The fourth question of Fatwa No. 4360:

Q: Is it true that a person who testifies that Allah is the Creator and Provider,

and that Muhammad (peace be upon him) is Allah's Messenger, and performs Salat is a Muslim even if he or she prostrates himself or herself before his sheikh and offers sacrifices for people other than Allah?

A: Prostration and slaughtering for anyone other than Allah is Shirk (associating others in worship with Allah). The people who perform prostration or slaughter for anyone other than Allah after being aware of the ruling of doing so, are Mushriks (one who associates others with Allah in worship) and Kafirs (disbeliever/non-Muslim). Allah will not accept any of their deeds even if they offer Sawm and Salat. The deeds of a Mushrik are rejected. Moreover, if they die in this case, Allah will not forgive them. Allah (may He be Exalted) says: (Verily, Allāh forgives not that partners should be set up with Him (in worship), but He forgives except that (anything else) to whom He wills.) Allah also says, (Verily, whosoever sets up partners (in worship) with Allāh, then Allāh has forbidden Paradise to him, and the Fire will be his abode. And for the Zâlimûn (polytheists and wrong-doers) there are no helpers.) Also Allah (may He be Exalted) says: (But if they had joined in worship others with Allâh, all that they used to do would have been of no benefit to them.) But if he returns to Allah in sincere repentance before death, Allah will forgive him, as Allah (may He be praised) says: (Say: “O ' Ibâdi (My slaves) who have transgressed against themselves (by committing evil deeds and sins)! Despair not of the Mercy of Allâh: verily, Allâh forgives all sins.) The Muslim scholars are unanimously agreed that this Ayah (Qur'anic verse) speaks about repentant people. As for the Ayah (Qur'anic verse) of Surah Al-Nissa' where Allah says: (Verily, Allâh forgives not that partners should be set up with Him (in worship), but He forgives except that (anything else) to whom He wills.) This Ayah speaks about the unrepentant people,

namely, those who died in disbelief and sin. May Allah protect us from that.

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

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