11018 - Ruling on a dispute between two brothers

the question

My father and my uncle – my father’s brother – are always arguing. We live in one house, with only a dividing wall between us. My father is single and my uncle is single; my mother has died and my uncle’s wife has died. I always advise them not to fight, but sometimes my uncle picks on my father. How can I advise both of them – my father and my uncle? Please note that my father prays and fasts, and my uncle prays sometimes and not at other times, but he does fast.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

Advise your uncle to pray regularly and explain to him that the salah is the most important pillar of Islam after the Shahaadatayn. Forsaking prayer is kufr, and his fasting is not valid if he is not praying. His good deeds will not be accepted if he does not pray. Advise them both to be righteous and to fear Allah, and to uphold the ties of kinship and pay attention to the rights of relatives; whoever cuts the ties of kinship, Allah will cut him off, and whoever takes care of the ties of kinship, Allah will take care of him. Read to them both the aayaat of the Quran and the ahaadeeth of the Prophet which speak of that. Then if you uncle responds, then praise be to Allah, otherwise you have to shun him.