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The second question of Fatwa no. 18257

Q 2: Allah (may He be Exalted and Praised) commands us to establish the weights in justice and not make the balance deficient. I work in a bakery in Cairo. My work is to knead the dough and I have no other profession than this and it is my only source of living. Most of the employers in this field command us to reduce the weight of bread. Indeed, I witness this crime and participate in it. It should be mentioned here that I do so to obey the command of the owner of the bakery. In addition, we mix some materials with the flour. Should I quit this job which is my only source of sustenance or what should I do?

A: Allah (may He be Exalted) prohibits us to make the balance and weights deficient by reduction and decrease. Allah (may He be Exalted) says: ﴿ Woe to Al-Mutaffifūn (those who give less in measure and weight). ﴾ Those who, when they have to receive by measure from men, demand full measure ﴿ And when they have to give by measure or weight to (other) men, give less than due. ﴾ Do they not think that they will be resurrected (for reckoning), ﴿ On a Great Day? ﴾ The Day when (all) mankind will stand before the Lord of the 'Alamīn (mankind, jinn and all that exists) ﴾

Therefore, you should weigh in justice and comply to the command of Allah (may He be Exalted). Do not obey those who command you to reduce or make the balance deficient even if they dismiss you. Whoever abandons something for the Sake of Allah (may He be Exalted), He will recompense him with something better than it. You should advise those who command you to do this evil act and remind them of Allah (may He be Exalted); perhaps He will guide them because of your advice.

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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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