203136 - Does Sweating Break Wudu?

the question

I am a person who sweats, especially on hot days. When I sweat, my whole body sweats, including the anus, and the sweat that is in the anus gets onto my underwear. When my underwear gets stuck to the damp anus, this causes a problem. Sometimes the sweat has some colour of the impurity (impurity) – i.e., brown – but it is very faint, and can only be seen under the light. There is a smell too, but sometimes there is no smell, only sweat. And sometimes only the colour is left, even after washing the clothes. I am confused about this matter.
Can I pray if I sweat, or not? Or should I check my clothes – although that is not really proper – or what? Please note that the anus may sweat because of minor things such as walking, carrying things or standing in the sun.
Does this invalidate the prayer? What is the ruling on the prayers that I have offered? Sometimes the colour appears without any smell. What do you advise?
Please note that I feel very embarrassed, and I interrupt my prayer in order to check my clothes, because I realised that I am sweating. Sometimes I am compelled to change my clothes more than once a day.

Summary of answer

The slight trace that results from sweat does not matter, and your prayer is valid. All you need to do is make sure that you clean yourself properly after relieving yourself, then do not worry about it anymore than you should after that, lest you fall prey to Satanic whispers.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

The traces and smell of impurity that get onto underwear

What gets onto underwear of the traces and smell of impurity due to sweating is usually very little and is overlooked, as is the view of the Hanafis and many of the scholars.

Al-Kasani (may Allah have mercy on him) said: “Because a little impurity cannot be completely avoided. Flies may land on something impure, then land on the clothes of the worshipper, and there will inevitably be some impurity on their wings and feet; if that were not overlooked, it would cause hardship for people.” (Bada’i` As-Sana’i`, 1/79)

Shaykh Al-Islam Ibn Taymiyah (may Allah have mercy on him) said: “A little impurity may be overlooked, even mouse droppings and the like in food and so on. This is one view in the school of Ahmad. If there is certainty that mud in the street is najis (impure), a little may be overlooked because it is too difficult to avoid it completely.” (Al-Fatawa Al-Kubra, 5/313)

Shaykh Ibn `Uthaymin (may Allah have mercy on him) said: “The correct view is that of Abu Hanifah and Shaykh Al-Islam… Included in the small amounts of impurities that may be overlooked because it is too difficult to avoid it completely is a small trace of urine for one who suffers incontinence, but has done his best to protect himself from it as much as he can.” (Ash-Sharh Al-Mumti`, 1/447)

Does Sweating Break Wudu?

Something that may make the matter more flexible with regard to what you mentioned is the fact that Islam allows a man to clean himself (after relieving himself) with stones or pebbles. It is well known that stones do not purify the place completely; rather there will inevitably still be some small traces of impurity , but this is something that may be overlooked.

Ibn Qudamah (may Allah have mercy on him) said: “Traces of impurity from urination and defecation may be overlooked because of where they are coming from in three cases, one of which is Istinja’ (cleaning oneself after relieving oneself). Traces left after cleaning oneself with stones in the prescribed manner and number may be overlooked, and there is no difference of

scholarly opinion concerning that, as far as we know." (Al-Mughni, 2/486)

Al-Qarrafi (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "If a person sweats in his garment after cleaning himself with stones, it is overlooked, because this is a problem that everyone has… And because the Companions (may Allah be pleased with them) used to clean themselves with stones and they used to sweat." (Adh-Dhakhirah, 1/211)

It says in Sharh Mukhtasar Khalil (1/148) by Al-Kharashi (may Allah have mercy on him): "If a person sweats in that place, and it gets onto the garment, it does not matter."

Ibn Qudamah (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "Because the Companions (may Allah be pleased with them) mostly used stones to clean themselves… and their land is hot, so it seems that they were not safe from sweating , but there is no report from them to suggest that they tried to avoid that or protect themselves from it." (Al-Mughni, 1/119)

Ibn Al-Qayyim (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "Most of the Companions did not clean themselves with water (after relieving themselves); rather they used stones in the summer and in the winter; and usually a person sweats in his Izar or lower garment, but the Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) did not instruct them to wash it although he was aware of the situation, and they did not do that, even though they were the best of generations and the ones who feared Allah most." (Bada'i` Al-Fawa'id, 4/1490)

Shihab Ad-Din Ar-Ramli Ash-Shafi`i (may Allah have mercy on him) was asked about a person who cleaned himself with stones, then the tip of his penis touched a wet spot on his body whilst he was praying – did that invalidate his prayer, and did he have to clean himself with water and wash the area it got onto?

He replied: "It does not invalidate his prayer, and he does not have to clean himself with water or wash whatever got onto the area that was cleaned with stones, because they (the scholars) said: Traces left after cleaning oneself with stones are overlooked, even if he sweats in the place and some slight contamination affected some other part." (Fatawa ar-Ramli, 1/33)

Shaykh Muhammad Mukhtar Ash-Shinqiti (may Allah have mercy on him) said:

“Once it is established that a small amount of impurity in the anus or on the tip of the penis may be overlooked if a person cleans himself with stones then sweats, then that sweat will inevitably reach that place. If a place near it sweats, and this sweat reaches the garment or pants near that spot, this is overlooked, because if we were to rule that it is impure, this would cause hardship for the people the extent of which no one would know but Allah, may He be glorified and exalted.” (Sharh Zad Al-Mustaqni`, 23/4) (See also Al-Mughni by Ibn Qudamah, 1/219)

To sum up, this slight trace that results from sweat does not matter, and your prayer is valid. All you need to do is make sure that you clean yourself properly when you clean yourself after relieving yourself, then do not worry about it anymore than you should after that, so that you will not fall prey to Satanic whispers .

And Allah knows best.