



The First Question from Fatwa no. 3315

Q1: What is the ruling on offering Salah (Prayer) in Masjids (mosques) that have graves and shrines in them?

A1: It is not permissible for a Muslim to offer Salah in Masjids built on graves. This ruling is based on the evidence that prohibits the building of mosques over graves. Among this evidence is what is confirmed in the Hadith narrated in the Two Books of Sahih (Al-Bukhary and Muslim's Books of Authentic Hadith) on the authority of `A'ishah (may Allah be pleased with her). She said that Um Salamah told the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) about a church she saw in Abyssinia (Ethiopia) and the pictures that were in it. He (peace be upon him) said, ("If a righteous man or righteous servant dies amongst those people, they build a place of worship on his grave, and then they put those pictures in it. They are the worst creatures in the Sight of Allah.") Another is the Hadith recorded by

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the compilers of the Sunan (Hadith compilations classified by jurisprudential themes) on the authority of Ibn `Abbas (may Allah be pleased with them) who said, (The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) cursed women who visit graves and those who build Masjids and put lights on them.) It is recorded in the Two Books of Sahih on the authority of `A'ishah (may Allah be pleased with her) that she narrated that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said ("Allah cursed the Jews and Christians; they made the graves of their prophets places of worship.")

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

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