



The Third Question from Fatwa no. 4335

Q3: Is it permissible to perform Salah (Prayers) in a Masjid (mosque) that has a grave in it? Is it obligatory to kiss the threshold of the entrances to the Masjids of Al-Husayn and Al-Sayyidah Zaynab, kiss their shrines, perform Tawassul (supplicate to Allah) through them, and seek support and help from them? Is it permissible to travel from

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one place to another to commemorate Mawlid (birth days of pious people)?

A3: Firstly: If a Masjid is built over a grave, it is not permissible to offer Salah in it. The same applies if someone was buried in a Masjid after it was built. It is obligatory for the remains be moved to a public cemetery, if this is possible. This is based on the Hadith that provide evidence that it is Haram (prohibited) to offer Salah in Masjids that have a grave in them.

Secondly: It is not permissible to kiss the threshold of the entrances to the Masjids of Al-Husayn or Al-Sayyidah Zaynab, other Masjids, or shrines, as it implies submission to other than Allah and glorification of inanimate beings and the dead. This glorification is not permitted by Allah, and it is a means that can lead to Shirk (associating others in worship with Allah) through the occupants of the graves. The same applies to Tawassul through their nature, rights, or honor. As for seeking support and help from them, this is an act of major Shirk, as Allah (may he be Glorified) says: ﴿ And whoever invokes (or worships), besides Allah, any other ilah (god), of whom he has no proof; then his reckoning is only with his Lord. Surely! Al-Kafiran (the disbelievers in Allah and in the Oneness of Allah, polytheists, pagans, idolaters) will not be successful. ﴾ Allah (may He be Glorified and Exalted) also says: ﴿ Such is Allah, your Lord; His is the kingdom. And those, whom you invoke or call upon instead of Him, own not even a Qitmir (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). ﴾

Thirdly: It is not permissible to commemorate the birth day of the Messenger (peace be upon him) or any other

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person, and certainly not to travel to attend such a commemoration. His Eminence, Shaykh `Abdul `Aziz ibn `Abdullah ibn Baz has written in detail on this subject, stating that it is Bid`ah (rejected innovation in religion) and was not practiced by the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him), his Sahabah (Companions, may Allah be pleased with them), or other scholars of the favored generations; and the good lies in following them.

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

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