



## The Second Question from Fatwa no. 5728

**Q2:** There is a group of people in a neighboring valley called Um Al-Safa'. At the beginning of every summer, they purchase a bull or a cow and slaughter it at Al-Safa'. This happens every year, at the beginning of summer. I see this as an act of Shirk (associating others in worship with Allah), and the reason for this is that they slaughter to protect those who live in the valley from Jinn and devils,

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and other superstitious ideas. They do this at the beginning of the year in one specific place. If it was done anywhere, it would not be a problem, because it would be being performed for Allah. What is the ruling on this, and is it an act of Shirk, and if not, why not?

**A2:** If the situation is as you described and they offer sacrificial animals in this valley for the Jinn, it is major Shirk that takes the person who performs it out of Islam. Allah (may He be Exalted) says: ﴿ Say (O Muhammad, peace be upon him): "Verily, my Salat (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. ﴾ He also says: ﴿ Therefore turn in prayer to your Lord and sacrifice (to Him only). ﴾ And the Prophet (peace be upon him) said, ﴿ "Allah cursed those who sacrificed to other than Allah." ﴾ (Recorded by Muslim in his Sahih [Book of Authentic Hadith])

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

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