2458 - Difference between Maniy and Madhiy

the question

Sometimes when I wake up in the morning, I find some wet coming out. Please don't take it as a wet dream, or urine, because the sticky stuff comes out usually just after I have woken up in the morning. Most of the days I have to wash my underwear just because of that, and sometimes I wash my pants too.

I read somewhere that if it’s not semen, just that sticky stuff then we don't need to perform ghusl, and only wudu is enough to offer prayers. If it is, then what about the clothes? The same stuff comes out during some salacious situations also, though I try to stay away from all that kind of stuff.

Summary of answer

Semen in the case of men is a thick, white liquid, and in the case of women it is thin and yellow. Madhiy is a sticky white fluid that is emitted when a person is thinking of or desiring intercourse. Maniy requires performance of ghusl, but madhiy requires performance of wudu. Maniy is pure but madhiy is impure.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

The difference in qualities between maniy and madhiy

Semen in the case of men is a thick , white liquid, and in the case of women it is thin and yellow.

Umm Sulaym (may Allah be pleased with her) asked the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) about a woman who sees a dream like a man sees (i.e., an erotic dream). The

Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: “If a woman sees that, she should do ghusl . Umm Sulaym said: I felt shy when I heard that. She asked, is that possible? The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: How else would the child resemble his father or mother? The water of the man is thick and white, and the water of the woman is thin and yellow. Whichever of the two prevails or comes first decides which parent the child will resemble.” (Agreed upon. Sahih Muslim, 469)

In his commentary on Sahih Muslim (3/222), Imam al-Nawawi said, concerning the words of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) ‘The water of the man is thick and white, and the water of the woman is thin and yellow’:

“This is an important criterion in describing maniy. This description applies when a person is healthy, and in most cases. The scholars said: when a man is healthy, his semen is white and thick, and gushes out in spurts accompanied by feelings of pleasure. After it has come out, it is followed immediately by a feeling of being drained and exhausted. Its smell is like that of palm tree pollen, which in turn resembles the smell of dough (the colour of semen may change for a number of reasons, including the following): If a person is sick his semen may become thin and yellow, or his testicles may become slack or soft, with the result that the emission of semen is not accompanied by any feelings of pleasure. If a man engages in intercourse too frequently, his semen may become red and resemble the juice that comes from meat, or may even contain pure blood.

There are three distinguishing features of semen, the presence of any of which is sufficient for it to be classified as semen: **firstly**, its emission is accompanied by feelings of pleasure and is immediately followed by exhaustion; **secondly**, it smells like palm tree pollen, as stated above; and **thirdly**, it gushes out in spurts. Each one of these three characteristics is sufficient for it to be defined as semen; it is not necessary for all three features to be present. If none of them are present, the substance cannot be described as semen and in all likelihood it is not. All of the above applies to the maniy of men; in the case of women, their maniy is thin and yellow, although it could become white if the woman is strong. It has two distinguishing characteristics, either of

which is sufficient to class the substance as maniy: **firstly**, it smells like the maniy of men, and **secondly**, its emission is accompanied by feelings of pleasure and is immediately followed by exhaustion.

Madhiy , on the other hand, is a sticky white fluid that is emitted when a person is thinking of or desiring intercourse. Its emission is not accompanied by feelings of pleasure, it does not gush out in spurts, and it is not followed by exhaustion. This may happen to men and women alike, although it is more common among women. This is the comment of Imam al-Nawawi in his commentary on Muslim" (Sharh Muslim, 3/213)

What should be done after emission of maniy and madhiy?

When maniy is emitted, a person must perform ghusl to clean himself from sexual impurity (janabah), whether this happened during intercourse or otherwise, whether he was awake or it happened because of an erotic dream. Madhiy, on the other hand, means that a person only needs to do wudu . The evidence for this is the report of Ali ibn Abi Talib (may Allah be pleased with him) who said: I was a man who used to experience a lot of urethral discharge, so I told Miqdad to ask the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) about it. So he asked him, and he said: It requires wudu. (Agreed upon; this version was narrated by al-Bukhari). Ibn Qudamah said in al-Mughni (1/168), Ibn al-Mundhir said: The scholars agree that passing stools or urine, the emission of madhiy or passing wind are all things that invalidate taharah (purity) [i.e. they mean that wudu must be renewed].

Are maniy and madhiy pure?

Maniy is pure according to the most correct opinion among the scholars. The evidence for this is the report of `Aishah (may Allah be pleased with her) who said: The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) used to wash the maniy (from his clothes) then go out to pray wearing the same clothes, and I could see the spot where he had washed it. (Agreed upon)

According to a report narrated by Muslim: I used to rub it (semen) thoroughly from the garment of

the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), then he would pray in it. According to another version: I would scratch it from his garment with my nail when it had become dry.

It is proven that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) used to leave it without washing it when it was wet; it was sufficient just to wipe it with ‘oud (a kind of aromatic wood) or something similar, as was reported by Imam Ahmad in his Musnad (6/243) from `Aishah (may Allah be pleased with her), who said: The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) used to remove maniy from his garment with a twig of adhkhar (a kind of tree), then pray in that garment, and he would rub it from his garment once it was dry, and would pray in the same garment. Ibn Khuzaymah reported it in his Sahih, and Shaykh al-Albani classed it as hasan in al-Irwa (1/197).

Madhiy (urethral discharge) is impure, because of the Hadith of ‘Ali quoted above, in some versions of which it is reported that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) commanded him to wash his penis and testicles and do wudu, as was reported by Abu Awanah in al-Mustakhraj. Ibn Hajar said in al-Talkhis: There is nothing at fault in this isnad. So madhiy is impure and the penis and testicles must be washed, as it nullifies taharah.

Ruling on clothing on which there is maniy and madhiy

As maniy is deemed to be pure, if it gets on a person’s clothes it does not make them impure, and if he prays in those clothes there is nothing wrong with that.

Ibn Qudamah said in al-Mughni (1/763): “Even though we say manity is pure , it is better to rub it, but if one prays (in those clothes) without rubbing it, this is acceptable.”

In the case of madhiy, it is sufficient to sprinkle water on it , because of the difficulty of doing otherwise. The evidence for this is the Hadith narrated by Abu Dawud in his Sunan from Sahl ibn Hanif, who said: I used to experience a lot of urethral discharge, and I used to do ghusl a lot. I asked the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) about it and he said: It is sufficient for you to do wudu (to purify yourself) from that. I said, O Messenger of Allah, what about

when it gets on my clothes? He said: It is sufficient for you to take a handful of water and sprinkle it on your clothes wherever you think (the madhiy) is. (Reported by al-Tirmidhi. He said: This is a sahih hasan Hadith, and the only other Hadith about madhiy that we know is the Hadith of Muhammad ibn Ishaq).

The author of Tuhfat al-Ahwadhi (1/373) said: “This may be taken to prove that if madhiy gets on one's clothes, it is sufficient to sprinkle water on it; one does not have to wash it.”

And Allah knows best.