102988 - Drawing the shape of a person without features using the Flash software

the question

I use a program called Flash. When I use it, I draw the shape of a person, but without any features, and I animate it using this software. Is that permissible?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

It is not permissible to draw or make images of animate beings such as humans, birds or animals, because that comes under the heading of imitating the creation of Allah, may He be exalted, as is explained in the hadith. al-Bukhaari (5954) and Muslim (2107) narrated that 'Aa'ishah (may Allah be pleased with her) said: The Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) came in and I had covered a niche of mine with a thin curtain on which there were images. When he saw it, he tore it down and his face changed colour and he said: “O ‘Aa’ishah, the people who will be most severely punished by Allah on the Day of Resurrection will be those who imitate the creation of Allah.” ‘Aa’ishah said: We cut it up and made one or two pillows from it.

But if the drawing or image is without features that show the eye, nose and mouth, then this is not included in the prohibition, because it is not imitating the creation of Allah.

Shaykh Ibn ‘Uthaymeen (may Allah have mercy on him) said: With regard to the issue of dolls that are made of cloth for children, of which the image is not clear even though there are limbs, head and neck, but there are no eyes or nose, there is nothing wrong with that, because this is not imitating the creation of Allah.

He also said: Everyone who makes something imitating the creation of Allah is included in the hadith, which says: The Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) cursed the image-

makers … And he said: “Those who will the most severely punished on the Day of Resurrection will be the image makers." But as you said that the image is not clear – meaning that it has no eyes, nose, mouth or fingers, then this is not a complete image and it is not imitating the creation of Allah, may He be glorified and exalted.

End quote from *Majmoo‘ Fataawa ash-Shaykh Ibn ‘Uthaymeen* (2/278, 279).

And Allah knows best.