

A woman was tormented because of a cat which she had kept locked up until it died, and she was thrown into Hell for that. She neither gave it food or drink when she locked it up nor freed it so that it would eat from the vermin of the earth

'Abdullāh ibn 'Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) reported that the Messenger of Allah (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) said: "A woman was tormented because of a cat which she had kept locked up until it died, and she was thrown into Hell for that. She neither gave it food or drink when she locked it up nor freed it so that it would eat from the vermin of the earth."

[Authentic hadith] [Narrated by Bukhari & Muslim]

In this Hadīth, the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) told about a woman who was thrown into Hell – we seek refuge with Allah from it – because of a cat which she kept locked up until it died. She neither provided it with food and water while keeping it locked up, nor let it eat from the insects of the earth. If this is the punishment for doing this to animals, so how severe would it be in relation to the human being whose life is inviolable under Shariah, and whom Allah placed under one's care, like the wife, children, servants, etc.?!

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