

Women wearing pants is a greater Fitna than uncovering

Question: May Allah grant you good. The questioner asks: What is the ruling on women wearing short clothes that come to the knee or higher?

Shaykh Fawzan: We ask Allah for safety and security. This is not permissible. The entire woman is awrah, all of her is awrah. She must cover herself; she must cover her entire body. She should even cover her face from men when she leaves the home; all of her is awrah. The exception is during the prayer. If there are no non-Mahram men around her then she uncovers her face during the prayer around Mahram men. But if there are non-Mahram men around her, then she covers her face even in the prayer.

Question: She asks in her question concerning the permissibility of women wearing tight stretch pants (leggings).

Shaykh Fawzan: This is not permissible. It is not suitable for a woman to wear pants because pants reveal the size of her body. And it shows the shape of her limbs. The fitna (of her wearing pants) is more severe than if she were to uncover herself. The fitna of pants is more severe because it displays her in a seductive appearance. And the unattractive woman will be depicted as beautiful; it will give her a seductive appearance even if she is unattractive. Pants are not permissible, it is not appropriate for a woman to wear pants under any circumstances.

Question: Can she wear (these pants) when she goes to visit her family, relatives, and Mahram males?

Shaykh Fawzan: No. The woman should not wear pants, or a tight garment. She should only wear a garment which is wide, spacious, and concealing when she leaves her home. When she is around Mahram men she can uncover parts such as her hands, feet, face, and her head. There is no problem with this when she is around Mahram men. But as for her uncovering other than this such as her shin, and upper arm, these parts are not uncovered in front of Mahram men; rather these limbs are only uncovered in front of her husband.