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The second question of Fatwa No 9785

Q2: Some people visit the grave of Prophet Yunus (Jonah) and circumambulate around it. His grave is surrounded by a room made of aluminium and glass. There are windows through which people throw bags of candy such as gelatin, others throw money while others throw green cloth. Allah knows the secrets of people whether they mean by their actions only the sake of Allah or if they want to draw closer to Him through that great Prophet. The authority of Waqf (Endowment), in turn, confiscates these types of candy, money, and cloth. Some of the workers there distribute this candy to their relatives and friends for blessing. As for the cloth, they are sold in the form of bands 1 cm × 1 cm for half a dinar. Buyers put these bands in their hands or pockets for the sake of warding off harm or out of fear of getting hurt. As for the money, only Allah knows what they do with it. Is it permissible to eat this candy or not? May Allah reward you.

A2: (A) Visiting graves for anyone other than women is Sunnah because of the Prophet's saying: ﴿ Visit graves for they remind you of the hereafter. ﴾.

(B) It is not permissible to circulate around the grave of a prophet or other people. It is not permissible to put food whether candy or anything else at graves. The same ruling applies to cloth and money. This is considered an act of polytheism if they mean to draw closer to the dead whether they are prophets or not.

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(C) What you have mentioned about the grave is not correct because the graves of Prophets are not known, whether it is that of Prophet Yunus or any others except for the grave of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and the grave of Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham) in Palestine. Whoever claims that the grave of Prophet Yunus or any other prophet is known, is a liar or at least believes liars.

(D) If the grave of Prophet Yunus or others were known, it wouldn't be permissible to exceed the limits or draw closer to him by performing any of these actions, offering candy, going him, taking blessings or asking him for any worldly affairs because Allah (Glory be to Him) says: ﴿ And the mosques are for Allâh (Alone); so invoke not anyone along with Allâh. ﴾ and He also says: ﴿ And if Allâh touches you with harm, none can remove it but He, and if He touches you with good, there is none who can repel His Favor... ﴾

(E) Candy and other kinds of food which are served at graves have no specialty or blessing. It should be taken and distributed to the poor, because it is money abandoned by the owners.

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

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