



The fourth question of Fatwa No. 9879

Q4: What is the ruling on circumambulating the graves of the Awliya' (pious people), vowing or slaughtering for the dead people or Waliys (pious person) in Islam? Is it permitted?

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Is it permissible to ask the Awliya' to supplicate to Allah for me whether they are live or dead?

A4: Slaughtering or vowing for the sake of dead people is Shirk (associating others in worship with Allah). A Waliy is a person who obeys Allah by doing what He commands and avoiding what He prohibits even if he is not supported by Karamat (an extraordinary event performed by a pious person). It is not permissible to ask dead people, whether they are Awliya' or not, to supplicate to Allah for you. But a person can ask righteous people to supplicate to Allah for him. Circumambulating the graves is forbidden as this is only to be performed around the Ka'bah. A person who circumambulates the graves seeking the pleasure of those buried in them commits major Shirk. If he seeks to be close to Allah by doing so, then this deed is an abhorred Bid'ah. Muslims are not allowed to circumambulate or perform prayer beside graves even if they do so for the sake of Allah.

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

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