241164 - Can You Do Wudu with Braces?

the question

I am having my teeth straightened, and the dentist has put a brace which covers all the teeth, but it is removable. Do I have to remove it every time I rinse out my mouth when doing Wudu for prayer? Must the water reach the teeth when doing Wudu, or is it okay to do Wudu without removing it?

Summary of answer

It is not essential to remove the braces when making Wudu because rinsing the mouth means making water move around in the mouth and this can be done when the braces are there.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

It is not essential to remove this brace, because rinsing the mouth means making water move around in the mouth, and this can be done when this brace is there. But if it is easy to remove it – without any hardship – when doing Ghusl for Janabah , then that is better.

Shaykh Ibn Baz (may Allah have mercy on him) was asked:

I have dentures. Is it acceptable to remove them for one Wudu, or must I remove them for Wudu every time I do Wudu?

He replied:

“There is no need to remove the dentures. You can rinse your mouth when doing the first Wudu, and so long as you remain in a state of purity, you may pray with that Wudu. Then when you want to do Wudu again, you can rinse your mouth with the dentures in place, and there is no need to

remove them." (Fatawa Nur ‘Ala Ad-Darb 5/101).

Shaykh Ibn ‘Uthaymin (may Allah have mercy on him) was asked about someone who has some false teeth which he is able to remove, because they are not implanted, but it is difficult for him to do that. Is there anything wrong with that with regard to Wudu, i.e., rinsing the mouth?

He replied:

“He does not have to remove the false teeth when rinsing his mouth , because they are small, and it is sufficient to move the water around in the mouth, and because the water will most likely get in, for water – as you know – is liquid and will easily get in between these false teeth and the gums. But if he removes it, especially when doing Ghusl for Janabah, that is better." (Liqa’ Al-Bab Al-Maftuh, 158/20)

Allah knows best.