

WHAT IS A ROMOUR

It is an anonymous information of doubtful veracity and uncertainty that people are currently talking about and is always harmful. It is known by many names such as “gossip, it is said, hearsay, whisperings and other famous names.

Rumours can begin anywhere at any time. All it needs is an ear to a mouth and it is on its way. It gets add-on information tacked on to it along the way. It is the beginning of untold harm to relationships. Few are immune to creating and perpetuating rumours. Do you know of anyone that never started or listened to a rumour?

Islam has very comprehensive rules and guidelines of conduct in the Noble Quraan and as exemplified by our Leader the Noble Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. Almighty Allah explains the problem as well as the solution in the following Quraanic verse:

“O! you who believe! If a transgressor brings you news, verify it lest you harm a people in ignorance. You will then be regretful about what you did.” (Chapter 49, Verse 6). The teachings of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ also records very clearly advice in these matters. Al-Imaam Muslim narrated that Hafs ibn Asim RA said: The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said: “It is sufficient for a person to be called a liar if he conveys all that he hears”. (Muslim)

The very technology where you can transfer funds from your mobile phone to another in minutes is also one that has stripped the media sectors domain of responsibility for veracity and cross-check before publication. Now it is a case of mindless forwarding without the checks.

Halaal Department as the country’s leading Halaal authority, receives many of the calls expose rumours that concern its callers.

Surprisingly, there are some rumours that endure over the ages and continuously resurface to create the whole cycle all over again. One of the most popular rumours based on the many of queries that HD has received over the years and still continue to this day is about Fanta drink.

FANTA CONTAIN PIG FAT

This rumour first surfaced in 2011. It quoted an unknown doctor in the USA informing his hosts over dinner that the Mountain Dew beverage that he was being served was Haraam as it contained pig fat in its yellow colouring. Since then the query has become an urban myth and has moved internationally in the borderless cyber world. The doctor now appears in stories and the rumour also got upgraded to include Fanta. To this day there is no credible evidence but the fabrication continues with the help of the ever ready keyboard rumour-mongers.

WARNING

Why do Shaitwan (Satan)’s terrible work and compound the sin by entangling fellow Muslims to be your unwitting partners. The reliance on the disclaimer of “forwarded as received” is a mindless innovation that lulls one into a false sense of security.

Muaz bin Jabal (May Allah be pleased with him) asked the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ if we would be held to task for the things that we say, he replied, “Does anything cast people on their faces into Hellfire, more than the harvests of their tongues?” (Ahmad, Tirmizi)

RUMOURS ARE CARRIED BY HATERS, SPREAD BY FOOLS AND ACCEPTED BY IDIOTS. DON'T DO IT!