

Pirated software

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

Questioner: Some people buy a computer program, crack it, and then copy it and sell it for a cheap price, bearing in mind the original copy is sold at expensive rates, is this allowed?

Shaykh 'Abdul-Muhsin al-'Abbaad (حفظه الله)¹: One must guard the rights of people and not infringe upon them, if he himself were the person in this situation would he agree for this to be done for him [i.e., if the person making the copies were the actual owner/producer of the original]? It's known he wouldn't. And the Prophet (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)² said in a hadeeth reported by 'Abdullah ibn 'Amr ibn al-'Aas in Saheeh Muslim, and this is part of a long hadeeth, **"Whoever would like to be delivered from Hell and enter Paradise, let him die believing in Allaah and the Last Day, and let him treat people as he would like to be treated,"**³ ya'nee, he deals with people as he would like for them to deal with him.

¹ (حفظه الله) May Allaah the Most High preserve him

² (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

³ Saheeh Muslim -The Book of Leadership, no. 4776