

Darul Ifta Birmingham

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Question

In Islam. Is it haram to marry some one that you have dated?

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

Answer:

Nikaah (Islamic marriage) is compulsory upon a person at the time of the appearance of sexual desires, this is according to All the scholars. If a man has such strong sexual urges that he cannot control and he has the ability to afford a Mahr and maintenance of a wife and he does not get married, then he will be sinful.¹

Dating is a custom of the non-believers and is a social norm in western societies. There is no allowance for it in Islam due to it being a gateway to fornication.²

Dating a person usually indicates some type of inclination to that specific person and also indicates that sexual urges are present, as such it WILL BE preferred that these two persons win the pleasure of Allah by getting married according to Islamic values before their temptations lead them to greater sin. People who date one another are merely exploring their options and are committing multiple sins by doing such. If two persons are dating and cannot break off their relationship then it is better for them to get married to one another through the sunnat, which is the performance of a

¹ Badaai' us Sanaai', page 331, vol 3, daarul hadith cairo

² Surah Al Israa, vs 32

Nikaah. Even though they may be unsure of what exactly they are searching for, it will be pleasing to Allah for them to ***prevent a calamity by sacrificing whatever little benefits***³ there may be in dating (if any).

In conclusion, there is no prohibition from marrying a person whom you have dated, **rather it will be preferable to do so in order to avoid committing fornication and further sin. Prevention will surely be better than the cure.**⁴

Only Allah knows best

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³ Qawaaid Fiqhiyya, page 34, # 23

⁴ Qawaaid Fiqhiyya, page 31, # 16