
Bleeding after having determined the end of postpartum bleeding

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Question: A postpartum bleeding woman regains a state of purity (i.e. stops bleeding), but finds some blood has come down from her after a few days. Is this blood considered her *Istihaadah* (irregular bleeding) or something else?

Answer: Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)¹: If she has exceeded the maximum period of postpartum bleeding, which is forty days, then this blood without a doubt is the blood of *Istihaadah* and not postpartum blood. And if she felt according to her notion that she had reached a state of purity before having completed these forty days, then it is probable that her estimation of becoming purified before the forty-day period was an error on her part. So then she should look at the blood that is presently coming out. If it is a darker blood, as menstrual and postpartum blood is commonly, then she should consider herself as if she never reached the state of purity. In that case, she must refrain from the prayer and fasting as well as the other religious acts she is forbidden from doing (while in this state).

¹ (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah have mercy on him