Visiting graves on Fridays

The first question of Fatwa no. 7777

Q 1: I have an inquiry regarding a Hadith ascribed to Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) that the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) said: (Whoever visits the graves of their parents or the grave of any of them every Friday will have their sins forgiven and will be recorded as being dutiful to their parents.) Please tell me if there is a specific Du'a' (supplication) to be said by the graves of parents. Should such a visit be paid before Jumu'ah (Friday) Prayer or after it, and is there another special preferred time for doing this on Fridays?

A: First, the Hadith that is mentioned in the question is very Da'if (weak) and can not be used as proof due to its Da'f (weakness) and non-authenticity.

Second, visiting graves is Mashru' (Islamically permissible) at any time and there is no evidence that allocates Fridays or any other days for doing so. However, it is related by Imam Muslim (may Allah be merciful to him) on the authority of Sulayman ibn Buraydah from his father (may Allah be pleased with them both)

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that the latter said: (The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) used to teach them (the Companions) whenever they came out to visit the graveyard to say: 'Al-Salamu `ala ahl-al-diyari min-al-mu'minina wa-al-muslimina, wa inna insha'a Allahu bikum lahiqun. As'al-ul-Laha lana wa-lakum-ul- `afiyah [Peace be upon the inmates of the abodes of the believers and the Muslims, and Allah willing we shall join you. I pray to Allah for well-being for ourselves and for you].') Also, it is narrated on the authority of Ibn `Abbas (may Allah be pleased with them both) that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: (The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) 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.') (Related by Al-Tirmidhy who classed it as Hadith Hasan [good Hadith])

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

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Source: Fatwas of the Permanent Committee

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