

Is the Pond in Question a Proper Pond in Terms of the Shari'ah?

We have a new Masjid in our area and the construction of the pond is as follows:

30 ft.???????????????? POND

PIPE????????????????

POND

PIPE

POND

PIPE

The length of each pond 30 ft. and the width of each pond is 2.5 ft. With the pipes linking the ponds, the total area of the ponds equal 300 square are feet. My objection is that since the pipes link the ponds from the top, they are not sufficient to make the four ponds into one. As a result, each of the ponds do not measure ten by ten by themselves. Is this objection correct?

Answer: This objection is perfectly valid and the pond is not regarded as a ten by ten pond in terms of the Shari'ah. Each of the ponds by themselves are not ten by ten and the pipes linking them do not serve the purpose of making them one large pond" What would have sufficed is if water flowed from one end of the pond and flowed out from the opposite end.

What is taken into consideration when measuring a pond is the surface area of the water and not the bottom. A pond will therefore be regarded as being ten by ten when the surface area measures ten by ten even though the bottom may be smaller. By the same token, a pond will not be regarded as a ten by ten pond when the surface area is less than ten by ten even though the bottom may be ten by ten. Such a pond will therefore be rendered impure by any impurity falling into it. And Allaah knows best what is most correct.

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