

AL-ISLAM FATWA BANK - (Marital issues)

Title of Fatwa	My Husband Does Not Satisfy Me in Bed: Can I Masturbate?
Topic Of Fatwa	Masturbation
Question of Fatwa	Dear scholars, As-Salamu `alaykum. I am a married woman. If my husband does not satisfy me in bed, is it permissible in Islam for me to masturbate and satisfy myself? He says he is satisfied and does not want to go to a doctor. I have given up hope that he will ever accept the fact that he has got a problem, so I have found a solution to this by masturbating because I am very disturbed and in sexual need all the time. I know Islam does not allow masturbation, but what is the solution to my problem? At least I am not committing adultery. Jazakum Allah khayran.
Name of Mufti	Sheikh Ahmad Kutty
Content of Reply	<p>Wa `alaykum As-Salamu wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh.</p> <p>In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.</p> <p>All praise and thanks are due to Allah, and peace and blessings be upon His Messenger.</p> <p>Dear sister in Islam, thanks for this question. We implore Allah to grant Muslim men and women chastity and high morality. May He Almighty protect them against their bad inner suggestions and the temptations of Satan, Amen.</p> <p>First of all, we'd like to state that masturbation is generally considered forbidden in Islam since it is deemed to fall under the category of sexual satisfaction outside the framework of marriage. However, when it is the only choice instead of committing the major sin of <i>Zina</i> (fornication or adultery), one can resort to it without exaggeration bearing in mind that he/she should do his/her best to satisfy his/herself within marriage. So, the ruling on masturbation is governed by some considerations that might change the ruling from one person to another.</p> <p>Answering your question, Sheikh Ahmad Kutty, a senior lecturer and Islamic scholar at the Islamic Institute of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, states:</p> <p>"In Islam marriage is a partnership based on mutual rights and obligations. It is, therefore, important that both spouses try their best to be considerate and sensitive towards the needs and feelings of one another and do</p>

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	<p>their best to satisfy each other within the bounds of Islam.</p> <p>Sexual fulfillment is an important part of the mutual obligations of husband and wife. Your husband definitely needs to be aware of his duty towards you in this respect, and take it seriously. Just as you have a duty to satisfy him, he is also obligated to satisfy you.</p> <p>Should he be suffering from a sexual dysfunction, he is required to seek professional advice in order for your marriage to be a happy one. If he cannot satisfy you through sexual intercourse, he is perfectly justified in satisfying you through other avenues; he could very well masturbate you; if he were to do this, he is working within the perfect limits of Islam; his doing it on you is different from you doing it on yourself. A person masturbating on himself/herself is not allowed in Islam except in dire necessity where one fears falling into adultery; marriage is intended in Islam to be a shield against that. So being married, you should never be forced into this option.</p> <p>If in spite of your best efforts to convince your husband, he still remains insensitive to your needs in this respect, you are justified in taking whatever steps are necessary in terminating your marriage, if you are unable to tolerate it. This is definitely one of the valid grounds for divorce in Islam. This can be inferred from the following incident reported in the authentic traditions; once a woman appeared before the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) and told him, I cannot find fault with my husband in matters of religion or character; but he is a total misfit (as far as sexual function is concerned). The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) we are told, ordered a termination of the marriage."</p> <p>Excerpted, with slight modifications, from: www.islam.ca</p>
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