

If anyone leaves behind a debt or a helpless family, I shall be responsible. But if anyone leaves wealth, it goes to his heirs. I am the heir of him who has none, paying blood money on his behalf and inheriting from him. And a maternal uncle is the heir of him who has none, paying blood money on his behalf and inheriting from him

Al-Miqdām (may Allah be pleased with him) reported that the Messenger of Allah (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) said: "If anyone leaves behind a debt or a helpless family, I shall be responsible. But if anyone leaves wealth, it goes to his heirs. I am the heir of him who has none, paying blood money on his behalf and inheriting from him. And a maternal uncle is the heir of him who has none, paying blood money on his behalf and inheriting from him."

[Good hadith] [Narrated by Ibn Majah - Narrated by Abu Daoud - Narrated by Ahmad]

This Hadīth is concerned with the inheritance of kinship who are not entitled to prescribed shares of inheritance nor to inheritance through agnation, such as the paternal aunt, the maternal aunt and uncle, the daughters' children, and the children of the son's daughters, and their like. It states that maternal uncles may pay the blood money due on their deceased. This Hadīth also tells that anyone who leaves behind children and a debt to settle, the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) takes care of the children and pays the debt. This is an aspect of the Prophet's mercy and compassion toward his Ummah. If a Muslim dies but has no heirs, his property goes to the Muslim treasury.

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