178315 - Ruling on making the shapes of things out of paper, and what is permissible and what is not permissible thereof

the question

I would like to ask about the ruling on the art of origami, which is folding paper and shaping it to make boats, children’s toys and the like, whether they represent animate or non-animate things. Is this halal or haram according to Islam?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

There is nothing wrong with the Muslim folding paper to make beautiful things that are permissible in and of themselves. So he should not make haram things such as cigarettes or wine glasses, or places of innovation or temples of the disbelievers, and he should not make the shapes of animate beings such as humans or animals – although an exception is made in the case of making dolls, as we have explained in the answer to question no. 9473 .

If the shape that is made out of paper is free of these shar‘i reservations, then we do not think there is anything wrong with making them, whether they are made to keep at home or to sell them to people.

There is no differentiation in the ruling between shapes made of paper and shapes made of clay. In the answer to question no. 98533 we have discussed what is permissible thereof and what is not permissible, and what we have mentioned there applies also to making shapes with paper.

And Allah knows best.