

Question 2204) - What is the status of Arsh in Shari'ah?

A: It is Fard for the witnesses to testify, in order that rights are obtained and not lost. They have no right to hide their Arsh when the owner of the right seeks it. Allaah says, "The witnesses should not refuse when called to testify." He also says, "Do not hide Arsh. He who hides it has indeed a sinful heart." This is with regards rights.

Regarding Hudud, the witness may choose between exposing and hiding his Arsh. Hiding is preferred in matters regarding theft of wealth. In that case he should say, "He took the wealth,? and not, ?He stole the wealth."

~ al-Quduri ~