106568 - Is Ghusl Necessary before ‘Umrah?

the question

Is it obligatory for a person to do ghusl on the day on which he intends to do ‘Umrah, or can he do ghusl for it a day beforehand?

Summary of answer

If you do ghusl one day before entering ihram for ‘umrah or hajj, that will not benefit you, but your Hajj or ‘Umrah will be valid because doing ghusl is not a condition for Hajj or ‘Umrah.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

Is ghusl necessary before ‘umrah?

Shaykh Ibn `Uthaymin (may Allah have mercy on him) said:

“Doing ghusl when entering ihram is Sunnah. The Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) took off his regular clothes and did ghusl for entering ihram.

Asma bint `Umays (may Allah be pleased with her) was bleeding following childbirth, and the Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) told her to do ghusl and enter ihram .

Can you do ghusl one day before `Umrah?

If a person does ghusl one day before entering ihram , that will not benefit him, but his Hajj or ‘Umrah will be valid, because doing ghusl is not a condition for Hajj or ‘Umrah; rather it is Sunnah -- if a person does it, he will be rewarded for it, but if he does not do it, there is no sin on him.” (Majmu` al-Fatwa, 10/22)

And Allah knows best.