

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

Point of Benefit on Need and Necessity

The Difference Between Need and Necessity

The difference between a need and a necessity is similar to the difference between what is necessary and what is supplemental. Going without a necessity will lead to a person's destruction or harm his physical, financial, or religious state or his family and children; a need indicates a lack of something but does not reach the level of harm if it is missed. As such, the need is of a lesser degree than the necessity. For instance, a person requires two garments to ward off cold. If he uses one and is not harmed, then the second garment is considered a need. However, if we assume that without the second garment he would be destroyed, then it would become a necessity.

The status of things change; something may start off as a luxury, then become a need and later a necessity. Electricity when it was first introduced was a luxury; later it became a need, and now, it has become a necessity.

Saleh As-Saleh

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