



The second question of Fatwa No. 12604

Q 2: Our question is about sugar. Is it permissible for one to use the sugar at the work place i.e. take from the conveyor belt to drink lemonade, tea, or anything at the work place inside the factory. Some scholars have issued a Fatwa (legal opinion issued by a qualified scholar) prohibiting this, citing the ruling from the Hadith that whoever works on a job for which he takes wages, whatever is taken beyond that is abuse).

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Others have said it is permissible without going to the extent that they take sugar home as long as the company has given each one of them a sac [i.e. of sugar] at the end of the month. Others have said that it is permissible as long as the person is working for the company and there is no prohibition on taking sugar for drinks, whether this occurs within the factory or at home. We are very confused regarding this matter, so we would like a fatwa with decisive evidence so that we may feel assured. May Allah lead you to whatever He approves and loves! Is the previously mentioned report Sahih (authentic Hadith) or Da`if (a Hadith that fails to reach the status of Hasan due to a weakness in the chain of narration or one of the narrators) ? If it is a Sahih Hadith, in which book [of Hadith] is it mentioned? What does it mean? If it is a Da`if Hadith, please inform us of this. May Allah grant you success.

A: It is permissible to take sugar and use it in drinks etc., if the company clearly permits workers to do so. As for the Hadith, it was narrated by [Abu Dawud](#), [Al-Hakim](#), [Ibn Khuzaymah](#), and [Al-Bayhaqi](#) on the authority of Buraydah (may Allah be pleased with him): ("Whoever is appointed to do a task and is given their provision (in return for this work), whatever they take after that is illicit earnings.") May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and companions!

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