

147291 - Ruling on making up prayers for someone who was unconscious

the question

I know a woman who was in an accident and fell into a coma, which lasted for one month and five days, and for three months she was unable to pray. Please advise us, may Allah reward you with good, what must she do?

Detailed answer

The correct view is that she does not have to make up the missed prayers. If someone has an accident and loses consciousness, then he comes under the same heading as one who is insane or has an intellectual disability, so he does not have to make up missed prayers. If the period of unconsciousness becomes lengthy, then he is more akin to one who is insane or an intellectual disability, so he does not have to make up missed prayers. This is the correct scholarly view. But if the coma only lasted for two or three days, then the person is more like one who was asleep or fainted, so he should make up the missed prayers, as it was narrated from some of the Sahabah that they fell unconscious for a brief period, such as one or two days, so they made up the missed prayers. End quote.

Shaykh ‘Abd al-‘Aziz ibn Baz (may Allah have mercy on him)

Fatawa Nur ‘ala al-Darb (2/719).