The first, second and fifth questions of Fatwa no. 5937

Q 1: A jeweler adds a gold production fee to the price of the gold jewelry he sells. This is done either by selling gold for money and taking his fee above the cost of gold, or by exchanging gold for gold and taking the value of the gold jewelry in addition to the production fee including his profit. What is the ruling on this jeweler?

A 1: There is no harm in adding a production fee to the value of the gold jewels as long as gold is exchanged for something other than gold, money for example. However, if gold jewels are exchanged for gold jewels, it is not permissible for the jeweler to take a production fee according to the Hadith that is authentically reported by Al-Bukhari and Muslim on the authroity of Abu Sa`id Al-Khudry (may Allah be pleased with him) that the Prophet (peace be upon him) stated: (Do not sell gold for gold, except like for like, and do not increase one part over another part; and do not sell silver for silver except like for like, and do not increase one part over another part, and of these, (gold and silver), do not sell something present for something to be later delivered.

Q 2: A Jeweler sells used gold jewelry as new ones (not worn before).

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He does this according to an agreement between him and the purchaser which may be pronounced or implicitly understood. The jeweler thus sells used jewels at the price of new ones. In this case, the stamp cost is added to the price, while it should only be charged on new gold jewelry. (The state imposes the stamp cost on jewelers for putting a trademark on gold to confirm that it is 21-carat gold or 18-carat gold. Then the jewelers collect it from purchasers, so jewelers should charge it only on new gold jewelry).

A 2: It is not permissible for the jeweler to sell used gold jewelry as new jewelry as this is cheating, deception and lying. Allah (may He be Exalted) states: (O you who believe! Be afraid of Allâh, and be with those who are true (in words and deeds).)It is authentically reported that the Prophet (peace be upon him) stated: (He who deceives is not of us (is not my follower).)Likewise, it is not permissible for the jeweler to add trademark costs to the price of used jewelry, as the purchaser would refuse to pay it if he knew that the gold jewelry is used.

Q 5: Is one who sells men's gold rings committing a sin by doing so, and is the money earned from this sale unlawful?

A5: There is no harm in selling gold and silver rings for men. However, if you know that the man will wear this gold ring, do not sell it to him as this is a form of cooperation with him to commit sin and transgression. Also, you should advice him and tell him that gold jewelry is unlawful for men.

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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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