



The sixth question from Fatwa No. 6009 :

Q: My father believes in the righteousness of a dead shaykh known as a Waliy (a pious person). My father invokes Allah in virtue of this shaykh and associates him with Allah in invocation, for example, he says: O Allah and O master Abdul Salam. What is the religious ruling concerning this, taking into account that he prays, fasts and, pays Zakah?

A: Invoking the dead and the absent like the Prophets, Awliya' (pious people), and the like, whether alone or along with Allah, is Shirk-Akbar (major form of associating others in worship with Allah), even if a person fasts and offers Salah, because Allah (may He be Exalted) says: ﴿ And invoke not besides Allâh any such that will neither profit you nor harm you, but if (in case) you did so, you shall certainly be one of the Zâlimûn (polytheists and wrong-doers). ﴾ Also Allah (may He be Exalted) says: ﴿ Such is Allâh, your Lord; His is the kingdom. And those, whom you invoke or call upon instead of Him, own not even a Qitmîr (the thin membrane over the date-stone). ﴾ ﴿ If you invoke (or call upon) them, they hear not your call; and if (in case) they were to hear, they could not grant it (your request) to you. And on the Day of Resurrection, they will disown your worshipping them. And none can inform you (O Muhammad peace be upon him) like Him Who is the Well-Acquainted (with everything). ﴾

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The Ayahs (Qur'anic verses) to this effect are many.

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

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