

Janaazah

The Final

Rites

*“Death is a glass from which every man shall drink,
and it is a door through which every man shall have to
pass.”*

أين ما تكونوا يدرككم الموت ولو كنتم في بروج مشيِّدة

*“Wherever you are, death will overtake you even if you
lock yourselves in lofty towers.”*

Al Nisa Verse 68

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ISLAMIC COUNCIL OF VICTORIA

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In the Name of Allah, Most Compassionate, Ever-Merciful

Workshop Objectives

As a participant of this workshop, you will:

- Gain basic practical knowledge relating to the Fiqh of Janaazah.
- Gain insights into the etiquette of visiting one who is ill and on the verge of death.
- Understand the obligations of a Muslim towards the deceased.
- Acquire the theory and practical knowledge on ghusl (washing) and kafan (shrouding,)
- Acquire the theory and practical knowledge on Salah tul Janaazah.
- Gain insight on matters relating to the burial arrangement.
- Understand the obligations and conditions relating to Wasiyyah/Bequests.

Introduction

Each Muslim who believes in Allah and the last day
has to prepare for the day of their own departure
and their loved ones.

For indeed this worldly life is nothing but a transit station leading to eternity,
Insha'Allah leading to the everlasting pleasure of Allah
And to the eternal life in Paradise.
Allah Ta'ala mentions in the Holy Qur'an:

كُلُّ نَفْسٍ ذَائِقَةُ الْمَوْتِ ۗ وَإِنَّمَا تُوَفَّقُونَ أُجُورَكُمْ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ ۚ فَمَنْ زُحِرَ عَنِ النَّارِ وَأُدْخِلَ الْجَنَّةَ فَقَدْ
فَازَ ۗ وَمَا الْحَيَاةُ الدُّنْيَا إِلَّا مَتَاعُ الْغُرُورِ

And only on the Day of Resurrection shall you be paid your reward in full. And whoever is removed from the fire and admitted to paradise, this person is indeed successful. The life of this world is only the enjoyment of deception.”

[Al-Qur'an 3:185].

كُلُّ نَفْسٍ ذَائِقَةُ الْمَوْتِ ۗ ثُمَّ إِلَيْنَا تُرْجَعُونَ

“Every soul shall have the taste of death then unto us you shall be returned.

[Al-Qur'an 29:57]

Key Words

Fard-Kifaayah	Refers to the obligations of Muslims. It means if some of the community performs it, the responsibility falls away from the others, but if none of the community performs it, the entire community will be considered sinners for not doing their duty.
Janaazah	Refers to the dead whilst lying on the bier
Mayt or May'yit	Refers to the dead male
May'tah or May'yitah	Refers to the dead female
Munfarid	Refers to one who performs salah alone
Sunnah	Refers to actions and utterances which the Prophet (SAW) did or actions which others did which the Prophet (SAW) condoned
Wajib	Compulsory

Obligations of a Muslim

As Muslims we should know our duties/responsibilities towards the dead person.

What are our obligations as Muslims towards the deceased?

- We should wash him/her;
- We should shroud/kafan him/her;
- We should perform Salah on him/her;
- We should bury him/her.

The above four mentioned duties are FARD-KIFAAYAH upon the Muslims.

The reward of performing the abovementioned obligations belongs to those who perform it.

Etiquettes to Observe

What to do for the Dying Person

When a person is on the verge of dying, it is Sunnah:

- To let him/her lie on his/her right side; with his/her face in the direction of the Qibla, if possible or convenient; OR
- To let him/her lie on his/her back with his/her feet towards the Qibla; with a cushion or two placed under his/her head so that his/her face can be in the direction of Qibla;
- That the best and most pious of the family and friends should be present and pray for his/her forgiveness and that Allah should facilitate his/her hour of death;
- That perfume should be applied or air freshener which has a nice fragrance should be sprayed in the room; or that luban/frankincense or incense sticks be burnt.
- To recite the Shahadah to a person who is near to death.
 - It is reported on the authority of Abu Sa'eed Al-Khudri that he said that "The Messenger of Allah SAW said:

"لَقِّنُوا مَوْتَاكُمْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ"

"Remind your dying to pronounce the words "LAA I'LAA'HA IL'LAL LAA " (None has the right to be worshipped except Allah"

This is an authentic Hadith.

When a person is on the verge of dying, it is highly recommended:

- To remind him of and recite the words **LAA I'LAA'HA IL'LAL LAAH**; so that it may be his last words before he leaves the world. Once he has recited it, it should not be recited for him again unless he has uttered something else after it;
- That a person in the state of Janaabah and that the female who has her menstruation should not be present unless necessary;
- That all items which the angels dislike e.g. Musical instruments and photos should be removed from the room;
- Recite Surah Yaseen and Surah Ra'ad; for it brings easiness and blessings for the dying person.

Note:

- The dying person must at all times have high hopes that Allah will forgive him/her and that he/she will definitely receive the forgiveness, pleasure and mercy of his/her creator the Most Merciful.

- It is incumbent upon the sick person to think well of his Lord:
This is based on the Hadith of Jabir ibn 'Abdillah who said: "I heard the Prophet saying:

"لا يموتن أحدكم إلا وهو يحسن بالله الظن"
"None of you should die without thinking well of Allah"

What to do when the person has passed away

After the soul has departed, it is Sunnah:

- To close the eye lids of the deceased and to supplicate for him/her;
It is reported on the authority of Umm Salamah that she said; "The Messenger of Allah (saw) came to Abu Salamah (as he died). His eyes were fixedly open. He closed them and then said:

"إنَّ الرُّوحَ إِذَا قَبِضَ تَبِعَهُ البَصَرُ"
"When the soul is taken away, the sight follows it."

- To cover the entire deceased's body with a garment.
It is reported on the authority of Aisha that she said: "The Messenger of Allah (SAW) was covered with a Yemeni cloak (made from linen or cotton)."
This is an authentic Hadith.
- To hasten the preparation of the deceased for burial and to take it out quickly.
It is reported on the authority of Abu Hurairah from the Prophet SAW that he said:

"أسرعوا بالجنائز فإن تك سالحة فخير تقدّمونها وإن تك سوى ذلك فشرّ تضعونه عن رقابكم"
"Hurry with the dead body for it was righteous, you are forwarding it to welfare; and if it was otherwise, then you are putting off an evil thing from your necks."

- Hastening to pay the debt of the deceased:
It is reported on the authority of Abu Hurairah: "The Messenger of Allah said:

"نفس المؤمن معلقة بدينه حتى يقضى عنه"
"The soul of the Believer is attached to his debt until it is paid for him"

- It is incumbent upon the kin of the deceased to be patient, to accept Allah's Qadar and to say: "Innaa Lillaahi wa inna llaahi raji'oon" (Truly to Allah we belong and truly, to Him we shall return)."

"إنما الصّبر عند الصّدمة الأولى"
"Verily, patience is at the first stroke of calamity."

- To recite the following prayer:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ وَعَلَى مِلَّةِ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لَهُ (ها) وارْفَعْ دَرَجَتَهُ (ها) فِي الْمَهْدِيِّينَ؛ وَاخْلُفْهُ (ها) فِي عَقْبِهِ (ها) فِي الْغَابِرِينَ، وَاغْفِرْ لَنَا وَلَهُ (ها) يَا رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ، وَاغْفِرْ لَهُ (ها) فِي قَبْرِهِ (ها) وَنُورِ لَهُ (ها) فِيهِ يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ

Bis'mil'laahi wa'ala mil'la'ti ra'soo'ilil'laahi sol lal laahu alayhi wa'sal'lam.
Al'laa'hum'magh'fir la'hoo\haa, war'fa'a da'ra'ja'ta'hoo\haa fil mah'diy'yeen,
wakh'luf'hu\haa fee a'qi'bi'hee\haa fil ghaa'bireen, wagh'fir lanaa wa'la'hoo\haa yaa rab'bal aala'meen, waf'sah la'hoo\haa fee qab'ri'hee\haa, wa'nauw'wir la'hoo\haa feehi yaa ar'ha'mar raahimeen.

"In the name of Allah and in accordance with the religion of Islam. O Allah! Forgive him/her and elevate his/her rank amongst those thy has guided, take over his/her place in looking after his/her affairs and of those he/she left behind. Forgive us and forgive him/her O Lord of the worlds. O Allah! Widen his/her grave and fill it with light O Most Merciful."

What is forbidden for the family of the deceased?

- Wailing

It is reported on the authority of Abu Malik Al-Ash'ari that the Prophet SAW said:

"أربع في أمتي من أمر الجاهلية لا يتركوهن: الفخر في الأحساب، والطعن في الأنساب، والإستسقاء بالنجوم، والنياحة"
"Among my people there are four characteristics belonging to the (pre-Islamic period of ignorance) which they do not abandon: Boasting of high rank, reviling other peoples' genealogies, seeking rain by stars and wailing."

And he further said:

"النَّائِحَةُ إِذَا لَمْ تَتُبْ قَبْلَ مَوْتِهَا تَقَامُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ وَعَلَيْهَا سُرْبَالٌ مِنْ قَطْرَانَ، وَدَرَعٌ مِنْ جَرَبٍ"
"If the wailing woman does not repent before she dies, she will be made to stand on the Day of Resurrection wearing a garment of pitch and a chemise of mangle"

This is an authentic Hadith

- Striking one's cheeks and tearing one's garments

It is reported on the authority of 'Abdullah that he said: "The Messenger of Allah (SAW) said:

"ليس منا من ضرب الخدود، وشقّ الجيوب، ودعا بدعوى الجاهلية"
"He is not one of us (one among the Ummah of Islam) who beat the cheeks or tore the front opening of the shirt or uttered the slogans of the (the days of) the (ignorance)."

