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The first question from Fatwa no. ( 8659 ):

**Q1:** In our country, there are some people who visit the graves of Awliya' (pious people) and slaughter sacrificial animals with the intention of vowing for the sake of the Waly. After that they distribute the meat of these sacrificial animals between the neighbors of the grave or the shrine which they have visited. Is it lawful to eat the meat of a sacrificial animal that is slaughtered for the Waly or is it like what is mentioned in the saying of Allah (may He be Exalted): ﴿Forbidden to you (for food) are: Al-Maitah (the dead animals- cattle- beast not slaughtered), blood, the flesh of swine, and that on which Allāh's Name has not been mentioned while slaughtering﴾?

**A:** If the case is as you mentioned, then it is not permissible to eat any of this meat because it is included in those which are slaughtered for other than Allah and this is an act of major Shirk for Allah (may He be Exalted) says: ﴿Say (O Muhammad peace be upon him): "Verily, my Salah (prayer), my sacrifice, my living, and my dying are for Allah, the Lord of the 'Alamin (mankind, jinn and all that exists).﴾ (He has no partner. And of this I have been commanded, and I am the first of the Muslims.﴾ The Prophet (peace be upon him) also said: ﴿"Allah has cursed the one who sacrifices to other than Allah..."﴾.

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

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