

93016 - He died and left behind a wife, four sons and four daughters

the question

If a person dies and leaves behind four daughters, four sons and a wife, and he leaves for example 120,000 dirhams, how should his estate be divided? .

Detailed answer

The division in this case is one of the issues of al-faraa'id (division of inheritance) which is governed by two verses in the Book of Allaah:

1 – The verse in which Allaah states the inheritance of the wife (interpretation of the meaning):

“but if you leave a child, they get an eighth of that which you leave”

[al-Nisa' 4:12]

This verse allocates to the wife one-eighth of the estate if there is a son of the husband.

2 – The verse in which Allaah states the inheritance of the children if there are both males and females (interpretation of the meaning):

“Allaah commands you as regards your children's (inheritance): to the male, a portion equal to that of two females”

[al-Nisa' 4:11].

Based on this, the estate is to be divided as follows:

1 – The wife gets one-eighth of the estate.

2 – The rest is given to the sons and daughters, with the male getting a share equal to that of two females.

Dividing an estate of 120,000 dirhams is done in the following manner:

Inheritor	Basic division of shares	Units for working out amount of shares	Division of the estate
	8	96	120,000
wife	1	12	15,000
4 sons	7	56	70,000
4 daughters	(included with sons' shares)	28	35,000

The value of one unit is: 120,000 divided by 96 = 1250 dirhams.

The wife's share of the estate is 12 x 1250 = 15,000 dirhams.

The share of all the sons is 56 x 1250 = 70,000 dirhams.

The share of one son is 70,000 divided by 4 = 17,500 dirhams.

The share of all the daughters is 28 x 1250 = 35,000 dirhams.

The share of one daughter is 35,000 divided by 4 = 8750 dirhams.

And Allaah knows best.