This is an authentic Hadith

- Shaving one's head

It reported on the authority of Abu Burdah ibn Abi Moosa that he said: "Abu Moosa was afflicted with grave pain, and he became unconscious, and his head was in the lap of a lady of his household. One of the women of his household wailed. He (Abu Musa) was unable (because of weakness) to say anything to her. But when he recovered, he said: "I have no concern with one with whom the Messenger of Allah (SAW) has no concern, verily, the Messenger of Allah (SAW) has no concern with a woman who wails loudly, shaves her hair and tears (her garment in grief)." This is an authentic Hadith

- Dishevelled the hair

It is reported on the authority of a woman from among those who took the pledge of allegiance, that she said: "Among the pledges which the Messenger of Allah (SAW) took from us about the virtue was that we would not disobey him in (virtue): that we would not scratch our faces, nor wail, nor tear the front of our garments nor dishevel our hair." This is an authentic Hadith

Duty 1: To Wash the Mayt

What to do for the Mayt/May'tah before washing?

Immediately After the Death:

- Take a wide piece of cloth and tie it around the head and jawbone;
- Gently loosen the joints e.g. Fingers, elbows, feet, knees and shoulders;
- Place the body on the ablution bier (normally at the mosque)
- Ensure that the feet are in the direction of the Qibla;
- Remove all the clothing from the body and cover the whole body with a sheet;
- Place the hands on the chest, the right hand on the left;
- Inform the family and friends of the death and the time of the Janaazah;
- Obtain a medical/death and burial certificates;
- Take this certificate to the officials of the graveyard where the deceased will be buried (where you will be asked to pay a fee);

Note: It is advisable to make photocopies of the death certificate and other related documents and to keep it in safe custody in case it is needed in the future.

Ghusl/Washing

Who should perform Ghusl?

- **Sunnah:** Performed by a minimum number of people; only the person who is going to wash the deceased and his/her necessary helpers should only be present;
- **Recommended:** The Wali (legal male guardian) should be present for male deceased;
- **Male or Female:** A male deceased is being washed by the males; the female by females; this is preferable, although a husband may wash his wife and the wife may wash her husband.
- **Spouse:** The spouse has a greater right than others (to prepare the deceased for burial. It is reported on the authority of Aisha that she said: "The Messenger of Allah (SAW) returned from Al-Baqee Cemetery and found me suffering from a headache and I was saying: "My head!" And he replied: "No, "Aisha. My head!" Then he said:

ما ضرك لو مت قبلي، ففمت عليك، فغسلتك، وكفنتك، وصليت عليك، ودفنتك

"Why do you worry, were you to die before me, I will ghusl you and enshroud you, pray for you and bury you?"

This Hadith is Hasan

- **Minor child;** for which a person has no sexual urge may be washed by either sex
- **Relatives:** Best for the nearest of the relatives to perform the Ghusl
-

Note: The male person who undertakes the Ghusl is called Ghaasil and the female the Ghaasilah.

Where should Ghusl be performed

In a secluded place

How should Ghusl be performed

Prepare the room and required items:

- Burn incense sticks or frankincense or spray the room with good smelling air freshener;
- Ensure that there is SUFFICIENT washing cloths/rags and towels; normally six pieces of cloth the size of a face-cloth for the washing of each private part and three washing cloths/rags (cut from the role of linen (calico));
- Ensure that buckets of water (hot if necessary) are brought in the room; see that it is placed on something high away from the corpse;
- Ensure that there are enough jugs or beakers to scoop water with.

Prepare the Mayt:

- Place the mayt on an ablution bier or any similar platform suitable for washing;
- Place his feet in the direction of the Qibla;
- Ensure that the head section of the ablution is higher than the feet section; so that water may flow freely from the side of the feet;
- Place your right hand behind the back of the mayt and bend him/her gently and slowly to a sitting position;
- Press down hard on the stomach in order to discharge any excrete which may be inside the mayt;
- Ensure that enough water is poured over the sheet at the private parts; so that the excrete which may possibly emerge may flow away easily;
- Let the mayt lie again on his/her back;

Repeat the above process three times

The body should be washed three times, five times or more with water, and Sidr, and with camphor in the final wash.

It is reported on that on the authority of Umm 'Atiyyah Al-Ansariyyah that she said: "The Messenger of Allah SAW came to us while we were washing the body of his daughter and said:

اغسلنها ثلاثا أو خمسا أو أكثر من ذلك إن رأيتهن ذلك، بماء وسدر، واجعلوا في الآخرة كما فورا، فإذا فرغتن فاذنني

"Wash her with water and Sidr three times, five times or more, if you deem it necessary, and add camphor or something like it to the final wash, then when you have finished, notify me."

So, when we had finished, we informed him **and** he gave us his Izar and said: "Shroud her in it (i.e. his Izar)." In another narration she added. "...and we combed her hair and divided into three sections."

Note: Each time the Ghaasil is finished with the process, he lets the Mayt lie again on his back.

Washing the private parts:

Genitals:

- Wrap a piece of cloth over the left hand;
- Place the hand under the covering sheet;
- Wash the genitals three times;
- For females, use a different piece of cloth each time;
- Wash more than three times if necessary; always end with an uneven number;
- Ensure that enough water is poured over the sheet covering the private parts;

Anus:

- Wrap a piece of cloth over the left hand;
- Wash the anus exactly as you would do in the Istinja;
- Ensure that enough water is poured over the sheet covering the private parts; so that the excrete or dirt that may possibly emerge may flow away;
- Repeat this process three times;
- At the third washing; the Ghaasil looks at the cloth and if contaminated with Najis/impurities, he repeats the washing of the anus until it shows clean;
- Use a new piece of cloth each time; always end with an uneven number.

Note: At all times take special care that the deceased private parts are covered, for it is forbidden to leave it uncovered, to look at it and to touch it.

Washing the Mouth/Nostrils:

- Using clean hands, take a wash rag, wrap it over the index finger;
- Clean the teeth without opening the mouth and also clean the nostrils;

Performing the Ablution/Wudu:

- Do not let water enter the mouth while performing the Wudu;
- Wash the visible parts of the mouth and nostrils;
- The Ghaasil when he comes to the washing of the face while giving wudu, he should make niyyah in his heart that he is giving wudu to the mayyit
- It is Sunnah to recite the following Niyyah of the Wudu:

نويت الوضوء عن هذا الميت (هذه الميتة) لله تعالى

Nawaytul wudu'a an haa'thal may'yi'ti (haa'thi'hil may'yi'ta'ti) lil'laahi ta'aalaa.

"I intend to give wudu to this male corpse (this female corpse) for the sake of Allah."

Washing the entire body:

- Take a washing cloth and soap and start washing the Mayt;
- Wash the head, ears, face and neck.
- Wash the right side of the body; right down till the right foot
- Begin the washing of the deceased from the right side.

It is reported on the authority of Umm 'Atiyah that she said: "The Prophet SAW said:

إيدان بيمينها، ومواضع الوضوء منها
"Begin with right side, and with the parts which are washed in ablution."

This is an authentic Hadith

- Wash the left side of the body right down till the left foot;
- Turn the Mayt on its left side;
- Wash the right side of the back right down to the right foot;
- Turn the Mayt on its right side;
- Wash the left side of the back right down to the left foot;
- Let the body lie on its back;
- Rinse the whole body by pouring the water from the head down to the feet;
- Always start from the right side;

Note: Always start from the right side. Ensure that the body is free from all soapy particles and foam and that the bier has been rinsed clean from all soapy particles.

The Final Rinse:

It is Sunnah to start the final rinsing by making the following Niyyah

نويت أداء الغسل عن هذا الميت (هذه الميتة) لله تعالى
Naiway'tu a'daa'al ghus'li an haa'thal may'yi'ti (haa'thi'hil may'yi'ta'ti) lil'laahi ta'aalaa
"I intend to perform the Ghusl for this dead male (dead female) for the sake of Allah"

- Fill a bucket with water
- Add to it a very small amount of camphor;
- Rinse the whole body with the camphorate water;
- Ensure that the water flows over the whole body;
- Start the rinsing from the head, then the right side of the body right down to the left foot;
- Rinse the left side of the body right down to the left foot;
- Tilt the body to the left side; rinse the right side of the body right down to the right foot;
- Tilt the body to its right side; rinse the left side of the body right down to the left foot;
- Sunnah: To perform this procedure of rinsing three times;
- Recommended: To make Niyyah that this rinsing is meant for the Ghusl of the deceased.

Note: It is this rinsing of the body that is the most important and obligatory part of the Ghusl. All the other washing that was done before are Sunnah. If a person is unsure of the camphor to be added to the rinsing water, it will be advisable to rinse the body with pure water (without the camphor) and this rinsing will be considered the obligatory Ghusl, where after the body will be rinsed with camphor water.

Drying the Mayt:

- Dry the body with a clean towel
- Start from the head right down till the feet;
- Dry the ablution bier at the same time;
- Cover the body with a dry sheet;
- Comb the hair;

- In the case of female, it is Sunnah to braid the hair into three plaits; one on each side of the head and the other in the middle; all placed backwards;
- Place any loose hair back in the shroud.

