

In The Name of Allaah, The Most Merciful, The Bestower of Mercy.

CALINE MALEK wrote: Saudi actress Sumaya Rida personifies the zeitgeist of an era of change in the Kingdom: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1854746/lifestyle>

We remind Caline Malek [may Allaah guide all of us to what is praiseworthy] that the upright scholars have already spoken about this affair. Therefore, we'll share a clarification by a Senior Saudi Scholar, Al-Allaamah Ahmad Bin Yahyah An-Najmee [may Allaah have mercy upon him].

The Shaikh stated:

All praise and thanks belongs to Allaah and may peace be upon Allaah's Messenger, the Messenger's family and companions. To proceed: Firstly, what is clear to me is that it is unlawful because it is based on the following forbidden affairs:

**[1] Lying:** That is because acting is not based except on lying, it is not built except on it, and it is not ended without it (i.e. because the person is not in reality the one who performed those actions initially). Lying is unlawful and a Muslim has no doubt regarding its unlawfulness. Indeed, Allaah - in His Mighty Book - dispraised lying and the one who commits the deed, rather He [The Exalted] cursed them. [Allaah said]:[لَعْنَتِ اللَّهِ عَلَى الْكٰذِبِيْنَ] - then we pray and invoke (sincerely) the Curse of Allah upon those who lie]. [Surah Aal Imran. Verse 61]

In a hadeeth reported from the Prophet [peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him], he said, "**Verily, lying leads to immorality and immorality leads to the fire**". [Saheeh Al-Bukhaari 6049 and Saheeh Muslim 2607]

**[2] Forgery and falsehood:** In an authentic hadeeth reported from the Prophet [peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him], he said, "**He who made a claim of anything, which (in fact) did not belong to him (or he does not possess), is not from us...**" [Saheeh Muslim. Number 61]

**[3]** The actor pretends to cry, or laugh, or sadness, or joy, or anger, or satisfaction, whilst he is lying.

**[4] Assumming the personality of someone else:** A Muslim may assume the personality of a disbeliever, or a disbeliever or an immoral person may assume the personality of a believer among the most senior personalities in Islam- either a companion of the Prophet, or a noble scholar, or a just king. This is a great offence.

**[5]** The actors make lawful these forbidden deeds whilst knowing that a person imitating another person in his appearance, his gait, or his speech by way of a narrative is tantamount to backbiting (i.e. speaking about them behind in their absence), and backbiting is forbidden. The Prophet [peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him] said, "**I do not love that I imitate anyone even if I should get such and such**". [Sunan Abu Dawud 4875. Silsilah As-Saheehah 901]

**[6] It teaches deception and immorality:** The corrupt affairs that occurred due to the viewing of

these corrupt plays (or dramas) has either gained the upper hand or belied the claim to rectification.

**[7]** The actors who ascribe to Islam do a great service to the orientalist - the enemies of Islam. That is because they take narratives that are fabricated about the leaders and (distinguished) men of Islam, and the intent behind it is to degrade their status, so these actors take these narrations and spread them, whilst either being beware of them or become amazed by them, either not knowing or thinking that that they are sound. And by way of this, they definitely give service to the orientalist and injure the dignity of Islaam and its (distinguished) men. This is the height of offensive behaviour against Islaam and the people of Islam; rather it might lead the doer to disbelief.

**[8]** The Prophet's companions and those who came before them were influenced through listening to the Qur'aan, the Sunnah and admonitions, and they were not in need of plays (or dramas). **(1)**

Finally, we remind CALINE MALEK that none of us should promote corruption because that has grave consequences in the Hereafter. Allaah [The Exalted] said:

إِنَّا نَحْنُ نُحْيِي الْمَوْتَىٰ وَنَكْتُبُ مَا قَدَّمُوا وَآتَيْنَاهُمْ ۖ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ أَحْصَيْنَاهُ فِي إِمَامٍ مُّبِينٍ

Verily, We give life to the dead, and We record that which they send before (them), and their traces, and that which they leave behind], and all things We have recorded with numbers (as a record) in a Clear Book. [Surah Yaaseen. Aayah 12]

Imaam Al-Aloosee [may Allaah have mercy upon him] stated regarding the above verse, "That which they left behind of good deeds, such as the knowledge they taught people, books they wrote, land they gave as endowment or a building they built in the path of Allaah and other good deeds; or sins, such as establishment of laws [legislation, rules, regulations etc] that are tantamount to oppression and transgression, or setting up principles amongst the people that are tantamount to evil and corruption, and the evil Funoon [i.e. haraam professions, crafts etc] which they initiated and were revived after them by the corrupt people". **(2)**

The well-known Saudi Imaam and Qur'aan commentator Abdur-Rahmaan Bin Naasir As-Sadi [may Allaah have mercy upon] him stated, "It is the good and evil outcomes about which they were the cause of its occurrence during their life time and after their death, and those deeds that emanated from their statements, deeds and circumstances. Every good performed by one of the people due to the knowledge of the servant, his teaching and advice, or through enjoying good and forbidding evil, or knowledge he transmitted to the learners, or in a book which is benefitted from during his life and after his death, or a good deed, such as Salaah, Zakaat, Sadaqah or kindness based on which he was followed, or built a masjid or a place which the people benefit from and what is similar, it will be from the good outcomes that are written for him, and likewise are the evil outcomes. The Prophet [peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him] said, 'Whoever starts a good thing [i.e. something other than bidah and sin] and is followed

by others, he will have his own reward and a reward equal to that of those who follow him, without it detracting from their reward in any way. Whoever starts a bad thing [i.e. a bidah, sin or something that opposes Islaam] and is followed by others, will bear the burden of his own sin and a burden equal to that of those who follow him, without it detracting from their burden in any way<sup>1</sup>. [Reported by al-Tirmidhi, no. 2675]

This subject matter makes clear to you the lofty station of calling to the path of Allaah, guidance to His path through every means and path that leads to it; and the lowly status of the caller to evil and a leader in it, and that he is the most degraded human being, one who has committed the severest crime and the greatest sin. (3)

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[Ref 1: Source: An Excerpt from Al-Fataawaa Al-Jaliyyah Anil Manaahij Ad-Da'wiyah Vol 1. Pages 55-57. Publisher: Daarul Minhaaj. 1st Edition 1425AH (2004)]

[Ref 2: An Excerpt from Roohul Ma'aanee 12/325. Daar Al-Fikr. 1417AH (1997). Slightly paraphrased]

[Ref 3: An Excerpt from Tafseer As-Sadi. Daar Ibn Hazm. 1st Edition 1424AH (2003). Slightly paraphrased]