A:** You are advised not to continue the partnership with them as their act indicate that they are heedless of the sin resulting from dealing in Riba (usury/ interest). Whoever gives up something for the sake of Allah, Allah will compensate him/her with something better. May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings of Allah be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family and Companions!

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