Important Notes:

- The above steps of performing the GHUSL are the perfect manner of doing it.
- The simplest manner to perform the GHUSL is to pour clean, pure water over the whole body after the removal of all impurities.
- Perform TAYAMMUM either before or after the GHUSL in the following circumstances:
 - If the Mayt is not circumcised be it a minor or a major;
 - If the body was bandaged and it is impossible to remove the bandage.
 -

Duty 2: Kafan/Shrouding

The second duty to be performed for the Mayt is to wrap the body in a shroud/kafan. This step is performed after the ghusl/bath.

- The kafan consists of three Lifaafahs/Lafaa'if (wrappings).
- It is preferred for the shroud to be white:
It is reported on the authority of 'Abdullah Ibn 'Abbas that he said: "The Messenger of Allah (SAW) said:

اليسوا من ثيابكم البيضاء، فإنها من خير ثيابكم، وكفنوا فيها موتاكم
"Wear your white clothes, for they are among the best of your garments and shroud your dead in them"

This is an authentic Hadith

Males Kafan/Shroud

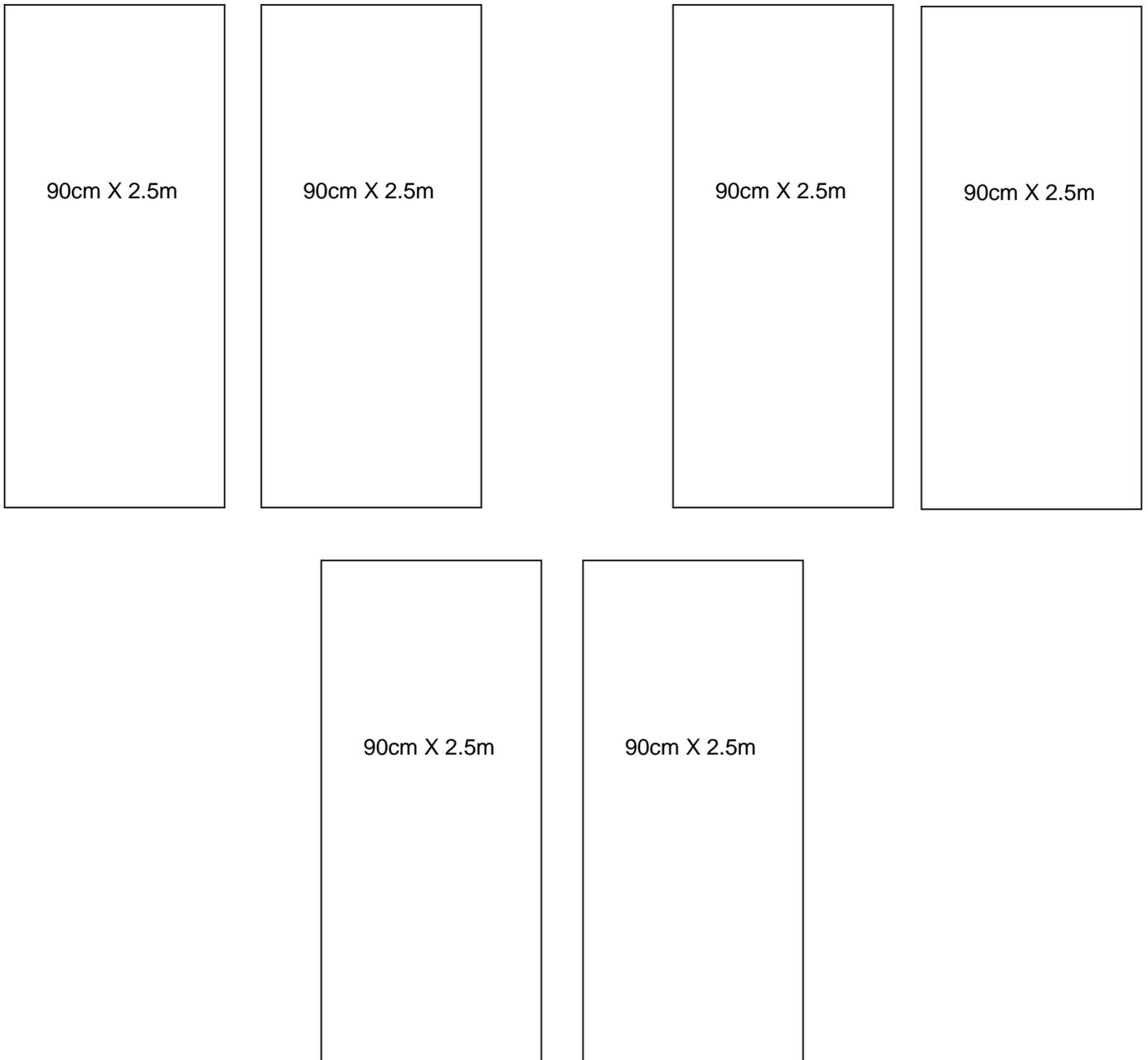
- Cloth/Calico measuring approximately 22.5m to 25m
 - Cut into six equal pieces (each measuring 2.5m)
 - Stitch the length of every two pieces together
- Three or five strips of Calico:
 - Two strips >> 0.5m x 4cm
 - Three strips >> 1.5 x 4cm
- 750g of rolled cotton wool (normally measuring 90cm in width)
- Some Hanoot (A mixture consisting of refined camphor, frankincense, dried rose leaves etc.)

The Three Lafaa'if/Lifaafahs (Wrappings)

- The stitched calico for every two pieces will form three LAFAA'IF/wrappings (singular LIFAAFAH)
- Each LIFAAFAH measures 2.5m X 1.8m
- Each LIFAAFAH can be reduced to 2.5m X 1.35m for a very thin person

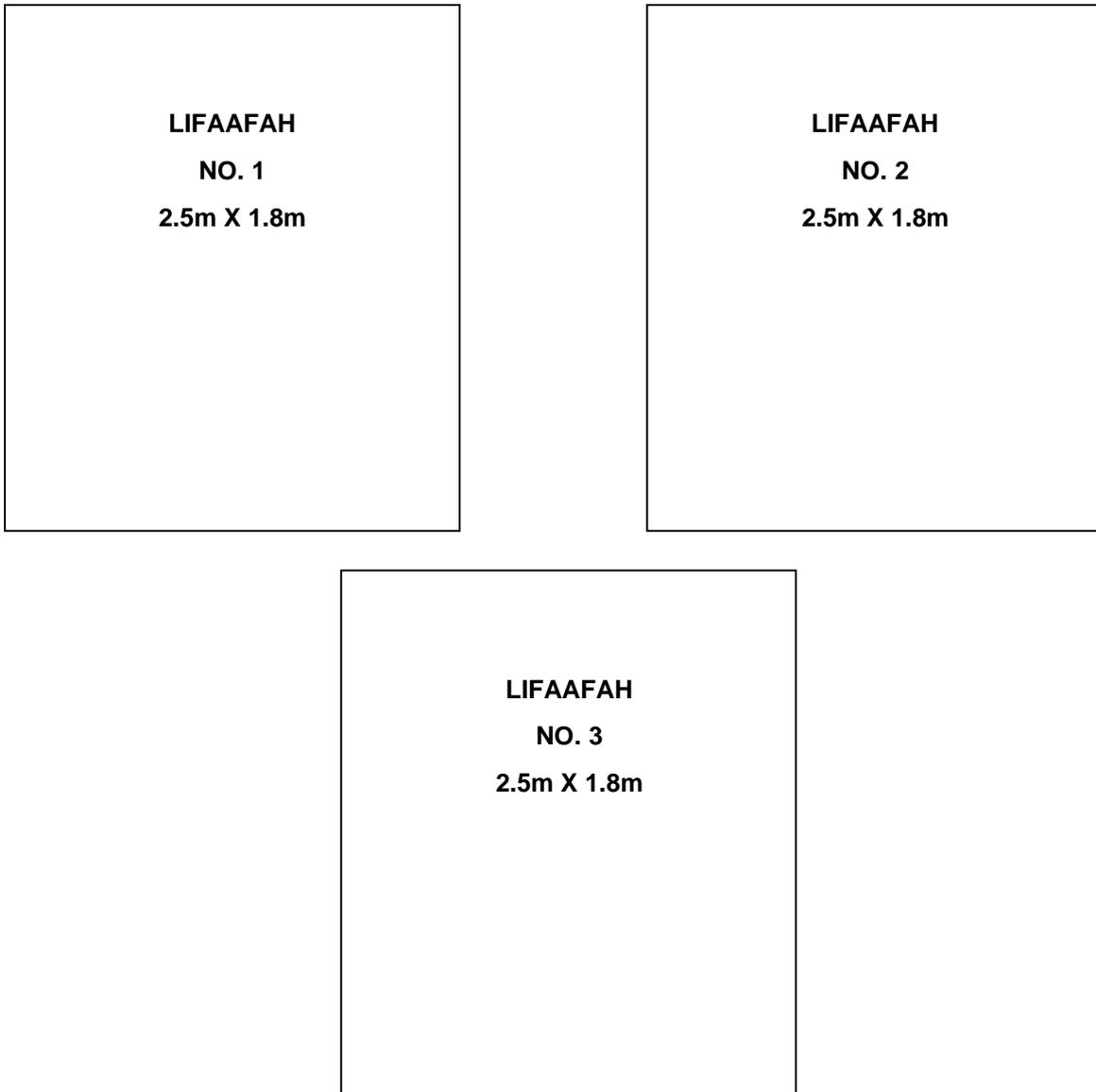
Preparation/Cutting of the Male's Kafan/Shroud

