



**Q 3: There is a grave of a Waliy (pious person) at which people offer sacrificial animals every year. They do so with the intention of saying supplication and giving charity on behalf of the dead. They even invoke the dwellers of the graves for rain. These ignorant Muslims do not know the ruling on these acts or they may know it but choose to disregard it, so please, give us your Fatwa regarding this issue.**

**A:** All that you mentioned concerning offering sacrificial animals at the grave of the Waliy is an act of Shirk (associating others with Allah in His Divinity or worship). There is a detailed discussion about invoking them (other than Allah) and seeking their help for rain or anything else among similar acts of major Shirk. However, if a person asks Allah (Exalted be He) through their honor and dignity, which some people call Tawassul (supplicating to Allah through a means), then it is an act of Bid` ah (innovation in religion) which is not permissible and is considered a means that leads to Shirk. However, it is permissible for a believer to ask Allah through His Most Beautiful Names and Attributes, through Tawhid (Oneness of Allah) or through the person's good deeds. It is the duty of the ruler to ask anyone who practices major Shirk to repent, otherwise they should be killed, for the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: [﴿"If somebody \(a Muslim\) discards his religion, kill him."﴾](#) Related by Imam Al-Bukhari in his Sahih (Authentic book of Hadith).

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

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