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The fourth question of Fatwa no. (6899):

Q 4: Is it true what some Muslims claim that the Muslim rulers are Awliya' (pious people) of Allah, even if they are Fasiqun (people who are openly and flagrantly violating Islamic law)?

A: This claim is not true, but a Fasiq is so, whether he is one of the predecessors or a contemporary, a ruler or otherwise. A Waliy (pious person) is so, whether he is of the predecessors or a contemporary. Time has nothing to do with the character of the person, his piety or immorality. The Awliya' of Allah are the people of (Faith) and Taqwa (fearing Allah as He should be feared). Allah stated in Surah Yunus, ﴿ No doubt! Verily, the Auliya' of Allâh [i.e. those who believe in the Oneness of Allâh and fear Allâh much (abstain from all kinds of sins and evil deeds which He has forbidden), and love Allâh much (perform all kinds of good deeds which He has ordained)], no fear shall come upon them nor shall they grieve. ﴾ Those who believed (in the Oneness of Allâh ? Islâmic Monotheism), and used to fear Allâh much (by abstaining from evil deeds and sins and by doing righteous deeds). ﴿ (Surah Yunus, 10: 62-63).

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

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