

Question 2285) - The Muslims set out for Jihad. They enter Darul Harb [the lands of hostile Kuffar] and besiege a city or fort. With what act should they commence?

A: They will first call them to Islaam. If they accept, the Muslims should desist from fighting. If they refuse then the Muslims should demand that they render Jizyah. If they comply then they will share the same rights and obligations as the Muslims. if they refuse, then the Muslims will seek Allaah's help against them and fight them. They will use catapults, fire and water against them. They may cut their trees and destroy their crops, but may not break their word or any agreement made. They may not mutilate their dead, kill a woman, child, madman, old man, blind man or cripple unless any of these was an advisor to the Kuffar in battle, or the woman was the queen of the Kuffar. A woman may not fight without her husband's permission and a slave may not fight without his owner's permission unless there is an enemy assault as already discussed.

~ al-Quduri ~