

GUIDELINES ON THE ISSUE OF MAHR- AL- FATIMEE

From the Fataawaa of many learned Muftees, it appears that the Mahr-al-Fatimee was 400 Mithqaal and 1 Mithqaal was equal to 4½ Maasha.

There is a difference of opinion in respect of the current day value of 400 Mithqaal. Most popular ones are:

1. Equivalent of 400 Mithqaal is 131 Tolas and 3 Maasha of pure Silver
2. Equivalent of 400 Mithqaal is 145 Tolas and 10 Masha of pure Silver
3. Equivalent of 400 Mithqaal is 150 Tolas of pure Silver

Hz. Maulana Muftee Abdur Raheem Lajpouri (Rh)'s Fatwaa refers to the following well known Ulama's opinions in respect of using the **higher value of 150 Tolas of pure Silver** for the purpose of Mahr-al-Fatimee:

1. Muftee Mahmood-Hasan Gangohi Rh. (Mahnama Nizam July 1965)
2. Maulana Siddiq Ahmad Bandwi Rh. (Fazaa'ile-Nikaah)
3. Maulana Sayyad Ahmad Raza Bijnori Rh. (Anwaarul Bari)

The current equivalent of Tolas into Grams is found to be:

1. 11.5 grams per Tola
2. 11.664 Grams per Tola.

Hz. Maulana Muftee Abdur-Raheem Lajpouri (Rh.) prefers to use the option 2 which is 11.664 Grams per Tola which is also preferred by many other scholars of Islamic Jurisprudence.

Thus Mahr-al-Fatimee would be:

**150 * 11.664 = 1749.6 Grams rounded up to 1750 Grams
(1.75 kg pure Sterling Silver)**

(Fatawaa Raheemiah Vol. 6, page 443 (old print) Vol. 7, page 232 (new print))

To fix the Mahr, it is advised to find the current day value of pure Silver nearer the time of Nikah when fixing Mahr and give cash to the bride or her representative before or at the time of Nikah (best method) or have the Mahr deferred and pay at a later date.

PRECIOUS METALS - WEIGHT CONVERSION TABLE

11.664 Grams	=	1 Tola
3.11 Grams	=	1 Troy Oz.
2.7 Tolas	=	1 Troy Oz.

WALLAHU `ALAM