162634 - Ruling on reciting Quran in a state of minor impurity (without wudu)

the question

If it is mustahab to recite(from memory) with wudhu then would it be makrooh to do so with out wudhu?.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

There is nothing wrong with reciting Quran in a state of minor impurity (without wudu), and some of the scholars have stated that there is consensus on its permissibility. There are saheeh hadeeths concerning this matter which demonstrate that it is not necessary to do wudu if one wants to recite Quran and is in a state of minor impurity. Rather the difference of scholarly opinion has to do with touching the Quran and whether one who is in a state of major impurity (janaabah) can recite it; the majority of scholars are of the view that both of these matters are not allowed.

It was narrated from ‘Abd-Allah ibn ‘Abbaas (may Allah be pleased with him) that that he stayed one night with Maymoonah, the Mother of the Believers, who was his maternal aunt. I lay down across the width of the mattress and the Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) and his wife lay along its length. The Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) slept until halfway through the night, or just before or after that. The Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) woke up and started wiping the sleep from his face with his hand. Then he recited the last ten verses of Soorat Aal ‘Imraan, then he got up and went to a waterskin that was hanging there, and did wudu from it and did it well, then he stood and prayed.

Narrated by al-Bukhari, 4295; Muslim, 763

Imam al-Bukhaari included this hadeeth in a chapter entitled: Chapter on Reciting Quran after Minor Impurity and otherwise.

Ibn ‘Abd al-Barr (may Allah have mercy on him) said:

This indicates that Quran may be recited without wudu, because he slept for a long time, so there is no question that he woke up without wudu; then he woke up and recited Quran before he did wudu, then he did wudu after that and prayed.

End quote from al-Tamheed lima fi al-Muwatta’ min al-Ma‘aani wal Asaaneed, 13/207

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

This indicates that it is permissible for one who is in a state of minor impurity to recite Quran; this is the consensus of the Muslims.

End quote from Sharh Muslim, 6/46

And Allah knows best.