بسم اللہ الرحمن الرحیم

What should be done with the donations that are left over from a Mawlid gathering?

Darulifta Ahlesunnat (Dawateislami)

Question

What do the noble scholars say concerning this matter: in our village a Mawlid gathering is held every year, and this year too it was held. Donations were collected for it, of which some amount was left over. The question now is: is it permissible to use the remaining amount to buy utensils for the Mawlid and items needed for the mosque — for example, a speaker, sound system, mats and so on — or not?

Questioner: Hafiz Naseer-ud-Din (Pindi Gheb, Attock)

Answer

The donations taken for the gatherings of the noble Mawlid may only be used for Mawlid gatherings alone; one does not have permission to spend them on any other work — rather, to do so is impermissible and sinful. The amount that is left over should be returned to the donors, each according to their share, or their permission should be sought, then it may be spent on whatever permissible work they allow. In that case, if they permit for it to be spent on utensils, a loudspeaker or mats, these may be purchased. If no trace of the donors can be found, then spend it on another, similar Mawlid gathering. If that is not possible, then spend it next year on this very Mawlid or, like lost property (luqtah — i.e. a fallen, lost item that is found), give it in charity to the needy, or spend it on any charitable cause (i.e. a good work).

وَاللہُ اَعْلَمُ عَزَّوَجَلَّ وَرَسُوْلُہ اَعْلَم صَلَّی اللہُ تَعَالٰی عَلَیْہِ وَاٰلِہٖ وَسَلَّم

(Allah Almighty knows best and His Messenger صَلَّی اللہُ عَلَیْہِ وَاٰلِہٖ وَسَلَّم knows best.)

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