Illustration 1



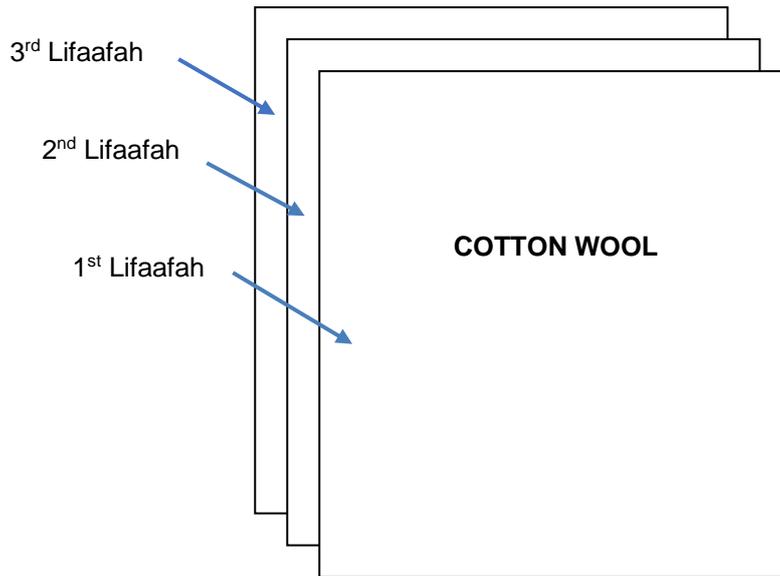
Note: The width of the normal calico (cotton material) is 90 cm. cut six even pieces from the roll of material; each piece the length of 2.5m as illustrated above. Stitch/join each two pieces length-wise together.

Illustration 2



Note: After joining/stitching each two pieces together, there will be three pieces in total. Each piece will be 2.5m X 1.8m in size, as illustrated above. Each of these three pieces is called a LIFAAFAH (A wrapping/wrapper).

Illustration 3



Assembling of the Males Kafan/Shroud

Preparing the Lifaafah

- Spread one of the lifaafahs out on the ground;
- Ensure that the fringe side is on the upper side
- Sprinkle/strew hanoot on the lifaafah
- Ensure that the corners of the lifaafah are exactly on the right corners of the first lifaafah
- Sprinkle hanoot on the second lifaafah
- Place the third lifaafah on the second lifaafah ; ensure that the corners are exactly on the right corners of the second lifaafah
- Take a piece of cotton wool; the size of the width and length of the back of the Mayt;
- Place the cotton wool on the area of the lifaafah where the back of the Mayt will rest; as illustrated in Figure: XXX
- Sprinkle/scatter hanoot and atar (non-alcohol perfume) on theLifaafah and the cotton wool.

Preparing the Mayt

- Place the Mayt in the middle of the kafan; with his back on the area of the cotton wool;
- Ensure that there is sufficient kafan at the head or feet;
- Take pieces of cotton wool with hanoot spread over it;
- Place the hanoot over the hands, feet, knees, elbows, under and over the shoulders over the ears and on the head, face and over the private parts;
- Place the hands on the chest, the right hand over the left one;
- Sprinkle atar over the kafan and the cotton wool.

Closing the Kafan

- Fold the left side/flap of the first lifaafah (the one nearest to the body) tightly over the right side of the body; and then, the left tightly over the left;
- Repeat the same steps for the second and third lifaafah;
- Bring the head end of the kafan together and tie it with one of the smaller strips (tie the knots in such a way as to make it easy to be untied);
- Bring the feet end of the kafan together; tie it with one of the smaller strips;
- Take a third strip and fasten around the middle of the kafan;
- For a big sized person (very stout), use more than three strips to tie the kafan.

Female Kafan/Shroud

What to Prepare

For an average female:

- Approximately 25m of calico (cotton material)
- 750gms of cotton wool
- Hanoot (refined camphor, frankincense, oriental frankincense, dry roses etc)
- Some atar (non-alcohol perfume)

The female Kafan/shroud consists of the following pieces:

- Two lifaafahs
- A Qamees (long shirt/gown)
- An izaar (skirt)
- A khimaar (head scarf)

How to prepare the Kafan

The Lifaafah

- Use normal cotton material (calico) of 90cm in width
- Cut the cotton material into four even pieces; each measuring 2.5m (Refer to Figure XX)
- Stitch every two pieces together in length; resulting in two large pieces;
- Each piece is called a lifaafah/wrapping; measuring 2.5m X 1.8m;
- For a very thin person, reduce the measurement to 2.5m X 1,35m;

The Qamees

- Cut a piece of a piece of cotton material that is twice the size of the deceased person;
- Normally, the length of 4m would be sufficient for a person of normal height;
- Fold the piece of material in the middle of the length;
- **For the neck:** Cut a neck opening in the middle of the fold; make sure it is big enough for the head to go through;
- **For the sleeves:** Cut two equal pieces from the roll of calico; each 90cm in length;
- Do not stitch the Qamees (the sides nor the underpart of the sleeves)

The Izaar

- Cut a piece of cotton material; measuring 1.5m in length;
- This is turned/roll round the middle of the middle of the body from the naval down like a skirt.

The Khimaar

This is a scarf to cover the head.

- Use any white scarf; preferably a rectangle scarf;
- Turn the Khimaar over the head, mouth and nose after cotton wool has been placed over it.

Preparation/Cutting of the Female's Kafan/Shroud

Illustration 1

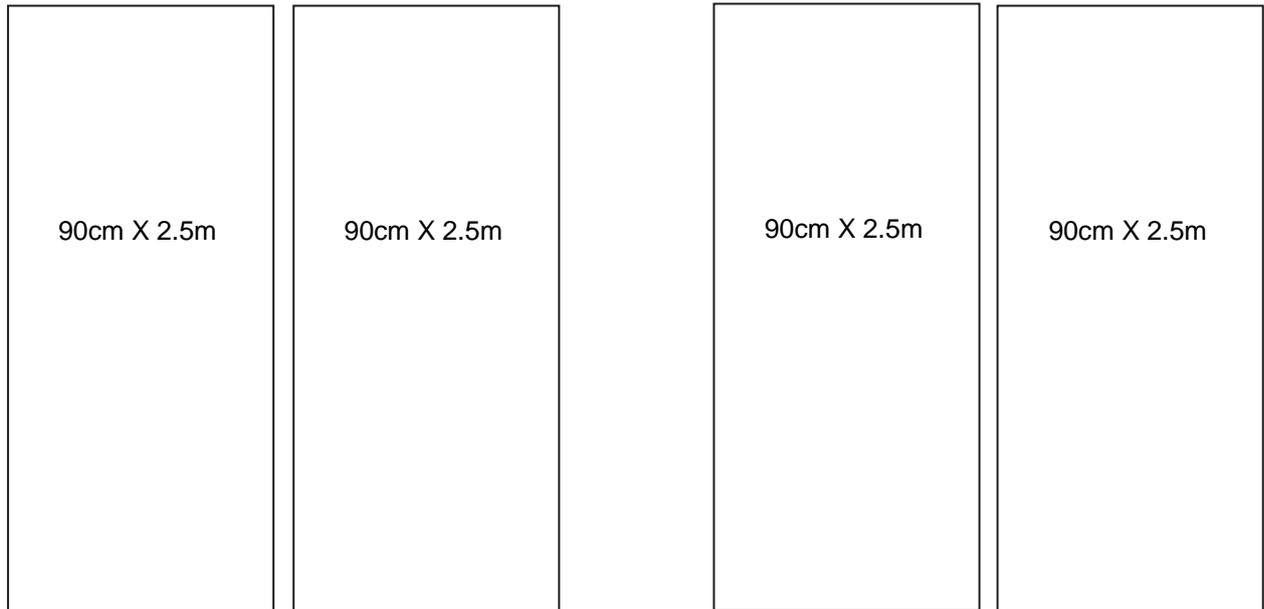
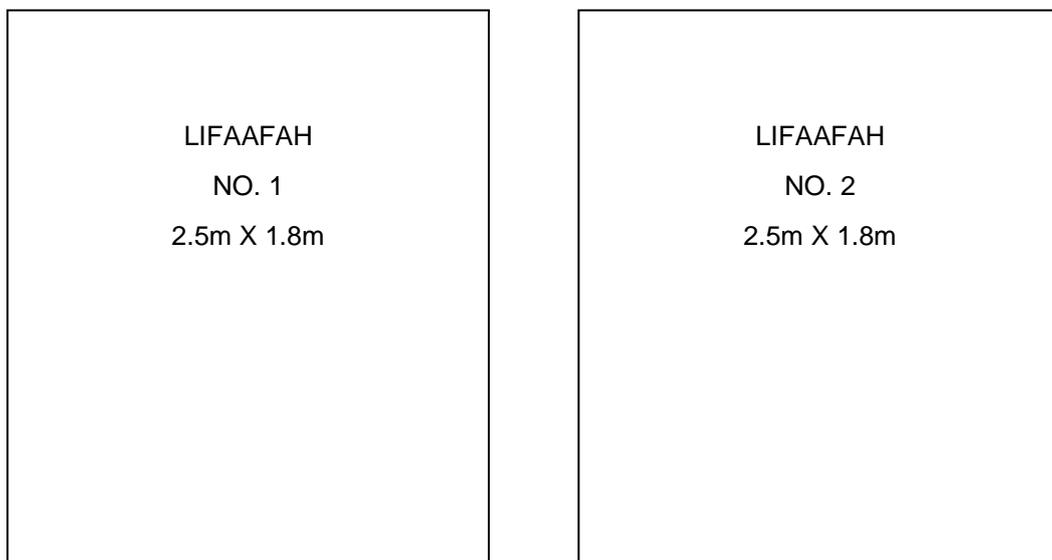


Illustration 2



Note: The width of the normal calico (cotton material) is 90cm. Cut four even pieces from the role of the material, each piece measuring the length of 2.5m as illustrated above. Stitch/join each two pieces length-wise together. After joining/stitching two pieces together, there will be two pieces; each large piece will be 2.5 x 1.8m in size as illustrated above. This is called lifaafah/wrapper/wrapping.

