

Repentance from life of drugs, what to do with money?

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

Question: There is a man who it used to be from his habits to use drugs; but he repented and Allaah guided him to the straight path. So what is your advice for him and anyone who is in his similar condition as it relates to this affair? And if he has debts due to him upon the people from these drugs or the people are after him due to these drugs then is he to take the wealth that is due to him and to pay the debts that are due upon him since they are due to these drugs?

Shaykh al-Uthaymeen (رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ)¹: Firstly, we congratulate this man whom Allaah has favoured with uprightness and abandonment of foolish matters and things which destroy the soul. We say: Praise Allaah for the freedom (from these drugs) which He has granted you. Secondly: All of that which he has earned by way of these prohibited means is impermissible for him. However, that which he already has, then Allaah, the Exalted has said:

فَمَنْ جَاءَهُ مَوْعِظَةٌ مِّن رَّبِّهِ فَانْتَهَىٰ فَلَهُ مَا سَلَفَ وَأَمْرُهُ إِلَى اللَّهِ

[So whosoever receives an admonition from his Lord and desists then for him is that which has preceded; his affair is for Allaah.]²

This is with the exception of the actual drugs; if he has it with him then it is obligatory upon him to destroy them. As for that which is due to him from the people then he is to take it from them; but he is to give it in charity to be free of it, and not as a means of nearness to Allaah. He cannot leave it with the people such that it accumulates for them continuing to yield profits. Rather, we say: Take from them that which they owe and give it away in charity; and do not add it to your wealth. Rather, give it away in charity in order to be free of it and by way of this the problem is solved.

As for the one who owes the people from the costs of these drugs, then he can withhold payment of it, and say: I will not pay you. This is something which is Haraam, and the Haraam has no legislative value. However, in this case he is to give away in charity the price of that which he has taken from the people from these drugs so that he does not allow it to accumulate and yield continuous profit.

¹ (رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

² سورة البقرة - Soorah al-Baqarah [2:275]