

## 405051 - Does the taste of cloves in dental fillings invalidate the fast?

## the question

Before the month of Ramadan, I had severe pain in one of my molars, and the dentist did a temporary filling. The filling that I have causes me to have a constant taste of cloves in my mouth, and I swallow it when swallowing saliva; it is very difficult to get rid of it. Does the presence of this taste and swallowing it with my saliva invalidate the fast during the month of Ramadan?

## **Detailed answer**

If the amalgam of the filling is mixed with oil of cloves to soothe the nerve, then this does not invalidate the fast, even if you notice the taste of cloves, because nothing leaches out of the filling, or it is a very small amount that mixes with the saliva and cannot be expelled, so it is overlooked, as any water that is left over after rinsing one's mouth when doing wudu' and mixes with the saliva and reaches the stomach is also overlooked, and as any remaining taste of the siwak in the mouth is also overlooked.

Doctors have stated that the siwak contains eight chemical substances that protect the teeth and gums from disease, and they dissolve in the saliva and enter the pharynx. It is narrated in *Sahih al-Bukhari* from 'Amir ibn Rabi'ah: I saw the Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) cleaning his teeth with the siwak whilst he was fasting more times than I can count.

Any such substance that enters the stomach is overlooked, because it is a small amount and is not ingested deliberately.

End quote from *Muftirat as-Siyam al-Mu'asirah*, p. 33, by Dr. Ahmad al-Khalil; *al-Muftirat at-Tibbiyyah al-Mu'asirah*, p. 165, by Dr. 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Kindi.

If this substance is overlooked because it is a small amount and is not ingested deliberately, then the traces of cloves are also overlooked, if we assume that anything



leaches from the filling.

See also the answers to questions no. 49658, 92923, 78438.

And Allah knows best.