



The second and third questions of Fatwa no. 6904

Q 2 and 3: Is it permissible for someone to lend another person a number of forty sheep provided that after four years the latter gives him double the number he borrowed (i.e. 80) divided equally for each year. Is this considered Riba (usury)? If it is so, what should we do? May Allah reward you with the best!

Is it permissible to exchange a he-goat for two she-goats to be delivered on the spot or on a stipulated date? Enlighten us may Allah reward you with the best!

A: It is permissible to exchange an animal for another animal. Imam Ahmad and Abu Dawud narrated on the authority of `Abdullah ibn `Amr (may Allah be pleased with them both)

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that he said, (The Messenger of Allah commanded me to lead an expedition and to give soldiers camels, with which I was entrusted, to mount. I then assigned each of them a camel to mount till all camels were taken and there remained some soldiers without camels to mount. The Prophet (peace be upon him) then said to me, 'purchase for us some camels in return for some young charity camels under hand, which were to be substituted by others after we are done with the expedition.' I then would purchase one camel for two or three young charity camels which would later be substituted by others, until I have been done with the expedition. Later on, when the charity camels were collected, the Prophet (peace be upon him) compensated for those young camels we had taken.") Narrated by Al-Daraqutny. Narrated also by Al-Bayhaqy in the Sunan (Hadith compilations classified by jurisprudential themes) on the authority of `Amr ibn Shu`ayb from his father from his grandfather.

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

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