

COVERING THE HEAD FROM THE MAN WHO IS BLIND

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Q: Does the woman have to cover in front of a man who is blind?

A: It is not obligatory to do that since the Prophet ﷺ ordered Fatimah bint Qays to refrain from covering in front of Ibn Umm Maktoom saying: *“He is a blind man put down your covering as he does not see you.”*²

As for the well known narration that was relayed where he said to two of his wives when Ibn Umm Maktoom entered: *“Cover yourself in front of him”* then they both said, *“He is a blind man.”* So he said: *“Are both of you blind?! Do you not both see him?!”* Then it is a narration that is considered Shaadh (**an isolated narration**), it is not authentic based on the various authentic narrations that have been relayed concerning this issue from them is this well known narration and from them is his statement ﷺ: *“Seeking permission to enter one’s home was based on the issue of what could be seen (if permission was not granted and one just walked in).”* Its authenticity has been agreed upon and with Allah is success.

¹ Fataawaa an-Nisaa (Islamic Rulings for Women) page 61

² As related by Muslim in his *Saheeh*.