

Two Ways Of Abstaining From The Harams



There are two ways of abstaining from the harams [1]: Firstly, to abstain from those sins which only disturb the rights of Allahu taala; secondly, to abstain from those sins whereby other people's or creatures' rights have been violated. The second kind is more important. Allahu taala does not need anything, and He is very merciful. On the other hand, human beings not only need a lot of things but also are very stingy. Resulullah said, **"He who has human beings' rights on himself, and who has violated creatures' property and chastity, should pay the rights back and have himself forgiven before death! For that day gold and property will have no value. That day, his blessings will be taken away until the rights have been paid, and if he does not have any blessings, the rightowner's sins will be loaded on him."**

One day, when Rasulullah asked the Ashab-i kiram [2], **"Do you know who is called bankrupt?"** They said, **"The person without any money or property left."** He declared, **"Among my ummat [3], a bankrupt is a person whose deed-book contains many thawabs (rewards) of salat [4], fasting and zakat [5] on the Day of Judgement. But he has cursed a person, slandered him and taken away his property. His thawabs will be divided and distributed to such right-owners. If his thawabs are depleted before the rights are paid, the sins of the rightowners will be loaded upon him. Then he will be hurled into Hell."**

[Ibni Abidin (rahmatullahi alaih), while explaining the book Durr-ul-mukhtar, says in the two hundred and ninety-fifth page on the subject of intending for salat, **"On the Day of Judgement, if the right-owner does not waive his right, seven hundred prayers of namaz which have been performed in jama'at (congregation) and accepted will be taken away and will be given to the right-owner in return for a right of one dank."** One dank is one-sixth of a dirham, about half a gram of silver, which is worth about twenty-five kurush.]

[1] haram: an action, word or thought prohibited by Allahu ta'ala.

[2] As'hab-i kiram: (as-Sahabat al-kiram); the Companions of Rasulullah.

[3] ummat: (pl. of umma) the community, body of believers, of a prophet.

[4] salat: i) prayer; (with salam)= salawat; ii) ritual prayer of at least two rak'as; "namaz", in Persian; salat janaza: funeral prayer.

[5] zakat: (fard duty of giving annually) certain amount of certain kinds of property to certain kinds of people, by which the remaining property becomes purified and blessed and the Muslim who gives it protects himself against being (called) a miser. See chapter 1 in Endless Bliss V.