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The first, third, and eighth questions of Fatwa No. 7408

Q 1: Many people say that Talqin (encouraging someone to say: "La ilaha illa Allah") is Haram (prohibited) for the Prophet (peace be upon him) did not do so, is this correct?

A: Yes, Talqin of the dead after burial is Bid`ah (innovation in religion) for neither the Messenger (peace be upon him) nor the Rightly-Guided Caliphs, or the Sahabah (Companions of the Prophet) did so. All the Hadith mentioned in this regard are not authentic. However, the commendable Talqin is to encourage the dying person to say, "La ilaha illa Allah" for the Prophet (peace be upon him) stated, [Encourage those dying \(to say\), "La ilaha illa-Allah."](#) Related by Muslim in his Sahih. Commentating on this Hadith, the scholars clarified that the word 'mawta' means those near death [not those who are already dead].

Q 3: Is it permissible for people to raise their voices saying, "Declare His Oneness!", "Remember Allah!" or the like, while following a funeral procession?

A: No, this is not permissible. This is Bid`ah (innovation in religion) for there is no evidence in the Qur'an and the Sunnah indicating its permissibility. The Prophet (peace be upon him) stated, [Whoever performs an action which is not in accordance with this affair of ours \(Islam\), will have it rejected.](#) Related by Muslim in his Sahih.

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Q 8: After the burial, some people cut the trees which grow over the graves, others walk over them, and some sit on them. Is this permissible? What is the ruling on a person who does so?

A: It is not permissible to walk or sit over the graves for the Messenger (peace be upon him) forbade this as it is a show of disrespect. Whoever walks over or sits on graves commits a sin; they should be corrected and advised. On the other hand, it is permissible to cut the trees when necessary.

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

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