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Fatwa No. 7997

Q: Allah has willed for me to write this message in which I ask for your advice and clarification with regard to an illness called epilepsy. My mother suffers from this disease. She was possessed at first by a jinn (creature created from fire). We brought her an Imam who was able to exorcise her. Then she suffered from epilepsy for a week. Whenever we brought the Imam, she would be well. But when he left, she would return to the same suffering. Then she recovered and lead a stable life for a period of time. It was not long before she suffered possession again by a female jinn. She suffered for about the same amount of time. We brought the Imam once again and he expelled the evil spirits. Then, she suffered again. We brought another Imam who exorcised her again. This continued for a period of time, whenever she would suffer, we would bring someone to treat her. Once, my mother asked me to bring the Imam who treated her the first time. This man said that he was told by the female jinn that the room is filled with jinn, so we moved her to another room. Unfortunately, she remained in the same condition. Then, she asked me to take her to some tombs. I did so but she remained in the same state. We took her to one of the merchants and he gave her some amulets and drugs. He asked her to wear the amulets and take the drugs.

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There are still some jinn in the room. I would like to know if doing this is correct or if it contradicts Shari'ah. I would like you to guide me to the truth.

A: Firstly: It is not permissible to consult soothsayers and fortune-tellers. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: (Anyone who visits a diviner and asks him about anything, his prayers are not accepted for forty nights.) Related by Imam Muslim in his Sahih. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: ("If one ties an amulet, Allah will not accomplish his affairs for him and if one ties a cowrie shell, Allah will not protect him.") In another narration ("Whoever wears an amulet commits an act of Shirk (associating others in worship with Allah)".)

Secondly: The soundest opinion, is that wearing amulets, is impermissible.

Thirdly: Visiting graves to seek the blessings of those who are buried there is prohibited. Believing that dead people can bring benefit, cause harm, cure a diseased or insane person or anything similar is disbelief. We advise you to treat your mother through legal Ruqyah (reciting Qur'an and saying supplications over the sick seeking healing) and lawful drugs.

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

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