10233 - Lender referring a third party to debtor for extra money

the question

Iloaned someone ten thousand riyaals, but he is delaying repayment and has not yet paid back what he owes. I owe a third person ten thousand riyaals, and he came and asked for his money. I told him, ‘Go and ask So and so – i.e., the first person – for the ten thousand riyaals that I owe you, for the ten thousand that he owes me, and I will give you two thousand riyaals extra, to make up for the length of the delay. In other words, twelve thousand riyaals in return for ten thousand. What is the ruling on that? Please advise me, may Allaah reward you.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

It is not permissible for you to refer the one who loaned you ten thousand riyaals to the person who owes you money and is delaying repayment and to add two thousand riyaals to make up for the lengthy delay, because this extra amount is ribaa, and ribaa is haraam according to the Islamic sharee’ah.

And Allaah is the source of strength. May Allaah bless our Prophet Muhammad and his family and companions, and grant them peace.