

Question 2077) - What are the types of oaths?

A: There are three ? Ghamus [immersion], Mu 'aqidah [in effect] and Laghw [futile].

Al-Ghamus is to take an oath about a passed event and deliberately lying about it e.g. "By Allaah, I did not do it, whereas he did do it. This is a major sin. It is called Ghamus because it immerses its perpetrator in sin and leads to Jahannum (Hell). Rasulullaah (S.A.W) said, is major sins are to associate partners with Allaah, disobey parents, and al- yamin al-ghomut.*

There is no Kaffarah upon the perpetrator. Instead, he should repent and seek forgiveness.

Al-Mun'aqidah is take an oath about a future action, either to do it, or to refrain from it. If the oath is broken Kaffarah is compulsory.

Al-Laghw is to take an oath about a passed event, believing the oath to be true, but the reality was different. We hope that Allaah will not take the perpetrator to account for this kind of oath.

* Narrated by al-Bukhari in Kitabul Ayman, Bab al-yamin al-Ghamus

~ al-Quduri ~