Fatwa No 6154:

Q: I always talk to my mother, father, and friends about some innovations such as praying in masjids (mosques) built around the graves, people supplicating to the dead, or other similar things but most of them say to me: scholars perform salah in these masjids where they see the people doing so and do not comment; are you more knowledgeable?! It is vain to try to convince those people. If one dares to try it, they reply: 'We found our fathers doing this, are you going to reform the universe'. They argue that the grand scholars perform salah in the mosques of Al-Husayn and Al-Sayyidah Zaynab (may Allah be pleased with them). I would say: They (i.e. Al-Husayn and Al-Sayyidah Zaynab)

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are not in Egypt. Taking for granted that they are in Egypt, it is not permissible to supplicate to them instead of Allah (may He be Glorified and Exalted) or to make vows to them, but the outcome is as if I am talking to stones. They call me a disbeliever and other names. I do not know what to do with my parents and you know their due rights. Every time my mother rebukes me, I say to her: Al-Sayyid Al-Badawi and people like him do not possess an atom in the kingdom of Allah (may He be Glorified and Exalted). In reply, she says that they are pious people. She adds other polytheistic beliefs that it is better to avoid saying. Could you tell me what I should do? May Allah reward you.

A: First: It is not permissible to build masjids around graves. It is not permissible to offer Salah in masjids where graves are built. It is also not permissible for a person to supplicate to the dead to bring about benefit or ward off harm. Supplicating them and seeking help from them is an act of disbelief which drives its doer out of Islam. May Allah protect us.

Second: Actions and sayings of the people of knowledge are not legal proof, because many of them may practice innovations. The main source is the Book of Allah and the confirmed Sunnah of the Prophet (peace be upon him).

Third: You should continue calling your parents and friends to the truth and be firm on it. Be patient against bearing harm perhaps Allah will guide them to the truth. Later on they may be helpful to you after their enmity, ridicule, and spite against you. Be kind

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to parents, treat them in the best manner, because Allah says: (And We have enjoined on man (to be dutiful and good) to his parents. His mother bore him in weakness and hardship upon weakness and hardship, and his weaning is in two years - give thanks to Me and to your parents. To Me is the final destination. But if they (both) strive with you to make you join in worship with Me others that of which you have no knowledge, then obey them not; but behave with them in the world kindly, and follow the path of him who turns to Me in repentance and in obedience. Then to Me will be your
May Allah help you succeed and be determined in truth. May Allah guide your parents and other people, for indeed He is Able above everything.

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

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