

Shaykh Wahba al-Zuḥaylī on Al-Albānī’s Fatwa on Women Wearing Gold¹

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Question: Right now I am in the process of getting married, all praise be to Allah, Lord of all the Worlds. However, a few days ago one of my friends came to me and told me that there was this good book by Shaykh Nāṣir al-Dīn Al-Albānī called *Adāb Al-Zifāf* (Wedding Etiquettes). Obviously, I went to the market and I bought it from one of the Islamic bookshops and then I went home and read all of it from start to finish. However, I was surprised by the subject of gold being declared ḥarām (forbidden) for women and the aḥādīth given to indicate this. My question is: what is your opinion of this Shaykh (Muḥammad Nāṣir al-Dīn Al-Albānī), what is your opinion of this book of his (*Adāb Al-Zifāf*) and what is the correct ruling regarding gold being ḥarām for women. Please benefit me, may Allah have mercy on you, before I get married, and if you have any pieces of advice for me before I get married or afterwards regarding that which pleases Allah and His Messenger, then may Allah reward you with goodness. All Praise be to Allah, Lord of all the Worlds.

Answer: Indeed the deviation of some who occupy themselves with knowledge or those who learn by themselves without a teacher is of no value in terms of knowledge or the Sharī’ah and their opinions are dismissed and rejected.

Declaring gold to be ḥarām for women is both an intellectual and Islamic deviation, as The Noble Qur’an has made it clear in the āya: **“that which is raised with jewellery and unclear in dispute.”** [43:18] that a woman adorning herself with jewellery is part of her nature and disposition.

It has also been established in the Prophetic Sunnah that the Prophet ﷺ said: ‘Gold and silk are ḥalāl (permissible) for women and ḥarām for men.’ [Musnad of Imām Aḥmad b. Ḥanbal, vol.14, pp. 499-500, ḥadīth #19407, Dar al-Ḥadīth, Cairo edition] Saying that it is ḥarām is to go against the ijma’ (consensus of the scholars).

I have not read the book *Adāb Al-Zifāf* and if it has opinions like this in it, it shouldn’t be bothered with.



¹ Translated from *Fatāwa Mu’āsira* by Shaykh Wahba al-Zuḥaylī, pages 203-204, Dār Al-Fikr, Damascus, 2003