7268 - Can You Use an Umbrella in Ihram?

the question

DuringHajj, is it permissible to use an umbrella that covers the head and protects the body from the heat of the sun? This umbrella is however held by supports from the shoulder leaving the two hands free.

Summary of answer

There is nothing wrong with covering the head with something that does not touch or stay above it such as an umbrella, tent, car roof etc. while in the state of Ihram.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

Is it permissible for men to cover their head in Ihram?

The scholars agree that covering the head is prohibited for a man in Ihram . This is indicated by the words of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) concerning a man who died in `Arafah when he was in Ihram: “Wash him with water and lotus leaves, and shroud him in two cloths, and do not put any perfume on him or cover his head, for Allah will resurrect him on the Day of Resurrection reciting the Talbiyah.” (Narrated by Al-Bukhari, 1267; Muslim, 1206)

Al-Bukhari (1542) and Muslim (1177) narrated from `Abdullah ibn `Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) that a man said, “O Messenger of Allah, what garments should the Muhrim (a person in the state of Ihram) wear?” The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: “He should not wear a shirt, or a turban, or pants, or a burnoose or Khifaf (leather socks).” The burnoose is a garment worn by the people of the Maghreb (North Africa) which has a hood attached.

Types of covering the head in Ihram

The Muhrim's covering his head is of various kinds:

1. Covering it with something that stays on the head , such as a hat or turban and the like. This is prohibited. The evidence for it being prohibited is the two Hadith quoted above.
2. Covering his head with something that does not touch or stay above it, such as an umbrella, tent, car roof etc. There is nothing wrong with this, because Umm Husayn (may Allah be pleased with her) said: "I performed Hajj with the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) during the Farewell Pilgrimage, and I saw him when he stoned Jamarat Al-`Aqabah and went away on his mount, accompanied by Bilal and Usamah. One of them was leading his mount and the other was holding his garment over the head of the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), shading him from the sun. (Narrated by Muslim, 1298)

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

"This indicates that it is permissible for the Muhrim to shade his head with a cloth or whatever. This is our view and the view of the majority of scholars."

Shaykh Ibn `Uthaymin (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "This is exactly like an umbrella."

Shaykh Ibn Baz (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "There is nothing wrong with the Muhrim using an umbrella to shield himself from the sun, or shading himself in a tent or under the roof of a car." (Fatawa Ibn Baz, 17/115)

1. Carrying one's luggage on one's head. There is nothing wrong with this because it is usually not done with the intention of covering the head. If it is done with that intention then it is prohibited.

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

"Carrying luggage is not covering the head, it is like the Muhrim carrying food and the like, so long

as he is not doing that as a trick (to get around the ruling), because Allah has forbidden His slaves to use trickery in order to do things that He has forbidden." (Fatawa Ibn Baz, 17/115)

For more details, please see the following answers: 11356 , 175014 , 227097 , and 41140 .

And Allah knows best.