Not permissible to raise Saaliheen to level of Allaah



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Shaykh 'Abdus-Salām Ibn Barjis Āl 'Abdel-Karīm, may Allah have mercy upon him

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[Translated by Qaasim Ali]



In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

So the most complete of the righteous (the Saaliheen) is our Prophet Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ). There has come in authentic narrations from him (the Prophet) (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) that he said: "Do not exaggerate with regards to me as the Christians have exaggerated with regards to the son of Mary ('Eesaa, may peace be upon him), for I am only His (Allaah's) slave. So, call me the slave of Allaah and His Messenger."

And he (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) would also curse the Jews and the Christians when they took the graves of their prophets as places of worship, reprimanding what they did. And this is in the two authentic ones (al-Bukhaaree and Muslim): that Umm Salama saw a church in Abyssinia, inside of which pictures were hanging. So she informed the Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) of that and he, in turn, informed her that they, if a righteous man or pious slave died from amongst them, they would build upon his grave. And like this there are clear, explicit texts that prohibit the raising of the righteous to the level of the Deity (Allaah), Perfect and Exalted is He, and that that is Shirk (associating partners with Allaah in worship) and exiting one from the religion of Allaah.

Furthermore, it is pure belittlement for the righteous. For that reason, the righteous ones from the prophets and other than them are going to free themselves from those who committed shirk with them on the Day of Resurrection. Subsequently ''Eesaa (Jesus) is going to free himself from those who committed shirk with him, as Allaah, Exalted is He, mentions in the Qur'aan regarding that in clear verses. The angels are going to free themselves from those who committed shirk with them. And 'Uzayr is going to free himself from those who committed shirk with him, and so on. Therefore what these people are doing is belittling the righteous and it is a belittlement for the righteous.

Hence when a man came to the Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) and said: "What Allaah and you have willed", he (the Prophet) (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) became angry and said: "Have you made me a rival unto Allaah? Rather, what Allaah alone has willed!" And the one who said this is also the one who said: "Whoever dies while invoking anything as a rival to Allaah, will enter the fire." ³

(Footnotes added by translator.)



¹ Saheeh al-Bukhaaree.

² Reported by An-Nasaaee, Ahmad, and Al-Bukhaaree in Al-Adab Al-Mufrad on the authority of Ibn 'Abbaas, may Allaah have mercy on both. Declared Saheeh (authentic) by Shaykh Al-Albaanee, may Allaah have mercy on him, in Saheeh Al-Adab Al-Mufrad.

Saheeh al-Bukhaaree.