
JANAZA COMMITTEE REPORT

Existing Scheme, Costing and Proposals

'Every soul shall have a taste of death. And only on the Day of Judgement shall you be paid your full recompense. Only he who is saved far from the Fire and admitted to the Gardens will have attained the object (of Life). For the life of this world is but goods and chattels of deception'. The Holy Quran

19 July

08

Janaza Committee Existing Scheme

Members: Eddie Dole, Mohammad Najeeb and Fahmi Haniffa.

Meetings: To date 6 Meetings for the year.

Existing Scheme

(1) Burial Sites: 9 unused.

The Necropolis Springvale: 5 sites (possibly 3 tiers).

Fawkner Memorial Park: 1 site (possibly 3 tiers)

Bunurong Memorial Park: 3 sites (possibly 3 tiers) (purchased two this year).

See last page for details of burial sites.

(2) USMAA *Janaza* Procedure (with Tamil translation) circulated and updated.

(3) Available to USMAA members (financial and non financial).

(4) Family expected to reimburse cost, if used.

If family has difficulties, USMAA might bear the cost fully or partially.

(5) CBA Account: Present Balance: \$ 5,221.82

(6) Fund Raising:

Sports day: \$1,003.45

Donations: \$2,620.00

(7) Membership List: compiling email addresses to enable quick contact. All Sri Lankan Muslims are encouraged to register. Has made a positive impact.

(8) Special adviser: Bertram Dias, J B Dias Funerals.

Janaza Committee – Site & Service Costs

New Developments - Costs

The revised costs associated with a Janaza are as follows:

| Location | Prepaid burial site | Reservation Fee | Shoring | Interment Fees | Mosque Set - Fee | Imam |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------|----------------|------------------|-------|
| Springvale | \$2987 | \$229 | \$546 | \$1175 | \$700 | \$100 |
| Fawkner | \$2555 | \$195 | | \$975 | \$700 | \$100 |
| Bunurong | \$1600 | | | \$986 | \$700 | \$100 |

Note: Above sites refer to 3 tier burial sites
 Transfer of Janaza costs: \$176.00
 Female janaza: additional cost of \$100.

1. Example of costs in Springvale (as at 15 July 2008):

(a) Prepaid burial site

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Single row with foundations | \$2987.00 |
| Reservation fee | \$229.00 |
| TOTAL | \$3216.00 |

(b) Cost of each tier

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Hopefully 3 tier burials | |
| Per tier \$987/ 3 | \$995.00 |
| Shoring | \$546.00 |
| TOTAL | \$1541.00 |

(c) Prepaid interment fees

| | |
|----------|----------|
| Weekdays | \$986.00 |
|----------|----------|

(d) Lysterfield Mosque

| | |
|---------|----------|
| Set fee | \$700.00 |
|---------|----------|

(e) Total cost of a Janaza (Burial Site and Service)

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| One Tier | \$995.00 |
| Shoring | \$546.00 |
| Interment fee | \$1175.00 |
| Lysterfield fee plus Imam | \$800.00 |
| TOTAL | \$3516.00 |

Note: annual increase of two to three percent in the cost of burial sites.

Janaza Committee Proposal – 2008 / 2009

Proposal

Continue with the existing practical scheme. Under the existing scheme USMAA only provides the **convenience** of making available burial plots. Families who have the ability can repay the cost of the burial site and for those experiencing hardship, the site will be provided free. Should we experiment to absorb burial and service costs?

1. Formalise the scheme:

- (a) Open to USMAA members (financial and non-financial).
- (b) Janaza Committee to maintain updated Membership and email List (financial and non financial).
- (c) Expand JSC activities to Western suburbs – preliminary work done (brother Areeb) with nearly 40 new members enrolled into the USMAA Janaza Scheme. Appoint three coordinators to handle Fawkner and Preston Mosque affairs under the direction of the JSC.

2. Funds

- (a) Sports day – Cricket.
- (b) Annual Contribution: \$25 for site purchases and or service cost. Funds to meet one service cost already collected in the Western Suburbs. Coordinators for collections.
- (c) Special appeal, if necessary. Encourage a culture to make contributions in case of a janaza in the community.
- (d) Maintain cash for on the spot expenses (\$500 with head of the JSC).
- (e) Maintain two bank accounts for janaza funds (for purchase of burial sites and emergency funds for services).

3. Sites

- (a) Maintain 6 sites in Springvale and three in Fawkner. Contributions for the purchase of an additional site already collected in the Western suburbs.
- (b) Maintain three burial site at Bunurong Memorial Park.
- (c) Maintain funds to replenish if and when sites are used.

- (d) Separate sites for males and females.

4. Volunteers

JSC to maintain a shortlist of volunteers who can make themselves available at very short notice in the Northern, Western and South Eastern suburbs.

5. Sandak

- (a) Organise a Sandak. 40 steps to burial site.

6. Member entitlement

- a. Convenience of burial site under a user pay system unless hardship. Alternatively, as recommended below.

7. Open Day - Muslim Ladies information / education

- (a) In conjunction with the Imam of the Lysterfield Mosque, organize an information and Open Day visit to the Springvale Cemetery Muslim section.

8. Recommendation

The existing scheme has served us well without financial and operational problems. Based on recent community suggestions and responses, the Janaza Committee recommends that we consider experimenting the expansion of the existing scheme to absorb the **cost of burials** and **service** based on income derived from annual contributions and donations from the community. Members to be advised that the janaza scheme has no guarantees.

If we were to adopt the new scheme on an experimental basis:

- a. The JSC should maintain a Janaza Scheme Membership list
- b. Electronic collection of donations and contributions (can be used to collect annual membership fees and functions fees as well)
- c. Alternatively, implement a direct debit system of a monthly charge being the Membership fees, function fees and contributions to the janaza scheme
- d. Maintain two accounts for Purchase Costs and Service Costs
- e. \$500 cash with the Head of the JSC to meet on the spot expenses.
- f. Two JSC members together with the Treasurer to be signatories to the Service Cost account.
- g. Maintain a list of volunteers.

Note: A copy of this Report and the updated USMAA *Janaza* Fund Information Sheet will be mailed to all members shortly, *insha allah*.
