

Keeping photographs

Shaykh Aboo `Abd-al-Mu`iz `Alee Ferkous al-Qoobee

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

Question: What is the preponderant ruling regarding keeping photographs or videos as keepsakes as for a wedding ceremony? And this by keeping them in a computer.

Shaykh Aboo `Abd-al-Mu`iz `Alee Ferkous al-Qoobee (May Allaah the Most High preserve him): All praise is due to Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds. Peace and blessing be upon whom Allaah sent as a mercy to the Worlds, upon his Family, his Companions and his Brothers till the Day of Resurrection.

If the photographs do not contain prohibited things by the Sharee'ah, they are a necessity or a need for people, and they are used for an educational purpose or for orientation, or as means of explanation for educational and instructive purposes, then they will be permissible, as it is mentioned on the authority of `A'ishah (May Allaah be pleased with her) as regards her playing with dolls¹. As for other cases, it is better to avoid them.

The perfect knowledge belongs to Allaah (Mighty and Majestic is He). Our last prayer is all praise is due to Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds. Peace and blessing be upon our Prophet, his Family, his Companions and Brothers till the Day of Resurrection.

Algiers, Safar 14th, 1427H.

Corresponding to: March 14th , 2005.

¹ Reported by Aboo Daawood, chapter of "Good manners" (hadeeth 4934), on the authority of `A'ishah (May Allaah be pleased with her). This hadeeth has been judged as Hassan (good) by Al-Albaanee in Aadaab Az-Zifaaf (page: 203).