

Islam Question & Answer

General Supervisor:
Shaykh Muhammad Saalih al-Munajjid

188900 - There is nothing wrong with reporting criminals, even in a non-Muslim country

the question

Is it permissible to call the police in a non-Islamic country against cannabis-hash breeders? While not knowing if all involved individuals are Muslims or not. Do different rulings apply in the case they are sinners or kuffaar?

If its not permissible to call the police, what actions should be taken if you don't believe talking to them to stop would be of any help. Their actions (making and selling hash) are of no direct harm/danger to me (but possibly will harm other people that buy them), but are not allowed by Islam ruling to be used in ways they intend to sell.

Also what ruling applies if above example occurred in an Islamic country, should one call the police?

(I tried to find an answer to my question using this website. It appears that it is not allowed to work for the police because they rule by laws other than those of Allah and his messenger, so it seems that calling the police would not be permissible in cases of little benefit or little danger, so it would probably be better not to call the police in the example I given, am I wrong in any of this?)

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

We put this question to Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahmaan ibn Naasir al-Barraak (may Allah preserve him) and he answered as follows:

Dealing in hashish is an evil action according to all Islamic and rational standards. Hence it is

Islam Question & Answer

General Supervisor:
Shaykh Muhammad Saalih al-Munajjid

prescribed to report such crimes, as it is also prescribed to report criminals such as murderers, thieves and rapists, so long as we are certain that dealing in hashish is an evil and harmful action.

If the one who is dealing in hashish is a Muslim, then he is spreading corruption in the land and is also harming himself, because he is the one who is giving the disbelievers a reason to pursue him and pass judgement against him according to laws other than Islamic sharee'ah and to subject him to a punishment other than that which Allah has revealed. As for reporting him, that comes under the heading of combatting evil and corruption.

I have no doubts whatsoever concerning this matter.

And Allah knows best.