

32556 - Is it permissible to use a kohl stick made of gold?

the question

How valid is the view that using a kohl stick made of gold for putting kohl on the eyes will make the vision stronger? Is it permissible to use a kohl stick made of gold? Or is that subject to the prohibition?

Please note that we read about this in the book by Ibn al-Qayyim al-Jawziyyah, *al-Tibb al-Nabawi* (Prophetic Medicine).

Detailed answer

There are saheeh reports from the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and the fuqaha' are agreed that it is haram to use vessels of gold and silver for eating and drinking.

It was narrated that Hudhayfah (may Allah be pleased with him) said: The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "Do not drink from vessels of gold and silver and do not eat from plates of the same. They are for them in this world and for you in the Hereafter."

Narrated by al-Bukhari, 5110; Muslim, 2067.

It was narrated that Umm Salamah (may Allah be pleased with her) said: The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "The one who eats and drinks from vessels of gold and silver is taking fire from Hell into his belly."

Narrated by al-Bukhari, 5311; Muslim, 2065. This version narrated by Muslim.

This applies to vessels of gold and silver.

With regard to using a kohl stick made of gold, Ibn al-Qayyim said in *Zaad al-Ma'aad* (4/310) and Ibn Muflih said in *al-Adaab al-Shar'iyyah* (3/23) that it is beneficial to the eyes. It seems from their words that it is permissible, and this is what was stated by Shaykh al-Islam Ibn Taymiyah (may Allah have mercy on him) in *al-Ikhtiyaaraat* (p. 8) where he said:

It is permissible to apply kohl with a kohl stick made of gold or silver, because it is the matter of need and they (these two scholars) permitted it.

With regard to a golden kohl stick being beneficial for the eyes, Ibn al-Qayyim said in *Zaad al-Ma'aad*: It clears and strengthens the eye, and brings healing from many diseases.

This was also mentioned by Ibn Muflih in *al-Adaab al-Shar'iyyah*: And reference concerning that is to be made to those who are specialized in that field.

And Allah knows best what is correct.