#### Chapter on

## Desirability of visiting Masjid Quba' and Al-Baqi`

It is desirable for the person who visits Al-Madinah to visit the Masjid (mosque) of Quba' and to offer Salah (Prayer) there because of the Hadith related in the Two Sahih (authentic) Books of Hadith (i.e. Al-Bukhari and Muslim) on the authority of Ibn 'Umar (may Allah be pleased with them) who said: (The Prophet (peace be upon him) used to visit Masjid Quba', either mounted or on foot, and would offer two Rak'ahs (of supererogatory prayer) in it.) It is related from Sahl ibn Hunayf (may Allah be pleased with him)

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that the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) said: ( If a person purifies themselves at home then goes to Masjid Quba' to offer Salah, they will receive a reward equal to that of performing 'Umrah (lesser pilgrimage).)

It is a Sunnah to visit Al-Baqi' graveyard, the martyrs' graves as well as the grave of Hamzah (may Allah be pleased with him) because the Prophet (may peace be upon him) used to visit and supplicate for them. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: (Visit the graves for they remind you of the Hereafter.) (Related by Muslim)

The Prophet (peace be upon him) used to teach his Sahabah (Companions) to say when they visit graves: (Peace be upon you, inhabitants of the abodes among the Mu'mins (believers) and Muslims. In sha'a-Allah (if Allah wills), we shall join you. We ask Allah for well-being for ourselves and for you) (Related by Muslim from the Hadith of Sulayman ibn Baridah on the authority of his father)

Al-Tirmidhy reported from Ibn 'Abbas (may Allah be pleased with them) that he said:

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(The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon you) passed by the graves at Al-Madinah. He turned his face towards them, and said, 'Peace be upon you, O inmates of the graves. May Allah forgive us and you. You have preceded us, and we are to follow.')

From these Hadiths we deduct that the Shar'y (Islamically lawful) visits to graves are meant to recall the Hereafter, be good to the dead, supplicate for them and ask mercy for them.

As for visiting them to supplicate at their graves or staying there or asking them to fulfill one's needs or to cure the sick or asking Allah (Exalted be He) through them or through their status and so on, this is a condemned Bid'ah which was not legislated by Allah (Exalted be He) or His Messenger (peace be upon him) and was not done by the Salaf (righteous predecessors, may Allah be pleased with them). It is part of Hajr (impious/bad language) which the Prophet (peace be upon him) commanded to avoid, where he says: (Visit the graves, and do not speak Hajr.)

The thing these matters have in common is that they are all Bid'ah. They are only different in categories and degrees, for some of them constitute Bid'ah but are not a form of Shirk (associating others with Allah in His Divinity or worship) such as supplicating Allah (Exalted be He)

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at the graves and asking Him in the name of the right and status of the dead. While others are forms of Major Shirk such as calling upon the dead and seeking their help.

We have already explained them in detail. So, Muslims must be careful and ask their Lord for success and guidance to the truth, for He is the One who guides people and there is no God or Lord except He.

This is the last thing we want to say. Praise be to Allah at the beginning and at the end. Peace be upon His Servant, Messenger and the best of His creation; Muhammad and upon his family, Companions and those who followed him in righteousness until the Day of Recompense.

Source: Fatwas of Ibn Baz

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