33594 - Praying during Menstruation because of Shyness

the question

She prayed whilst menstruating because of shyness. What is the ruling on that and what expiation should she offer?

Summary of answer

Muslims scholars agreed that it is prohibited for a menstruating woman to pray, whether that is obligatory prayers or supererogatory. Based on this, if a woman does that she has to repent to Allah and to seek His forgiveness for what she did.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

An-Nawawi (may Allah have mercy on him) said: “The Ummah unanimously agreed that it is prohibited for a menstruating woman to pray , whether that is obligatory prayers or supererogatory.” (Al-Majmu`, 2/351)

Shaykh Ibn `Uthaymin (may Allah have mercy on him) was asked about that and replied:

“It is not permissible for a woman who is menstruating or bleeding following childbirth to pray , because the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said concerning women: “Is it not the case that if a woman menstruates she does not pray or fast ?”

The Muslims unanimously agreed that it is not permissible for a menstruating woman to fast , or for her to pray. Based on this, if a woman does that she has to repent to Allah and to seek His forgiveness for what she did.” (Fatawa Al-Mar’ah Al-Muslimah, 1/285)

And Allah knows best.