57 - Can You Pray If Your Period Is more than 15 Days?

the question

What is the ruling if a woman’s period lasts longer than 15 days?

Summary of answer

If blood continues to flow and a woman is still waiting to purify herself, and it exceeds 15 days, then she should fall back to her normal period as a reference. So, she must make ghusl, start praying, and make up the prayers for the days which she did not pray since the time when her normal period would have ended.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

If blood continues to flow and a woman is still waiting to purify herself, and it exceeds 15 days, then she should fall back to her normal period as a reference. Accordingly, she must make ghusl, and start praying , and in addition make up the prayers for the days which she did not pray since the time when her normal period would have ended.

For example, suppose a woman has a normal period of 6 days. However, during a given month blood continued to flow until 15 days had passed, while she was still waiting for the end of the period. In this case, she makes ghusl immediately, and starts praying , and prays all the prayers for the 9 days counted from the end of her normal period until she made ghusl.

The reason for this is that the longest that a woman's menstrual cycle can be is 15 days according to Imam Ahmed and many scholars (al-Mughni 1:388).

Thus, if the flow continues past 15 days , then everything after the number of days in a normal cycle is considered istihadah (which is blood that flows from a woman due to reasons other than

menstruation, such as from a burst vein, hemorrhage, etc.)

Regarding making up the missed prayers, she should pray them consecutively in order by intention, in one session, and she can rest if she gets tired.

And Allah knows best.