

Prostration before anyone or anything other than Allaah

Article taken and slightly adapted from: alifta.net

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Question: What do you think of the claim of some People that whoever commit themselves to the Message of Muhammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم)¹ and face the Qiblah (Ka`bah-direction faced in Prayer) in Salaah (Prayer) is a Muslim and even if they make Sujood (Prostration) to their Shaykhs, they will not be considered Kaafirs (disbelievers) or be called Mushriks (people who associate others in worship with Allaah). These people even claim that Muhammad ibn `Abdul-Wahhab was wrong when he stated that those who commit polytheistic acts will be consigned to eternal punishment unless they repent. They maintain that the Mushriks among Muslims will be tortured (for a while) then will enter Jannah (Paradise). None of the followers of Muhammad i.e. Muslims will remain eternally in Hell."

Answer: Those who believe in the message of Muhammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم) and in the ordinances of Sharee'ah (Islamic law), and make Sujood to anyone other than Allaah e.g. a Walee (pious man), a dead person, or a Shaykh are considered apostates and Mushriks even if they utter the two testimonies of faith in their Sujood because they act contradictory to their utterances. But they may be excused for their ignorance, and should not be punished until they have been informed. When the evidence is brought forth, they should be given a three-day respite to review the situation in the hope that they may do Tawbah (repentance to Allaah). If they insist on offering Sujood to anyone other than Allaah after being informed, they should be sentenced to death for apostasy, because the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said: **When a Muslim discards his religion, kill him.** (Related by Al-Bukhaaree in his Saheeh (authentic) Book of Hadeeth on the authority of Ibn `Abbas, (رضي الله عنهما)². The Information and the establishment of evidence are just to excuse them before applying the punishment not to call them Kaafirs only after clarifying the matter for them. Indeed, they are called Kaafirs once they make Sujood, vow, or give offerings to anyone other than Allaah. The Qur'aan and the Sunnah (whatever is reported from the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم)) indicated that whoever dies as a Kaafir (disbeliever), will not be forgiven and shall abide in Hell forever, because Allaah (the Exalted) says: [Verily, Allaah forgives not that partners should be set up with Him (in worship), but He forgives except that (anything else) to whom He wills] and

¹ (صلى الله عليه وسلم) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

² (رضي الله عنهما) (rad iyallaahu 'anhumaa) May Allaah the Most High be pleased with them both

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says: [It is not for the Mushrikoon (polytheists, idolaters, pagans, disbelievers in the Oneness of Allaah), to maintain the Mosques of Allaah (i.e. to pray and worship Allaah therein, to look after their cleanliness and their building,), while they witness against their own selves of disbelief. The works of such are in vain and in Fire shall they abide.]

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

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