

When a Woman in I'tikaaf Starts to Menstruate

Q: It'kaaf-26: Can a woman sit in I'tikaaf for the last ten days of Ramadhaan? If so, where can this be done and what will happen if she starts to menstruate during the I'tikaaf?

Answer: The I'tikaaf during the last ten days of Ramadhaan is Sunnah Mu'akkadah alal Kifaayah and a woman may also observe this I'tikaaf. A woman may observe I'tikaaf at home in the place where she performs her five daily salaahs and if no such place is fixed, it may be fixed before the I'tikaaf. Because it is a precondition of I'tikaaf for a woman to be free of Haidh and Nifaas, she will have to abandon the I'tikaaf if she starts to menstruate. When she is pure again, she should repeat the I'tikaaf of at least the day when the period started. This needs to be done while fasting. If she has the courage to do so, she should repeat the complete ten days or the days which could not be completed because of the period.

Fatawa Rahimiyyah vol.3