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109303 - Can Women Touch/Kiss the Black Stone?

the question

Is it correct for women when kissing the Black Stone to uncover their faces even though there are men around them?

Summary of answer

1- Kissing the Black Stone during tawaf is one of the established Sunnahs of tawaf for both men and women without pushing and shoving or annoying anyone else.

2- If it is possible for a woman to kiss the Black Stone without pushing and shoving, it is not permissible to her to uncover her face whilst doing so, because of the presence of men who are not mahrams for her in that place.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

The Standing Committee for Scholarly Research and Issuing Fatwas said:

"Kissing the Black Stone during tawaf is one of the established Sunnahs of tawaf, if it is possible to do it without pushing and shoving or annoying anyone else by your action, following the example of the Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him).

If it is not possible to kiss the black stone except by pushing and shoving and annoying others, then one should not do it, and it is sufficient to point to it with one's hand, especially for women, because the woman is `awrah and because pushing and shoving is not allowed for men, so it is even less so for women.

If it is possible for a woman to kiss the Black Stone without pushing and shoving, it is not permissible to her to uncover her face whilst doing so, because of the presence of men who are not mahrams for her in that place.

And Allah is the source of strength. May Allah send blessings and peace upon our Prophet Muhammad and his family and Companions." (Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn 'Abd-Allah ibn Baz, Shaykh 'Abd al-Razzaq al-'Afifi, Shaykh 'Abd-Allah ibn Ghadyyan, Shaykh 'Abd-Allaah ibn Qa'ud)

And Allah knows best.

For more, please see these answers: 45643, 1902, and 21402.