

FATAWA LOTTERY, GAMBLING 2016

Question: Lottery

Sent: Feb. 11, 2016

From: M.

Is playing the lottery haram? What about hospital lotteries that benefit the sick?

My Answer:

Bismillah al Rahman al Rahim

Alhamdu Lillahi Rabb al Alamin, wa al Salatu wa al Salamu ala Sayyidina Muhammad, wa ala Aalihi wa Sahbihi Ajma'in

Dear Br. M.

Assalamu Alaykum wa Rahmatu Allahi wa Barakatuh

Lottery is Haram because it is giving money to buy a chance. That is not permissible. If the collector give part of it or many of it for a benevolent purpose this does not make it Halal. People give for hospital and for other good causes for the importance of the cause itself, this is charity or donation but to take an immoral approach to help a good cause is not a rational or permissible way in our Shari'ah and in all normal minds from all religious or non-religious background.

Wa Allahu A'lam

Wa Alhamdu Lillahi Rabb al Alamin

Wassalam

Prof. Dr. Monzer Kahf
