بسم اللہ الرحمن الرحیم

Islamic Ruling on Women Removing Facial Hair

Darulifta Ahlesunnat (Dawateislami)

Question

If hair has appeared on a woman's face, the question is: may she have her face threaded — that is, may she remove her facial hair— or not?

Questioner: Ali Raza (Latifabad No. 2, Hyderabad)

Answer

If hair has appeared on a woman's face, then under ordinary circumstances it is permissible and allowed (mubāḥ) for her to remove this hair; there is no harm in it. If this is done with the intention of adornment for the husband, then, along with being permissible, it is also recommended (mustaḥabb), because a woman has been commanded to adopt adornment for her husband, and the presence of hair on the face is a cause of aversion and dislike for the husband and is contrary to adornment.

However, plucking the eyebrows is an exception to this ruling, as plucking and shaping the eyebrows merely for beauty and adornment is impermissible. In the blessed Hadith, a curse has been mentioned concerning the woman who has her eyebrows shaped. Therefore, the custom of shaping the eyebrows that is now common among women is impermissible, and they should refrain from it. Yes, there is one case: if the eyebrows have grown excessively and appear unsightly, then only those overgrown hairs may be trimmed and shortened enough for the unsightliness to be removed; there is no harm in this.

وَاللہُ اَعْلَمُ عَزَّوَجَلَّ وَرَسُوْلُہ اَعْلَم صَلَّی اللہُ تَعَالٰی عَلَیْہِ وَاٰلِہٖ وَسَلَّم

(Allah Almighty knows best and His Messenger صَلَّی اللہُ عَلَیْہِ وَاٰلِہٖ وَسَلَّم knows best.)

Answered By: Molana Sarfraz Attari Madani
Verified by: Mufti Fuzail Raza Attari
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Dar-ul-IftaAhlesunnat (Dawat-e-Islami)
www.fatwaqa.com
daruliftaahlesunnat
DaruliftaAhlesunnat
Dar-ul-ifta AhleSunnat
feedback@daruliftaahlesunnat.net