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Fatwa No. 1377

Q: A man did not have an Identification Card issued for himself, because he heard that pictures are Haram (prohibited). Is it permissible for him to be photographed for an Identification Card because he is in dire need of it?

A: The basic principle regarding photography as well as carrying and keeping pictures is that they are Haram because the Prophet (peace be upon him) cursed photographers. However, if a person is obliged to have an Identification Card to use in their worldly affairs, such as moving from an organization to another, or getting a new job, etc., and all of it depends on being photographed, it is permissible because this is for a necessary purpose.

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

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