FW-1007 11 November 2026

What is the ruling on cropping hair?

THE QUESTION

What is the ruling on cropping hair? Is there any issue with shortening hair using scissors?

THE SCHOLARLY RESPONSE

'Crop' refers to shaving off only part of the hair on the head. This should be avoided (Tuhfa 4/119). The ruling is the same whether the hair is shaved from one part of the head or from several parts. The way one cuts one's hair is also part of a Muslim's culture. Therefore, the Islamic way should always be considered when cutting one's hair.

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