49985 - Is It Haram to Break a Makeup Fast?

the question

What is the ruling on breaking a fast when making up an obligatory fast?

Summary of answer

If you start an obligatory fast, such as making up a missed Ramadan fast or offering expiation for breaking a vow, it is not permissible for you to break the fast without a valid excuse, such as sickness or travel.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

Breaking a makeup fast without a valid excuse

If a person starts an obligatory fast, such as making up a missed Ramadan fast or offering expiation for breaking a vow (kaffarat yamin), it is not permissible for him to break the fast without a valid excuse , such as sickness or travel.

What to do if you break a makeup fast

If he breaks his fast – with or without an excuse – he has to make up that day, but he does not have to offer any expiation, because expiation is only required for intercourse during the day in Ramadan .

If he breaks the fast with no excuse, then he has to repent to Allah for this haram action.

Ibn Qudamah (4/412) said:

“If a person starts an obligatory fast, such as making up a missed Ramadan fast , or a fast that he

vowed to observe , or an expiatory fast, it is not permissible for him to break the fast. There is no scholarly difference of opinion on this point, praise be to Allah."

Al-Nawawi said in al-Majmu' (6/383):

"If a person has intercourse during a fast other than in Ramadan, such as making up a missed fast , or a fast that he vowed to observe, etc., no expiation (kaffarah) is required. This is the view of the majority. Qatadah said: He has to offer expiation if he broke a fast that he was observing to make up for a missed Ramadan fast." (Al-Mughni, 4/378)

Shaykh Ibn Baz was asked in Majmu' al-Fatawa (15/355):

I was fasting one day to make up for a missed fast, but after Zuhr prayer I felt hungry so I ate and drank deliberately, not because I had forgotten or was unaware. What is the ruling on this action of mine?

He replied:

"You have to complete the fast. It is not permissible to break the fast if that was an obligatory fast such as making up a missed Ramadan fast or a fast that you vowed to observe. You also have to repent from what you did. Whoever repents to Allah, Allah will accept his repentance."

Shaykh Ibn Uthaymin (may Allah have mercy on him) was asked (20/451):

In the past I fasted to make up for what I owed, then I broke the fast deliberately. After that I made up that fast one day. I do not know whether that is sufficient or do I have to fast for two consecutive months? Do I have to offer expiation? Please advise me.

He replied:

"If a person starts an obligatory fast, such as making up a missed Ramadan fast or offering expiation for breaking a vow (kaffarat yameen), or expiation for shaving during Hajj if he shaved his head before exiting ihram, or any other obligatory fast, it is not permissible for him to break the fast without a valid shar'i excuse. The same applies to anyone who starts an obligatory action

– he has to complete it and it is not permissible for him to stop it unless he has a legitimate shar'i excuse that allows him to stop. This woman who started to make up a fast then broke her fast one day with no excuse and made up that day does not have to do anything else, but she has to repent and ask Allah for forgiveness for breaking an obligatory fast with no excuse."

And Allah knows best.