

# Tears That Flow From An Infected Eye And Their Effect On Wudu

Darulifta Ahlesunnat

(Dawateislami)

## Question

What do the scholars of Islam say regarding the following: Does even a single tear flowing during an eye illness invalidate Wudu?

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْجَوَابُ بِعَوْنِ الْمَلِكِ الْوَهَّابِ اللَّهُمَّ هِدَايَةَ الْحَقِّ وَالصَّوَابِ

If even a single tear flows from an ailing eye and reaches an area that is washed in wuḍū' or ghusl, wuḍū' will be invalid.

That which flows from an eye due to a wound or infection is a major impurity. If it flows from the eye and reaches the eyelashes or the corner of the eye, wuḍū' will be invalid. This is because while washing the face in wuḍū' or ghusl, it is compulsory to wash the eyelashes and the corners of the eyes. However, if the fluid remained within the eye, wuḍū' would not be invalid.

Regarding discharge from any part of the body due to illness, it is stated in *Ghunyat al-Mustamlī* and *al-Ikhtiyār* etc.:

كل ما يخرج من علة من اى موضع كان كالاذن والشدى والسرة ونحوها فانه ناقض على الاصح لانه صديد<sup>1</sup>

In *Fatāwā 'Ālamgīrī*, it is mentioned in that which invalidates wuḍū' :

ما يخرج من غير السبيلين ويسيل إلى ما يظهر من الدم والقيح والصدید والباء لعله وحد السيلان أن يعلوفين حذر عن رأس الجرح --- الدم والقيح والصدید

وماء الجرح والنفطة والسرة والشدى والعين والاذن لعله سواء، على الأصح كذا فى الزاهدی<sup>2</sup>

If fluid from an infected eye flows within it, wuḍū' will not be invalid as explained in *al-Baḥr al-Rā'iq*:

قال فى فتح القدير لو خرج من جرح فى العين دم فسأل إلى الجانب الآخر منها لا ينتقض لأنه لا يلحقه حكمه هو وجوب التطهير أو ندبه<sup>3</sup>

Imam Aḥmad Razā Khān رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ says in *al-Fatāwā al-Razawīyah*:

Our scholars have said that the flowing substance which exits the body due to illness invalidates wuḍū. For example, the discharge from infected eyes, or an eye disease, or any ailment of the eye, ear, and navel, including pimples, ulcers, etc., will invalidate wuḍū'.<sup>4</sup>

Discussing the limbs which are compulsory to wash in wuḍū', the Imam also says:

4) The four edges of the eyes, one must not close his eyes tightly so that he can remove anything solid that has dried upon them. 5) Every hair of the eyelashes, completely.

<sup>1</sup> *Ghunyat al-Mustamlī fī Sharḥ Muniyat al-Muṣallī*, p. 133

<sup>2</sup> *Fatāwā 'Ālamgīrī*, vol. 1, p. 10

<sup>3</sup> *Al-Baḥr al-Rā'iq*, vol. 1, p. 33

<sup>4</sup> *Al-Fatāwā al-Razawīyah*, vol. 1, part. 1, p. 349

Sometimes, eyelashes can be completely covered in dried mud which impedes water; this is necessary to clean.<sup>5</sup>

Mufti Amjad ‘Alī al-A‘zamī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ writes in Bahār-e-Sharī‘at:

Wuḍū' is invalid if blood, pus, or yellow fluid flows to the extent that it reaches a part of the body that is compulsory to wash in wuḍū' or ghusl. If it flowed but not to the extent of reaching such a part, then wuḍū' will not be invalid. This applies to, for example, a spot which has discharged within the eye, but has not flowed out... If the eye, ear, navel, or breast, etc., are affected by a sore, ulcer, or infection which causes tears or flowing discharge, wuḍū' will be invalid.”<sup>6</sup>

Discharge from a painful eye is major impurity as stated in Bahār-e-Sharī‘at.<sup>7</sup>

وَاللّٰهُ اَعْلَمُ عَزَّوَجَلَّ وَرَسُوْلُهُ اَعْلَمُ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

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## Dar-ul-Ifta Ahlesunnat (Dawat-e-Islami)



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<sup>5</sup> Al-Fatāwā al-Razawīyah, vol. 1, part. 2, p. 598

<sup>6</sup> Bahār-e-Sharī‘at, vol. 1, pp. 304-305, Maktabat-al-Madina, Karachi

<sup>7</sup> Bahār-e-Sharī‘at, vol. 1, p. 390, Maktabat-al-Madina, Karachi