Illustration 3

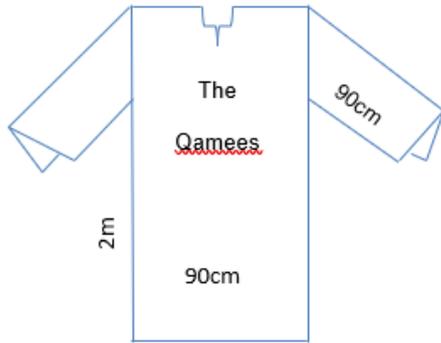


Illustration (A)



Illustration (B)

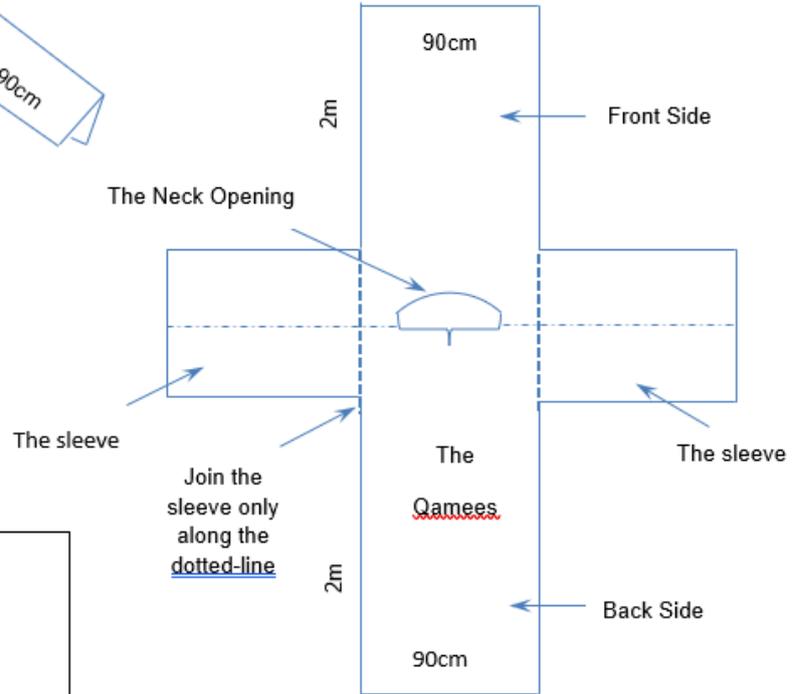
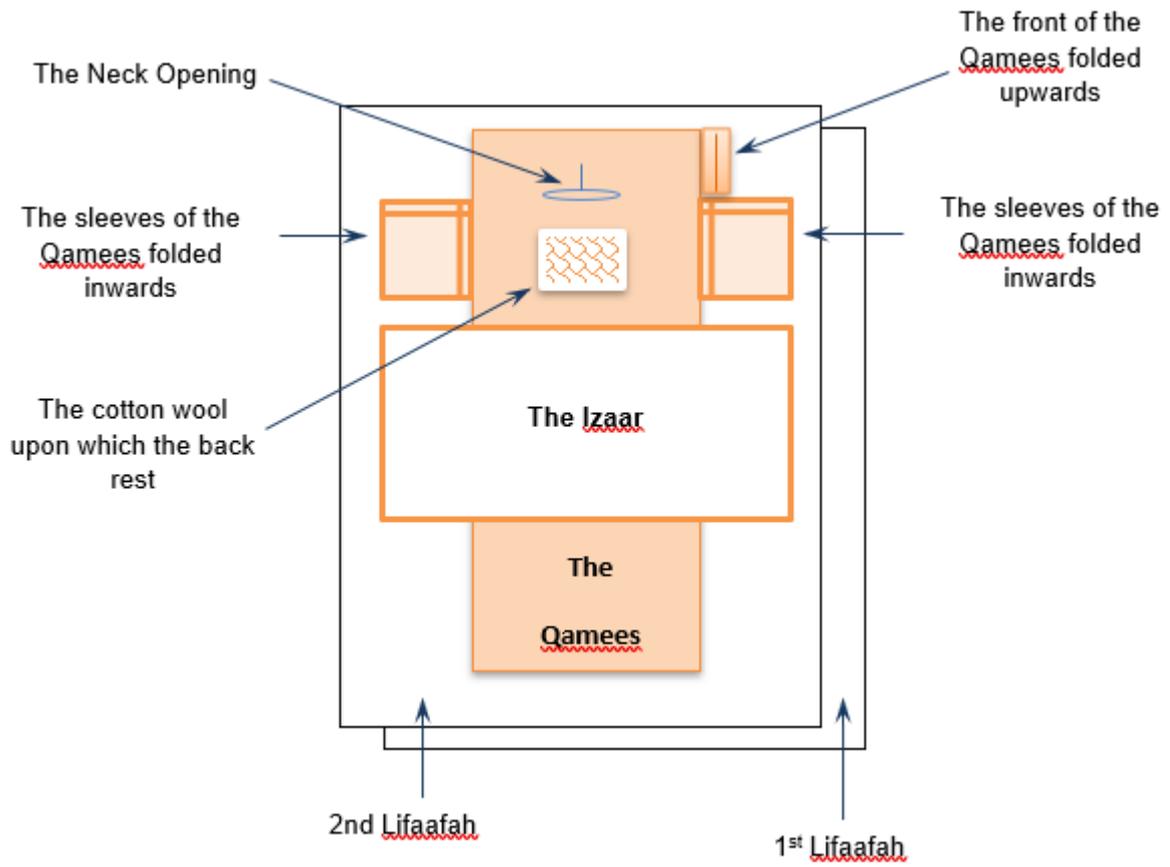


Illustration (C)

Illustration 4



Kafan

Preparing the Kafan

- Place the first lifaafah spread out on the ground with the fringe side showing to the top;
- Spread some hanoot over it;
- Place the second lifaafah on the first one;
- Spread it out so that each corner is positioned exactly on top of the first lifaafah;
- Place the Qamees on the second lifaafah;
- Fold both sleeves of the Qamees twice or thrice inwards towards the Qamees;
- Fold the front side of the Qamees right up till the neck opening;
- Take some cotton wool; measuring the size of the length and breadth of the back of the may'tah;
- Cover the whole area of the Qamees where the back of the may'tah will rest with cotton wool;
- Place the izaar just below the cotton wool;
- Sprinkle some hanoot over the cotton wool; the Qamees, the izaar and the rest of the Kafan; then sprinkle some atar over them.

Preparing the May'tah

- Place the May'tah on her back in the middle of the Kafan;
- Ensure that the back rest on the area where the cotton wool was placed;
- Ensure that the neck opening is parallel to the neck;
- Sprinkle hanoot on the cotton wool and place them on private parts and on the knees;
- Bring the left side of the izaar over to the right and fold it tightly under the may'tah;
- Put the neck of the may'tah through the neck opening;
- Bring the folded front part of the Qamees downwards;
- Sprinkle hanoot on the cotton wool and place them on the feet; hands, elbows, shoulders, under the armpits and on the head and face;
- Place the hands and arms in the sleeves and fold the ends of the sleeves over the hands;
- Place the hands on the chest; the right hand on the left;
- Cover the head, mouth and nose with the Khimaar/scarf.

Closing the Kafan

- Bring the left flap of the lifaafah nearest to the body tightly over the body;
- Bring the right side over the left;
- Repeat the same steps with the second lifaafah;
- Bring the head end of the Kafan together and fasten/tie it with a strip of calico;
- Take a third strip and fasten/tie it over the middle of the Kafan;
- Use more than three strips to fasten/tie the Kafan, if the may'tah is big in size;
- Always try to use an uneven number of strips;
- Fasten the strips in such a manner that it can be easily untied (because the strips will be untied in the grave).

The Folding of the Kafan

It is inconvenient to leave the Kafan spread out, for it will occupy a lot of space and it will also demand a lot of movement the mayt/may'tah to place it beneath them. Thus, it is best to fold it in such a way that it will be easy and convenient to handle and easy to place under the mayt/may'tah.

It is also recommended that the Kafan should be fumigated with bakhoor (frankincense) or incense sticks. This can only be done if the Kafan is folded in such a way that it occupies the least space and is small in size.

