

Fatwa no. (7323) :

Q: I would like to tell you dear Sheikh , that I married an uneducated orphan girl on `Eidul-Fitr (the Festival of Breaking the Fast) in 1403 A.H. In the beginning of Dhul-Hijjah, she was afflicted by a psychological illness whose symptoms are crying to the extent that she sometimes screams and wails. Her father took her to his home and brought a sorcerer to treat her. He treated her with foul smelling smoke and confined her in a dark room for the entire month of Muharram. This type of treatment is called "Hajbah" and was done without my

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consent. She was cured and stayed at her father's during the months of Safar and Rabi' Al-Awwal, then returned home in the beginning of Rabi' Al-Thani. Once again she was attacked by the same illness . Now I am having her seen by a professional psychiatrist who treats her by the Qur'an and the famous supplications, in addition to other medications. However, her family is not convinced and wants to take her to the sorcerer again. They have even prevented me from reciting Qur'an to her when she goes into spasms, because the sorcerer told them that I have caused her illness by reading to her Mu`awwidhatayn (Surahs Al-Falaq and Al-Nas) and Ayat-ul-Kursy (the Qur'anic Verse of the Throne, Surah Al-Baqarah, 2:255). What shall I do if her father takes her to another sorcerer? Please advise as soon as possible.

A: You have done well by treating her with Qur'an and Ruqyah (reciting Qur'an and supplications over the sick to cure them). However, it is Haram (prohibited) for the stranger who treats her to be in Khulwah (being alone with a member of the opposite sex). It is also Haram for her to expose any part of her body in front of him, or for him to touch her. If you treat her yourself, or one of her Mahrams (unmarriageable relatives) undertakes this, it would be best. We also advise that you take her to a hospital to be treated by a professional psychiatrist.

As for taking her to sorcerers for treatment, this is forbidden, as the Prophet (peace be upon him) stated, ("He who visits a diviner and consults him, his prayers extending to forty nights will not be accepted.")

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Narrated by Muslim in his Sahih. The Prophet (peace be upon him) also stated, (If anyone resorts to a diviner and believes in what he says, he has disbelieved in what was revealed to Muhammad) (peace be upon him). May Allah guide us to follow the truth, adhere to it and avoid disobedience.

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

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