

Woman taking a bath at relatives home

Shaykh Aboo `Abd-al-Mu`iz `Alee Farkous al-Qoobee

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

Question: Is it permissible for a woman to take a shower or a ritual bath at her relatives home like her paternal or maternal uncle? May Allaah reward you.

Shaykh Aboo `Abd-al-Mu`iz `Alee Farkous al-Qoobee (May Allaah the Most High preserve him):
All praise is due to Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds. Peace and blessing be upon whom Allaah sent as a mercy to the Worlds, upon his Family, his Companions and his Brothers until the Day of Resurrection:

The underlying reason for prohibiting a woman from getting undressed beyond her house is to protect and cover her private parts and in order to be safe from Fitnah (temptation). Hereof, whenever the woman could not take a bath at her home or at her husband's home, it is permissible for her to take it in the house of one of her Mahram¹ or at her (paternal or maternal) aunts home if there is no fear of temptation, according to the hadeeth reported by Umm Ad-Dardaa' (*May Allaah be pleased with her*) who said: "I came out from the public bath when I met the Prophet (*May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him and his family*). He inquired: "**From where (did you come) Ô Umm Ad-Dardaa'**". She answered: "From the public bath". He (*May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him and his family*) said: "**By Whom my soul is in His Hands, no woman takes off her garments in a house other than that of one of her mothers, but she tears the cover between her and Ar-Rahmaan (the Most Merciful)**"². And because- without any doubt- it is permissible for the woman to travel with one of her Mahram and during travel she cannot perform her obligations as prayers and the like only with taking a bath in case she has a wet dream or gets purified after her menses, for she is safe with the presence of her Mahram as it is known.

The perfect knowledge belongs to Allaah (*Mighty and Majestic is He*); and our last prayer is all the praises and thanks are to Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds, and prayers of Allaah are to Muhammad and his Family, Companions and Brothers until the Day of Resurrection.

¹ Mahram (plural: Mahaarim): a male whom a woman can never marry because of close relationship (e.g. a brother, a father, an uncle etc.); or her own husband. Translator's note.

² Reported by Ahmad (27038) on the authority of Umm Ad-Dardaa' (*May Allaah be pleased with her*). This hadeeth is judged good (Hassan) by Al-Albaanee in "As-Silsilah As-Saheehah" (3442).

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-Al-Munaawee said in “Fayd Al-Qadeer” (3/136): “Takes off her garments in a house other than that of her husband” is a metonymy that means to be exposed for strangers and not be covered before them. “She tears the cover between her and Allaah (*Mighty and Majestic is He*)” because Allaah (*He, The Most High*) sent a clothing to hide and conceal their private parts which is the clothing of righteousness, and if they do not fear Allaah and unveil their private parts, they tear the cover between them and Allaah. And the way she disgraces her soul, does not save her face and betrays her husband, the way Allaah tears her cover, because as you treat you will be treated”.