‘Uwaymir al-‘Ajlāni went to ‘Āsim ibn ‘Adyy al-Ansāri and asked: O ‘Āsim, tell me, if a man sees his wife (sleeping) with another man, should he kill him, whereupon you will kill him (in retribution), or what should he do? O ‘Āsim, ask the Messenger of Allah (may Allah’s peace and blessings be upon him) about that

Ibn Shihāb reported that Sahl ibn Sa‘d As-Sā‘idi (may Allah be pleased with him) said to him: "‘Uwaymir al-‘Ajlāni went to ‘Āsim ibn ‘Adiyy al-Ansāri and asked: ‘O ‘Āsim, tell me, if a man sees his wife (sleeping) with another man, should he kill him, whereupon you will kill him (in retribution), or what should he do? O ‘Āsim, ask the Messenger of Allah (may Allah’s peace and blessings be upon him) about that.' ‘Āsim asked the Messenger of Allah (may Allah’s peace and blessings be upon him) about that, but the Prophet disliked the question and considered it disgraceful, which upset ‘Āsim. When he returned to his family, ‘Uwaymir went to him and said: ‘O ‘Āsim, what did the Messenger of Allah (may Allah’s peace and blessings be upon him) say to you?’ ‘Āsim replied: ‘You did not bring me any good. The Messenger of Allah (may Allah’s peace and blessings be upon him) disliked the question which I asked him.’ Thereupon, ‘Uwaymir said: ‘By Allah! I will not stop until I ask him about that.’ So, he went to the Messenger of Allah (may Allah’s peace and blessings be upon him) while he was amongst people, and said: ‘O Messenger of Allah, if a man finds another man (sleeping) with his wife, should he kill him, whereupon you will kill him (in retribution), or what should he do?’ The Messenger of Allah (may Allah’s peace and blessings be upon him) said: ‘Something has been revealed concerning you and your wife. So, go and bring her.’” Sahl said: "They both engaged in Li‘ān and I witnessed it along with the people in the Prophet’s presence. When they were done, ‘Uwaymir said: ‘O Messenger of Allah, If I kept her as a wife, It would mean that I fabricated a lie against her then.’ So, he pronounced divorce against her three times before the Messenger of Allah (may Allah’s peace and blessings be upon him) ordered him to do so.'” Ibn Shihāb added: “So it became a tradition to dissolve the marriage of those spouses who are involved in a case of Li‘ān.”

[Authentic hadith] [Narrated by Bukhari & Muslim]

This Hadīth informs us that ‘Uwaymir al-‘Ajlāni (may Allah be pleased with him) asked about the ruling regarding the man who sees another man sleeping with his wife, and what he should do. The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) disliked to tackle such an issue, given the unpleasant aspects involved therein. ‘Uwaymir, however, insisted on

posing this question, which was concerning a matter that had actually happened to him. So, he went to the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) and asked about the ruling regarding his case. In response, the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) informed ‘Uwaymir that Allah, the Almighty, revealed Qur’an containing the judgment on their case. Thereupon, he and his wife engaged in Li‘ān. ‘Uwaymir (may Allah be pleased with him) did not know that Li‘ān would automatically make his wife forbidden for him, so he pronounced divorce three times against her. This was the first case of Li‘ān in Islam.

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