

20108 - Women removing hair from the face

the question

I know it is forbidden for a woman to remove hair from her eyebrows, but what about the rest of the face? Is it permissible for a woman to remove hair from the upperlip or other parts of the face? If the woman is especially hairy?.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

Firstly:

It says in Fatawa al-Lajnah al-Daa'imah (17/133): "It is not permissible to remove the hair of the eyebrows because this is the *namas* (plucking) for which the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) cursed those who do it, and it is a kind of changing the creation of Allah, which is the action of the *Shaytaan*. If a woman's husband tells her to do it, she should not obey him, because it is a sin, and there is no obedience to any created being if it involves disobedience towards the Creator. Rather obedience should only be with regard to things that are good and proper, as the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said."

Secondly:

It is permissible to remove any hair from the face apart from the hair of the eyebrows.

It says in Fatawa al-Lajnah al-Daa'imah (17/130): "The evidence that it is permissible for a woman to remove hair from her body is the basic principle which states that it required for her to adorn herself for her husband. There is no evidence to suggest that this is not allowed, apart from the

Islam Question & Answer

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prohibition on al-namas (plucking), which means removing hair from the eyebrows.”

And it also says (5/197): “What is the Islamic ruling on removing hair that grows between the eyebrows? The Committee replied: It is permissible to pluck it, because it is not part of the eyebrows.”

And Allah knows best.