ILLUSTRATION (A)

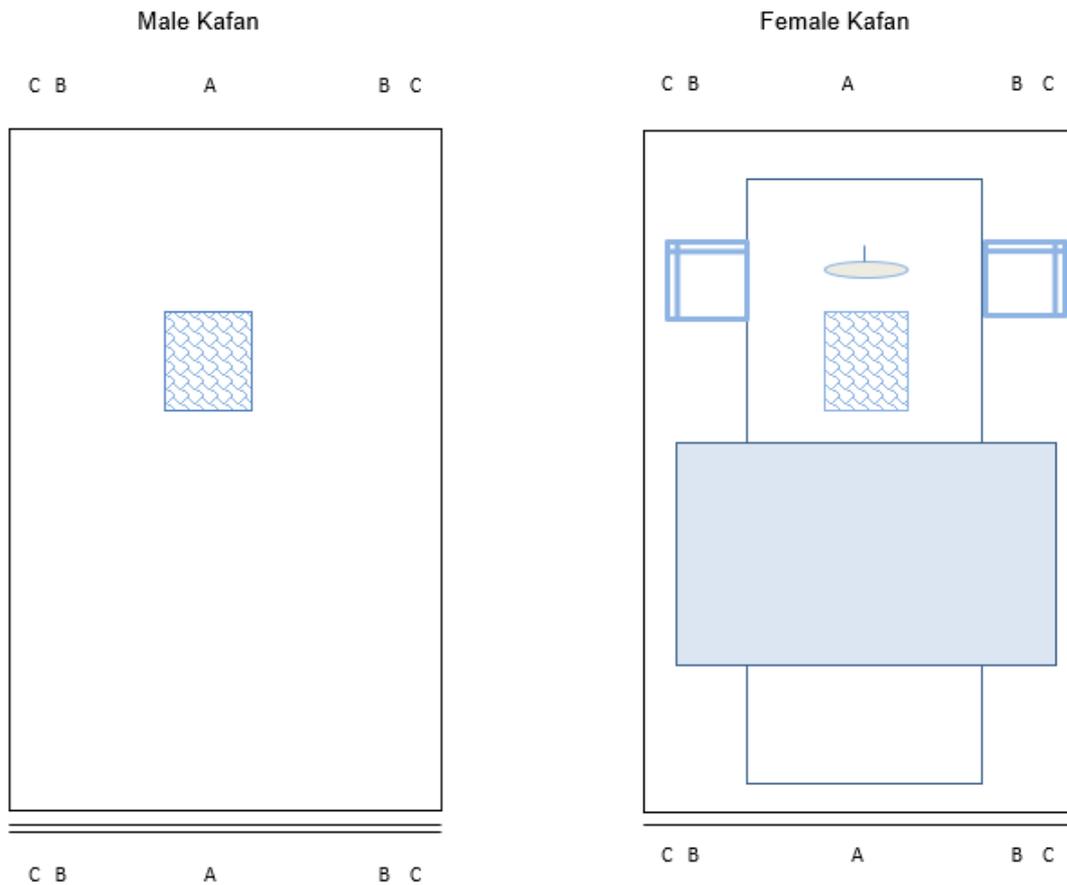
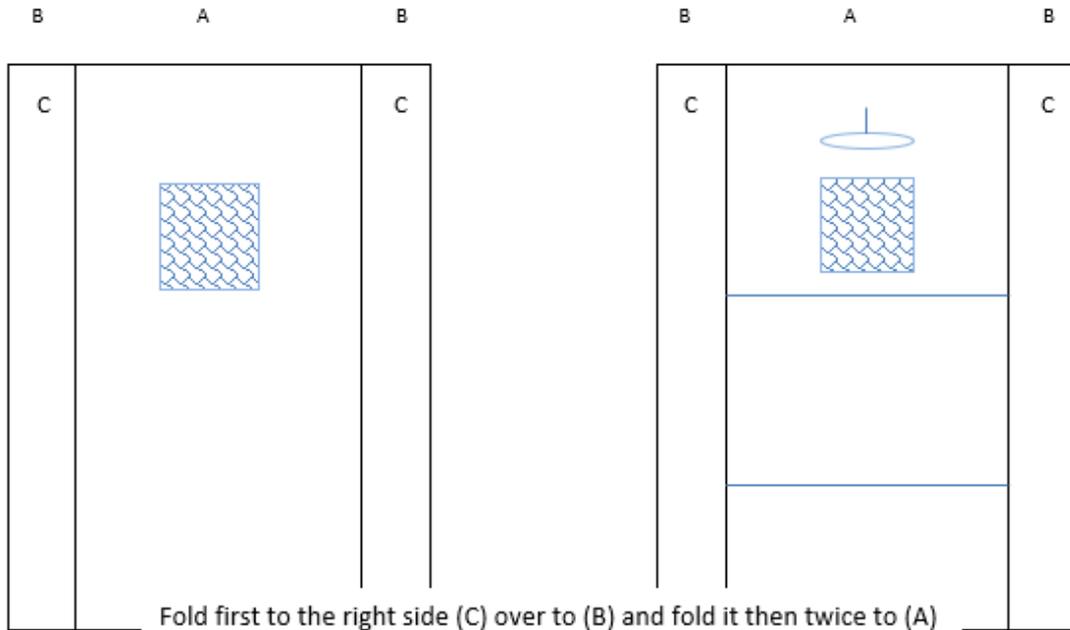
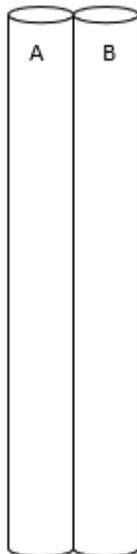


ILLUSTRATION (B)



Fold first to the right side (C) over to (B) and fold it then twice to (A) which is the centre/middle of the Kafan. Repeat the same steps with the left side. The Kafan should look like Illustration (B).

ILLUSTRATION (C)



Fold A over to B and the Kafan will look similar to Illustration (D)

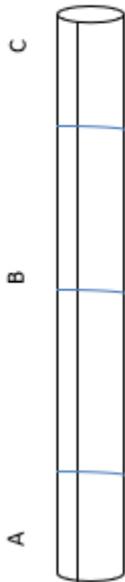
ILLUSTRATION (D)



Fasten/tie the Kafan with the three strips loosely as in Illustration (E) and make a mark where the head of the body is.

A B

ILLUSTRATION (E)



Fold A over to B and C
over to B as in Illustration
(F)

ILLUSTRATION (F)



Fold D over to as in
Illustration (G)

ILLUSTRATION (G)

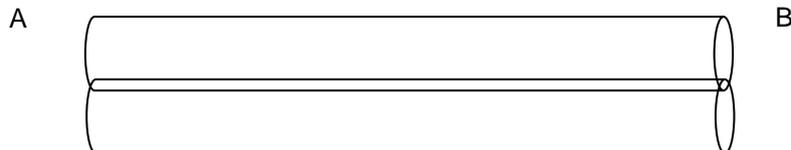


You can now
fumigate the Kavan
with frankincense or
incense sticks

How to place the folded Kavan under the Mayt/May'tah

- ❖ Loosen the strips and unfold the kavan (Refer to illustration H);
- ❖ Place the kavan on the left side of the mayt;
- ❖ Ensure that the head side of the kavan is positioned at the mayt's head;
- ❖ Ensure that there is sufficient kavan at both the head and the feet; as you will need to fasten these ends with the strips;
- ❖ For a female; ensure that the neck opening of the Qamees is in line with the neck;
- ❖ Turn the mayt gently over to its right side;
- ❖ Push side (A) of the kavan under the mayt as far as it can possibly go;
- ❖ Unfold/roll out side (B) of the kavan;
- ❖ Let the mayt rest on its back; then turn it to its left side;
- ❖ Unfold/roll out side (A) of the kavan.

ILLUSTRATION H



Carrying the Mayt

- **Waajib:** For some of the Muslims to ensure that the mayt is carried to the grave ;
- **Recommended:** To carry the mayt to the grave; if the distance is not too far;
- If the distance to the graveyard is far, we may carry the Janaazah for a short distance, for example to the mosque;
- Thereafter, place it in the hearse or any decent means of transport;
- Carry the Janaazah again when we are near the graveyard;
- Manner of carrying must be descent and respectful.
- **Sunnah:**
 - For the bier to be carried by four persons;
 - To walk along the Janaazah; better to walk in front of the Janaazah instead of behind or beside it;
 - Remain with it until the mayt is buried;
- When leaving the house; carry the Janaazah head-first and it will be carried or transported in the same manner;
- **Etiquette of the Mourners:**
 - Should walk in silence and humility;
 - Recite the Ath'kaar or the Quran softly; it is makrooh to do it aloud;
 - Females are not allowed to accompany the Janaazah;
 - Should be contented and pleased with the death that Allah has ordained;
 - Should not show any signs of displeasure;
 - Allowed to shed tears and cry softly.

Duty 3: Performing of Salah Tul Janaazah

The virtue of the offering the funeral prayer over the deceased and what is hoped for him, by increasing the size of congregation:

It is reported on the authority of Abu Hurairah that he said: "The Messenger of Allah (SAW) said:

من شهد الجنزة حتى يصلى عليها فله قيراط، ومن شهدها حتى تدفن فله قيراطان
"Whoever follows the funeral and offers the funeral prayer for it, will get the reward equal to one Qeerat, and whoever attends it till burial, will get a reward equal to two Qeerats."

It was asked, "What are two Qeerats?" He, (SAW) replied:

مثل الجبلين العظيمين
"It is equal to two huge mountains." This is an authentic Hadith.

