

Bathing after childbirth and Applying 'Pithi'

Q: Taharaat-16: Is the custom of a woman bathing a month after childbirth And forty days afterwards correct? Is applying the pithi correct? Pithi refers to applying a mixture of wheat flour and turmeric on the entire body three times. This is done every morning and evening two days before the bath. When and how must a woman bath after her Nifaas? please explain the method according to the Shari'ah.

Answer: A bath becomes waajib (compulsory) for a woman as soon as her Nifaas stops. she may also bath as often as she likes during the course of her Nifaas. It is however wrong to think that it is Masnoon and an injunction of the shari'ah for her to bath after a month. it will be necessary for her to bath and perform salaah as soon as she stops bleeding. If the bleeding does not stop at forty days, she will still have to bath and start her salaah, it is wrong to regard the 'pithi' as a Masnoon or necessary act and the bath taken after Nifaas is the same as any other taken to purify oneself. There is no special method. And Allaah knows best what is most correct.

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