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### Sufism

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**The dome built on the grave of the Prophet (peace be upon him) may not be taken as an example to be imitated**

First question from Fatwa No. ( 6258 ):

**Q 1: What is the essence of Sufism? Does it comprise both good and bad aspects? Is Sufism completely independant from Fiqh (Islamic jurisprudence)?**

**I hope Your Eminence will address the issue of the Prophetic Hadrah (collective supererogatory rituals performed by Sufi orders) as a Sufi concept. Is it a proper practice?**

**Some fellow Sudanese Sufi prominent men take the dome built on the grave of the Prophet (peace be upon him) as evidence of the permissibility of building domes on graves. What is the Islamic ruling on this?**

**What is the essence of the Sufi concepts of Ghawth (source of grace), Qutb (Perfect Master) and Men of the World?**

**A: First:** You may consult the books "Madarijul-Salikin" by Ibn Qayyim

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Al-Jawziyyah and the book "Hadhihi Hiya Al-Sufiyyah" (Such is Sufism) by Abdur-Rahman Al-Wakil, for information on Sufi-related inquiries. **Second:** The dome built on the grave of the Prophet (peace be upon him) is not an example warranting building domes on the graves of Walis (righteous persons) and the pious, for neither the Prophet willed that the doom be built nor was it built by his Companions, Tabi`un (Followers, the generation after the Companions of the Prophet) or the Imams of guidance who lived in the first generations the Prophet (peace be upon him) extolled. Rather, it was built by the people of Bida`hs (rejected innovations in religion). Moreover, the Prophet (peace be upon him) is authentically reported to have said: [\( If somebody innovates something which is not in harmony with the principles of our religion, that thing is rejected. \)](#) Moreover, `Aly (may Allah be pleased with him) is authentically reported to have said to Abu Al-Hayyaj: [\( Should I not send you on](#)

the same mission as Allah's Messenger (peace be upon him) sent me? Do not leave a statue without obliterating it, or a high grave without levelling it. )Recorded by Muslim. Consequently, since neither the Prophet (peace be upon him) nor the Imams of righteousness are reported to have built a dome on the Prophet's grave, - in fact, the Prophet (peace be upon him) is reported to enjoin the contrary - a Muslim may not take the dome built by people of Bid'ah on the grave of the Prophet (peace be upon him) as an ideal to be imitated.

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

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