Question:

Is plastic surgery to beautify oneself permissible or not? What about if her husband request her to do an operation to her chest is she oblige to obey him?

Is plastic surgery for medical reason such as to remove or to treat an extra or defamed organ permissible or not?

Answer:

Assalamu Aleikum,

Q1: Is plastic surgery to beautify oneself permissible or not?

A1: Operating on people, or submit to a doctor for plastic surgery in order to become more beautiful such as to change colour of your skin, or the shape of your noise or the size of your chest or organs without a divine permit such as to remove a physical defect etc., then such surgery is Haram (prohibited), because in Islam it is prohibited to change the nature created by Allah (swt) until a divine permit stated otherwise. Allah (swt) says: " Allah did curse the Satan but he said: I will take from your servants a portion marked off. I will mislead them, and I will whisper in them false desires; I will order them to slit the ears of cattle, and to change the nature created by Allah. Whoever, forsaking Allah, takes Satan for a friend, hath of a surety suffered a loss that is manifest" [EMQ 4:118-119].

And reported by Bukhari, Abu Dawood that the Messenger Muhammad (saw) said: " Allah has cursed those who practice tattooing, those who have themselves tattooed, those who change or remove their eyebrows and those who make artificial spaces (adjustment) between their teeth in order to look more beautiful whereby they change Allah's creation."

Q2: What about if her husband request her to do an operation to her chest, is she obliges to obey him?

A2: A wife oblige to obey her husband in all matter belong to his rights (Huqouq) as husband and it is recommended for her to obey him in all matter not belong to his rights as husband. However it is prohibited for him to ask his wife to do what Allah (swt) forbid and it is prohibited for her to obey him if he ask her to say or to do anything Haram. Reported in Saheeh Muslim and Abu Dawood that the Messenger Muhammad (saw) said: " There is no obedience to any creation if it is means to disobey the creator".

Q3: Is plastic surgery for medical reasons such as to remove or to treat an extra or defamed organ permissible or not?

A3: Plastic surgery for medical reasons such as to remove a bodily defect, due to a defamation such as a disability, accident or any other incident… for these reasons there is a divine permit in performing cosmetic surgery. Reported in Al-Nasaa'ie and Al-Beihaqie that the Messenger Muhammad (saw): " allowed a man to replace his severed nose - in war - with an artificial golden nose".

Sheikh Omar