And it is reported on the authority of Malik Ibn Hubairah that he said: "The Messenger of Allah (SAW) said:

ما من مؤمن يموت فيصلى عليه أمة من المسلمين، يبلغون أن يكونوا ثلاثة صفوف إلا غفر له
"Whenever a believer dies and a community of Muslims pray over him and they amount to three rows, he will have his sins forgiven."

This Hadith is Hasan.

And when the number of worshippers in a funeral prayer was few, Malik Ibn Hubairah would strive to organise them into three rows.

And it is reported on the authority of 'Aishah that the Prophet (SAW) said:

ما من ميت يصلى عليه أمة من المسلمين يبلغون مائة، كلهم يشفعون له إلا شفعوا فيه
"If a company of Muslims, numbering one hundred, pray over a dead person, all of them interceding for him, their intercession for him will be accepted."

This is an authentic Hadith.

The Salaah on the Mayt

- ❖ **Wajib:** Salaatul-Janaazah should be performed on the Mayt by at least one Mukallaf person; the more who perform the Salaatul Janaazah the better for the Mayt.
- ❖ **Sunnah:**
 - That the Salah tul Janaazah is performed in a Mosque;
 - Those performing should make at least three rows; even if each row consists only out of two musallees;
 - Male: The head of the mayt should be on the left of the Imaam; the Imaam should stand nearest to the head;
 - Female: The head of the mayitah should be on the right side of the Imaam; the Imaam should stand in the middle of the mayitah;
- ❖ The Janaazah should be placed in front of the mussallees performing the Salah of Janaazah;
- ❖ Females may also attend the Salah tul Janaazah;
- ❖ As usual, where males are present, they should cover and dress in a modest Islamic manner and should not cause any disturbances and fitnah; otherwise it is best to stay away and pray for the deceased at home.

Announcement for the Salah of Janaazah

MALE	FEMALE
الصَّلَاةُ عَلَى هَذَا الْمَيِّتِ الْحَاضِرِ؛ الصَّلَاةُ رَحِمَكُمُ اللَّهُ	الصَّلَاةُ عَلَى هَذِهِ الْمَيِّتَةِ الْحَاضِرَةِ؛ الصَّلَاةُ رَحِمَكُمُ اللَّهُ
As'salaatu a'laa haa'thal mayi'til haadir. As'salaatu ra'him ma'ku' mul'laah	As'solaatu alaa haa'thi'hil mayita'til haa'dirah. As'so'laatu rahi'makumul'laah
"The Salah on this present dead male will be performed. The Salah will be performed, May Allah have mercy upon you."	"The Salah on this present dead female will be performed. The Salah will be performed, May Allah have mercy upon you."

Salah Tul Janaazah – Obligatory Acts

- To make intention.
- To say Takbir four times.
- To recite Suratul Faatihah.
 - The following are the words of Suratul Faatihah:

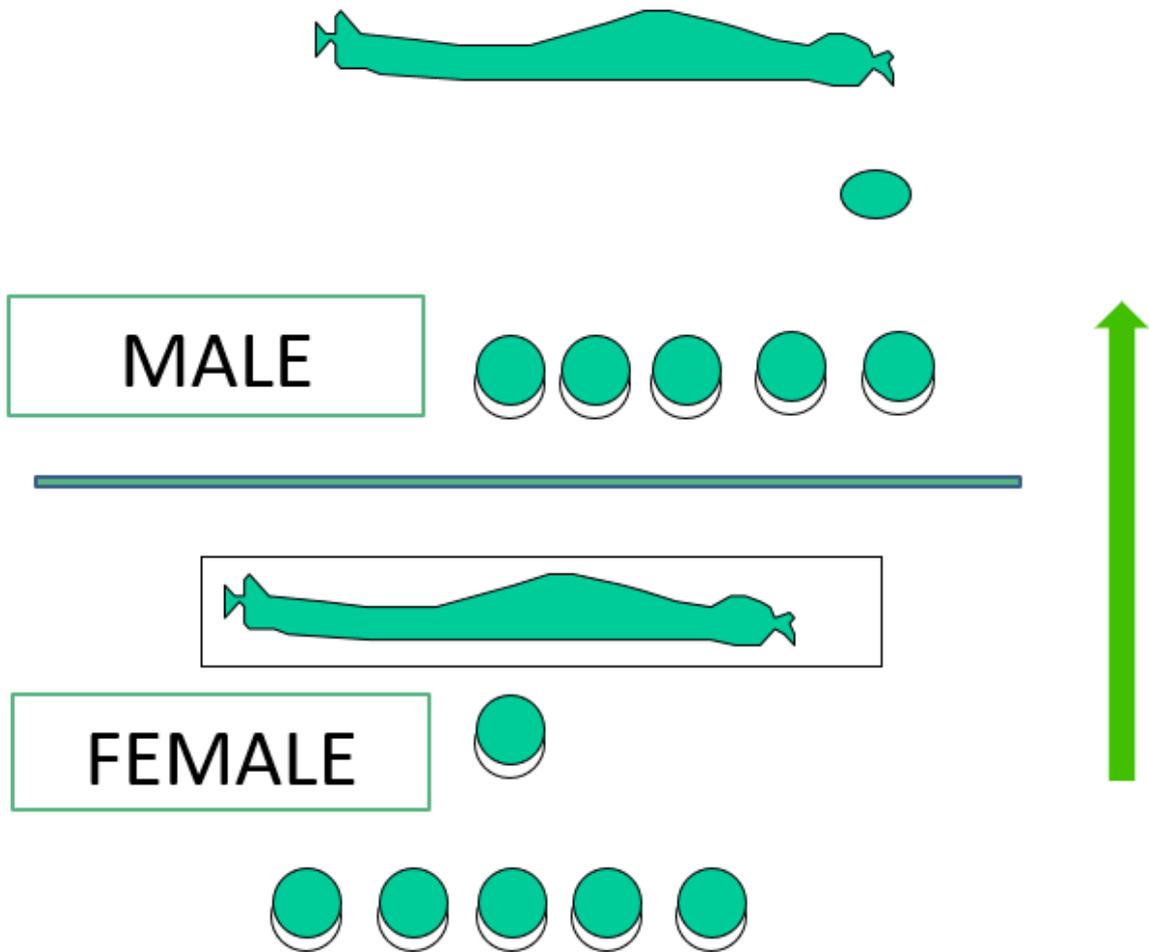
بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
الحمد لله رب العالمين* الرحمن الرحيم* ملك يوم الدين* إياك نعبد وإياك نستعين* إهدنا الصراط المستقيم* صراط الذين أنعمت عليهم غير المغضوب عليهم ولا الضالين*
Bis'mil'laa'hir rah'maa'nir'raheem. Al'ham'du lil'ahi rab'bil aa'la'meen, ar'rah'maa'nir'raheem. Maa'liki yau mid'den, ly'yaa'ka na'bu'du wa'iy'yaa' ka nas'ta'een. Ih'di'nas si'rau'tal mus'taqeem. Si'rau'tal la'theena an'am'ta a'lay'him ghay'r'il magh'doo'bi a'lay'him wa'lad'daal'leen.
"In the name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful. All praise be to Allah, Lord of the worlds. The Beneficent, The Merciful. Owner of the Day of Judgement. Thee alone we worship and Thee alone we ask for help. Show us the straight path. The path of those whom Thou has favoured. Not the path of those who earn Thine Anger nor of those who go astray."

- To read Durood

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ، كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ سَيِّدِنَا إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ، كَمَا بَارَكْتَ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ سَيِّدِنَا إِبْرَاهِيمَ فِي الْعَالَمِينَ إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ
Al'laa'hum'ma sol'li a'laa say'dinaa Mu'ham'mad, wa alaa aali say'di'naa Mu'ham'mad, kamaa sol'lay'ta a'laa say'dinaa lb'raa'heem, wa'a'laa aali say-dinaa lb'raa'heem. Wa'baa'rik a'laa say'dinaa Mu'hammad, wa'alaa aali say'dinaa Mu'ham'mad, kamaa baa'rak'ta alaa say'di'naa lb'raa'heem, wa'alaa aali say'dinaa lb'raaheem fil aa'lameen in'na'ka ha'mee'dum ma'jeed.
"O Allah! Bestow thy special mercy on our master Muhammad and on the posterity of our master Muhammad, as thou have bestowed thy special mercy upon our master Ibrahim and the posterity of our master Ibrahim."
"O Allah! Bestow thy blessing on our master Muhammad and on the posterity of our master Muhammad, as thou have bestowed thy blessings on our master Ibrahim and the posterity of our master Ibrahim, in the worlds, Verily thou art praise worthy glorified."

- To make Duah for the deceased after the third Takbir.
- To perform the salah in standing position, if one can.
- To make Salaam.

Salah Tul Janaazah - Position



Salah Tul Janaazah – Late Comer

What to do when a person comes late, after the salah tul janaazah has already started.

Steps:

- Make the Niy'yah for Salah tul Janaazah;
- Utter the first Takbir (Allaahu Akbar);
- If there is time; recite what ever is possible of the Fatihah;
- If there is no time, the recital of the Fatihah falls away;
- Then, follow the Imam in his takbirs and recite in sequence what should be recited after each takbir;
- When the Imaam utters the salaam (As'salaamu alaykum); continue with the Takbir which you have missed; recite what should be recited after each takbir;
- Continue with the salah even if the janaazah has been carried away.
- **Example:** If you perform two takbirs with the Imaam, you will need to make another two takbirs after the salaam of the Imaam; recite what should be recited and after it, say As'salaamu alaykum wa'rah'ma'tul'laah twice to terminate the salaah.

