

The second question of Fatwa no. 6747

Q 2: According to the ruling of Islam, what should a man do if, before marriage, he finds out through medical examination and tests that he is barren?

A: First: He should marry as long as he is capable of affording dowry and marriage costs and is sexually potent. He should do so to act upon Sunnah, guard himself against adultery, cooperate with others in life matters, establish links with his potential in-laws, and the likes of such advantages of marriage.

Second: The results of the medical tests and examinations which show that he is barren may not be correct. Supposing they are true, there may be treatment for barrenness such as medicine or other worldly reasons. Besides, Allah may cure you, Allah Willing, and this is not impossible for Allah to do. Allah cured the wife of prophet Zakariyya and she gave birth to Yahya (peace be with them both) in reply to his invocation and to honor him.

Likewise, Sarah gave birth to Is-haq (Isaac) for Ibrahim (Abraham), Allah's Close Friend (peace be upon them), regardless of their old age and the long duration of their wives' sterility.

Third: A Muslim should resort to Allah and follow all worldly and spiritually means such as invocation, never despair of getting relief from Allah; because no one despairs of relief from Allah except the disbelieving people. He has to tell the truth to in-laws before concluding the marriage contract, for what is mentioned is one of the defects that permit a spouse to dissolve the contract of marriage.

May Allah grant us success. May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions.

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