# 88232 - Can a woman cut her hair before doing ghusl following menses?

**the question**

Is it permissible for a woman to cut her hair before doing ghusl following menses?.

**Detailed answer**

Praise be to Allah.

There is nothing wrong with cutting one’s nails or hair before doing ghusl following menses or afterwards, but a woman should take care, when cutting her hair, to avoid resembling men or kaafir women.

The fact that it is permissible for a woman to cut her hair short is indicated by the report narrated by Muslim (320) from Abu Salamah ibn ‘Abd al-Rahmaan who said: The wives of the Prophet (S) used to cut their hair so that it came down just past their ears.

al-Nawawi (may Allah have mercy on him) said:

al-Qaadi ‘Iyaad (may Allah have mercy on him) said: Perhaps the wives of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) did that after the death of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), because they stopped adorning themselves and they had no need to grow their hair long, so they reduced the amount of effort required to take care of their hair. What al-Qaadi ‘Iyaad said about them doing that after his death and not during his lifetime was also said by others and it is sound. No one should think that they did that during his lifetime. This indicates that it is permissible for women to cut their hair, and Allah knows best. End quote.

Shaykh Ibn Baaz (may Allah have mercy on him) said: We do not know of anything wrong with women cutting their hair. What is forbidden is shaving the head. You are not allowed to shave your head, but if you cut it to make it shorter or reduce its volume, we do not know of anything wrong

with that. But that should be done in a good way that will be pleasing to you and your husband, and you can agree with him on something that will not be similar to the hairstyle of kaafir women because leaving it long will entail a lot of work to wash it and comb it. If the hair is thick and the woman cuts some of it to make it shorter and reduce its volume, there is nothing wrong with that. If she cuts some of it for purposes of beautification to make it pleasing to her and her husband, there is nothing wrong with that. But shaving it altogether is not permissible except in cases of sickness. And Allah is the source of strength. End quote from Fatawa al-Mar'ah al-Muslimah (2/515).

Shaykh Saalih al-Fawzaan (may Allah preserve him) said:

It is not permissible for a woman to cut her hair at the back and leave the sides long, because this is ugly and messing with her hair which is part of her beauty, and it is also an imitation of kaafir women. The same applies to cutting it in different styles with the names of kaafir women or animals, such as the Diana cut, which is the name of a kaafir woman, or the lion cut or mouse cut, because it is haraam to imitate kaafir women or animals, and because this is messing with the woman's hair which is part of her beauty.  End quote from Fatawa al-Mar'ah al-Muslimah (2/516, 517).

And Allah knows best.