



The second question from Fatwa No. 7137

Q 2: What is the ruling on a person who builds or participates in building a Masjid (mosque) on top of a dead person's grave and beside other graves? Is it an aspect of Shirk (associating others in worship with Allah) to build a Masjid in this place? What about a person whose job is to decorate or paint this Masjid? What is the ruling on the money that he gets from this job especially if he is in dire need of money?

A: It is authentically narrated that Allah's Messenger (peace be upon him) said: ﴿ [Let there be the curse of Allah upon the Jews and the Christians for they have taken the graves of their Prophets as places of worship.](#) ﴾ It is also authentically narrated that he (peace be upon him) said: ﴿ [Beware of those who preceded you and used to take the graves of their prophets and righteous men as places of worship, so you must not take graves as mosques; I forbid you to do that.](#) ﴾ Likewise, it is narrated that he (peace be upon him) forbade plastering graves, building or sitting on them.

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Accordingly, it is not permissible for a Muslim to do or help doing something which Allah forbids. So, the person who has done or participated in this deed should repent to Allah (may He be Exalted) and remove that Munkar (that which is unacceptable or disapproved of by Islamic law and Muslims of sound intellect) if he can. May Allah forgive and pardon such a person if he repents to Allah sincerely and does good deeds after his repentance!

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

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