14253 - Why do we yawn in Ramadaan when the devils have been chained up? And is the transmission of television pictures haraam?

the question

It is well known that the devils are chained up in Ramadaan and that yawning comes from the Shaytaan, so why do we yawn in Ramadaan?
And it is known that making images of human beings is haraam, so is the transmission of television pictures regarded as haraam?.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

Al-Bukhaari (6226) and Muslim (2994) narrated from Abu Hurayrah (may Allaah be pleased with him) that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: “Allaah likes sneezing and dislikes yawning, so if one of you sneezes and praises Allaah (by saying Al-hamdu Lillaah), it is a duty upon every Muslim who hears him to say to him, Yarhamuk Allaah (may Allaah have mercy on you). With regard to yawning, it is from the Shaytaan so if one of you feels like yawning, let him suppress it as much as he can, for if one of you yawns the Shaytaan laughs at him.

Concerning the meaning of that, it was said that the Shaytaan likes to see a person yawning because it makes him look different and so he laughs at him. It does not mean that the Shaytaan is the one who makes him yawn. And it was said that yawning is attributed to the Shaytaan because yawning comes from fullness of the stomach, which generates laziness, which happens under the influence of the Shaytaan. Al-Nawawi (may Allaah have mercy on him) said: Yawning is attributed to the Shaytaan because it promotes whims and desires, because it stems from heaviness of the body, excessive relaxation and fullness of the stomach. So what is meant is a warning against the thing that leads to that, which is eating too much.

Al-Manaawi (may Allaah have mercy on him) said: It is attributed to him because he is the one who

calls for giving the self its share of desires. What is meant here is to warn against the things that lead to that, which is eating too much and eating one's fill, which makes the body feel too heavy and tired to do acts of worship.

There should be no confusion stemming from the fact that people yawn during Ramadaan even though the devils are chained up at that time, because what is meant by saying that it is from the Shaytaan is that he likes it. The fact that he likes it and approves of it does not mean that he is not chained, rather that could happen even if he was chained.

Based on the view that this is caused by the influence of the Shaytaan, either directly or indirectly, it was said that the ones who are chained up during Ramadaan are the maarids among the devils (i.e., the strong evil ones) only, and that others remain as they are, so yawning may be caused by those who are not chained up.

But based on the view that what is meant by the chaining up of the devils is that their influence on the believers is less during that month than in other months, perhaps yawning results from the little influence that they are still able to have during Ramadaan.

For more information on the chaining of the devils during Ramadaan please see question no. 39736. See question no. 37965 to find out the answer to the question: How can sins happen in Ramadaan when the devils are chained up?

With regard to the ruling on the transmission of television pictures, you will find the answer in question no. 10326.