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### Declaring specific and unspecified people as Kafirs (disbelievers)

Second question from Fatwa No. (6109):

**Q 2: Do religious scholars have the right to declare someone to be a Kafir (disbeliever)?**

**A:** It is permissible to describe unspecified people as Kafir (disbelievers) based on their actions. Therefore, it is not wrong to describe any one who seeks help from people other than Allah for something which can be sought only from Him as Kafir. This includes beseeching a prophet or Waliy (pious person) to cure one's self or one's children.

On the other hand, some specified people can be declared as Kafir, when they deny a matter which is Ma`lum minad-din biddarurah (well-established religious matter); such as Salah (Prayer), Zakah (obligatory charity) or Sawm (Fast). In such cases, the person in question should be informed of the ruling and called to repent. If they do not repent, the ruler is obliged to execute them for their disbelief. If Takfir (declaring as Kafir) of specified persons for a religious reason were not allowed, Had (prescribed penalty) of Riddah (apostasy) would have not be applicable.

May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings of Allah be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family and Companions!

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