228904 - What Should a Menstruating Woman Do during an Eclipse?

the question

I am a woman. What should I do if I attend the eclipse prayer and I have a Shar`i excuse (for not praying)?

Summary of answer

If a woman has any impediment that prevents her from praying Eclipse Prayer, then she can still do other things such as calling upon Allah, giving charity, seeking Allah’s forgiveness, remembering Him, and other deeds by means of which she may draw close to Allah.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

What to do in the event of a solar or lunar eclipse?

What is prescribed in the event of a solar or lunar eclipse is for the Muslim to turn to Allah in prayer , remembering Him, calling upon Him and asking Him for forgiveness, and to give charity and do other righteous deeds.

Abu Mas`ud Al-Ansari (may Allah be pleased with him) said: The Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) said: “The sun and the moon are two of the signs of Allah by means of which Allah creates fear in His slaves. They do not become eclipsed for the death of any person. If you see anything happen to them, then pray and call upon Allah until you are relieved of that.”

Al-Bukhari (1059) and Muslim (912) narrated that Abu Musa (may Allah be pleased with him) said: “The sun was eclipsed , and the Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) got up in a state of anxiety, thinking that it was the Hour. He came to the mosque and began to pray,

standing, bowing and prostrating for the longest time I ever saw him do, and he (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) said: “These signs that are sent do not occur for the death or birth of anyone, rather Allah sends them to create fear in His slaves. If you see any of them, then hasten to remember Him, call upon Him and ask Him for forgiveness.”

Ibn Battal (may Allah have mercy on him) said: “The words “If you see any of them [these signs], then hasten to remember Him, call upon Him and ask Him for forgiveness” were narrated by Al-Bukhari in Chapter Adh-Dhikr fil-Kusuf (Remembering Allah at the time of an eclipse). He said: The Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) instructed us to call upon Allah when they (eclipses) occur, and to seek forgiveness, as he also instructed us to pray.

This indicates that it is not narrated from the Companions that when an eclipse occurred, they were encouraged to pray only; rather they were encouraged to do deeds by means of which they could draw close to Allah, such as praying, calling upon Allah (Du`a), seeking His forgiveness (Istighfar) and so on."(Sharh Sahih Al-Bukhari by Ibn Battal, 3/32)

What should a menstruating woman do during an eclipse?

In this regard a woman is like a man, because of the general meaning of the texts. Thus, the same is prescribed for her as is prescribed for a man, namely praying, calling upon Allah, seeking His forgiveness, giving charity, and so on.

If a woman has any impediment that prevents her from offering the Eclipse Prayer , then in this situation she can still do other things: calling upon Allah, giving charity, seeking Allah’s forgiveness, remembering Him, and other deeds by means of which she may draw close to Allah.

And Allah knows best.