
Husband forcing a fiqh opinion on wife

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Question: If a woman disagrees with her husband over a Fiqh issue, such as travelling without a mahram, then in general, can he force his Fiqh opinion on her?

Answer: Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)¹:

الرِّجَالُ قَوَّامُونَ عَلَى النِّسَاءِ بِمَا فَضَّلَ اللَّهُ بَعْضَهُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ

[Men are the protectors and maintainers of women, because Allaah has made one of them to excel the other]²

So with regard to the likes of this question, the opinion of one of the spouses – either the wife or the husband – must be carried out. And there is no doubt that so long as Allaah, the Mighty and Sublime, has made it obligatory upon the woman to obey the husband, her opinion is not a decisive factor. So in this situation, she must obey him. However, before that, they must first yield to one another and communicate to try to come to an understanding with one another. But if (after doing this) the situation has reached the point at which the question was asked, then the answer is that (at this point) it is obligatory upon her to obey him and to not oppose him.

¹ (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah have mercy on him

² Soorah an-Nisaa [04:34]