125910 - Is it essential to tell the suitor that she has had an ovary removed?

the question

I am a young woman aged 29. I have received a marriage proposal from a young man whose character I like and I want to marry him. But the problem is that seven years ago I had an operation to remove my right ovary because of the presence of a fatty tumour on it, which led to a case of gangrene, which is where there is blockage of the blood vessels inside the ovary, which leads to death of the tissue. Praise be to Allaah, now I enjoy good health and am able to bear children, according to the doctor who treated me, because the other ovary is working well, and I have proof from the doctor concerning that. My question is: must I tell him about this operation or not?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

If what happened to you of having an ovary removed did not affect your ability to have children because the other ovary is working well, then you do not have to tell your suitor about that, because the definition of the kind of fault which must be disclosed is that which affects the marriage by causing an inability to provide physical pleasure or service or to bear children. But it is better to tell your suitor about it so as to prevent any problems later on if the husband were to regard not informing him about that as a kind of deception.

Shaykh Ibn ‘Uthaymeen (may Allaah have mercy on him) said: The correct view is that what is regarded as a fault is anything which causes the aims of marriage not to be fulfilled. Undoubtedly the aims of marriage are physical pleasure, service and bearing children. These are the most important aims. If there is anything that prevents fulfilment of these aims, then it is a fault. Based on this, if the wife discovered that the husband is infertile or he discovers that she is infertile, this

is a fault. If he finds out that she is blind, this is a fault, because this undermines two aims of marriage, namely physical pleasure and service; if he finds out that she is deaf, this is a fault; similarly, if he finds out that she is mute, this is a fault. The correct view is anything that undermines the aims of marriage is regarded as a fault where the option (of annulling the marriage) is given to either the husband or the wife. End quote from al-Sharh al-Mumti' (12/220).

See also the answer to question no. 111980 and 43496.

And Allaah knows best.