Salah Tul Janaazah - imam

What to do if the Imaam makes more than four Takbeers?

Steps:

- The Ma'moom (person who follows the Imaam) must not follow the Imaam in the extra takbir or takbirs;
- The Ma'moom should wait and stand still until the Imaam says the salaam;
- The Ma'moom then says the salam after the Imaam.

Duty 4 – Bury the Janaazah

The burial of the Mayt

It is waajib where possible, to bury the Mayt under the ground. In the case where it is not possible eg. at sea and the body cannot be brought to the land; heavy objects will be tied to the body and the body will be lowered into the sea.

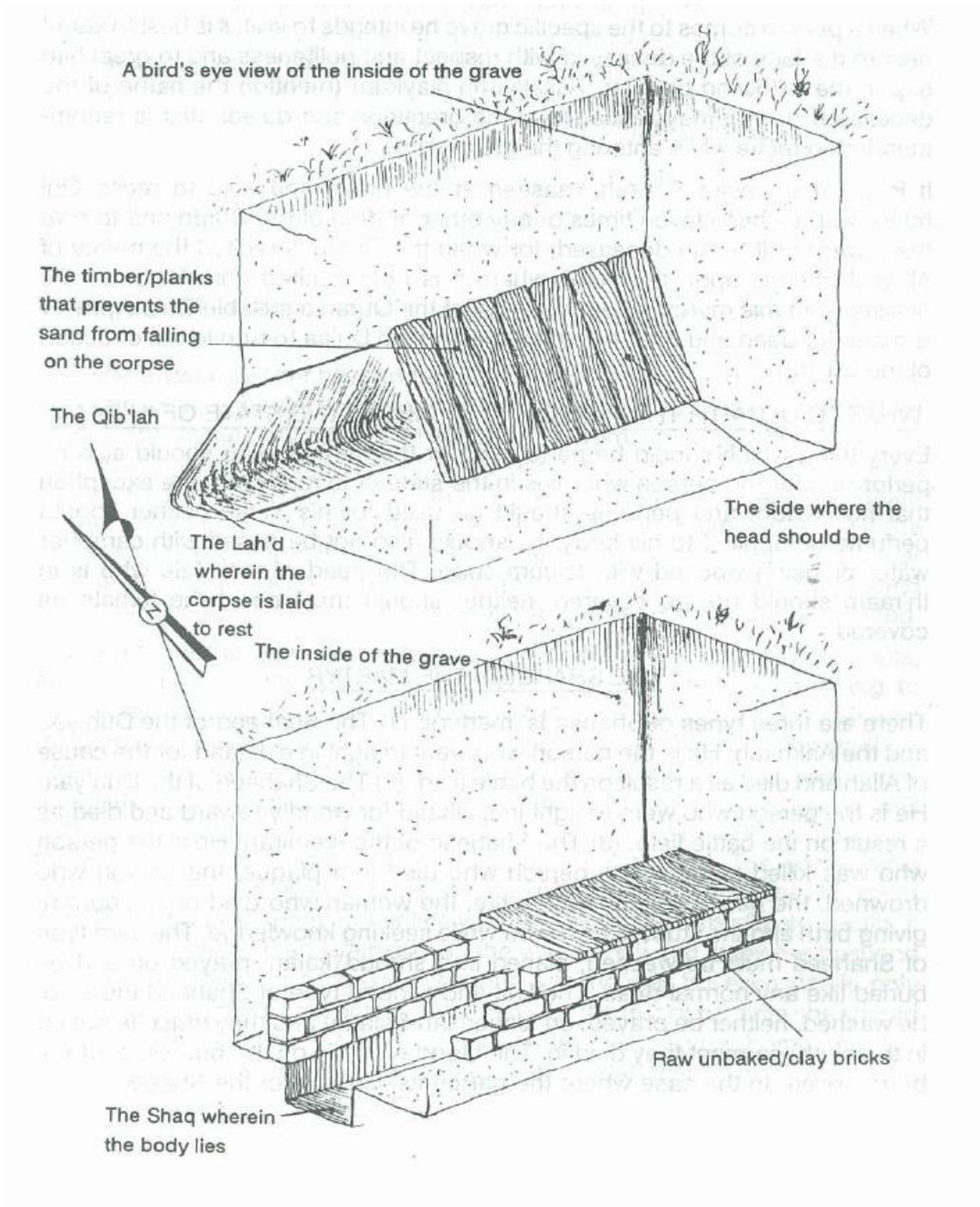
Prepare the grave

- Simplest grave – wide, long and deep enough to bury the body;
- There must be sufficient space for the persons who are going to bury the body;
- Should be deep enough that it cannot be dug up by wild animals;
- Should be deep enough to prevent odours from emanating from it;
- Recommended:
 - Dig a grave with the depth of about 6 feet (the height of an average person plus the lengths of the arms stretched out);
 - Width of about one metre.

Types of Graves

- **Lah'd (Hard & Firm Soil)**
 - Dig up a trench measuring the width of the body at the Qib'lah side of the grave;
 - Place timber or similar material slanting over the body; to prevent sand from falling on the body;
- **Shaq (Loose & Unfirm Soil)**
 - Dig a trench in the middle of the grave; wherein the body will be placed;
 - Lay raw bricks on both sides of the body
 - Lay special raw bricks or timber over the breadth/width bricks to prevent the sand from falling on the body.

Two different methods of digging the grave



Laying the Mayt

It is waajib that the body should be buried with his face in the direction of the Qib'lah.

- **Recommended:**
 - Lay the body on his/her right side; it is Makrooh to let him/her lie on his left side;
 - Easiest way to put the Mayt in the grave is to the place the head side of the bier on the side of the grave where the feet will rest; so that the head of the Mayt will enter the grave first;
- Normally, three persons will go down in the grave to handle the Mayt;
- **Sunnah:**
 - To untie the strips of the kafan;
 - To open the side of the kafan where the head is, so that the cheek of the Mayt makes contact with the soil;
 - To recite the following when placing the Mayt in the grave:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ وَ عَلَى مَلَّةِ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ. اللَّهُمَّ افْتَحْ أَبْوَابَ السَّمَاءِ لِرُوحِهِ (هَا) وَأَكْرَمِ نَزْلَهُ (هَا) وَوَسِّعْ مَدْخَلَهُ (هَا) وَوَسِّعْ لَهُ (هَا) فِي قَبْرِهِ (هَا)

Bis'mil'laahir rah'maanir raheem, wa alaa mil'la'ti ra'soo'lil'laahi sol lal laahu alayhhi wa'sal'lam. Al'laahum'maf'tah ab'waa'bas sa'maa'l li'roo'hi'hi (haa), wa was'si lahoo fee qab'rihee.

In the name of Allah, the beneficent, the merciful and in accordance with the religion of the messenger of Allah (I bury this Mayt). O Allah! Open the doors of heaven for his/her soul, and honour him as an honourable guest; and make his/her grave and place, he/she is entering spacious.

A General Prayer/Dua'aa for the Mayt

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لَهُ (هَا) وَارْحَمْهُ (هَا) وَأَسْكِنْهُ (هَا) فِي الْجَنَّةِ وَاحْشِرْهُ (هَا) مَعَ النَّبِيِّينَ وَالصَّادِقِينَ وَالشُّهَدَاءِ وَ الصَّالِحِينَ. اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْ قَبْرَهُ (هَا) رَوْضَةً مِنْ رِيَاضِ الْجَنَّةِ وَ لَا تَجْعَلْ قَبْرَهُ (هَا) حَفْرَةً مِنْ حَفْرِ النَّيِّرَانِ بِرَحْمَتِكَ يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ. اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِأَهْلِ الْقُبُورِ مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَ الْمُؤْمِنَاتِ اَرْفَعْ لَهُمُ الدَّرَجَاتِ وَ كَفِّرْ عَنْهُمْ السَّيِّئَاتِ يَا رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ

Al'laa'hum'magh'fir lahoo (haa), war'ham'hu (haa), wa'as'kin'hu (haa) fil jan'nah, wah'shur'hu (haa) ma'an na'bey'yeena, was'sid'dee'qeena, wash shu'ha'daa was'sau'liheen. Al'laa'hum'maj'al qab'rahoo rau'datum mir'riyaa dil jinaan, walaa taj'al qab'ra'hoo huf'ra'tam min hu'fa'rin neeraan, bill'rah'matika yaa ar'ha'mar raahimeen. Al'laa'hum'magh'fir li'ha'lil qu'boori mi'nal mus-limeena wal mus'limaat, wal mu'mi'neena wal mu'minaat, ir'fa la'hu'mudda'ra'jaati wa'ka'fir an'hu'mus say'yi'aat rab'bal aalameen.

"O Allah! Forgive him, show mercy upon him, make his abode Jannah and let him assemble amongst the Prophets, the truthful, The martyrs and the righteous. O Allah! Let his grave be for him a garden of paradise and let it not be a pit of fire O most merciful. O Allah! Forgive the residents/inhabitants of the grave from amongst the muslim males and females and from amongst the believing males and females; elevate their positions and wipe out their sins O Lord of The Worlds."

Dua'aa of the Mourners

It is Sunnah for the mourners present at the grave to take three handful of soil and throw it in the grave reciting:

First Throw:

منها خلقناكم
Min'haa kha'laq'naakum
"From it (the Earth) we created you"

Second Throw:

و فيها نعيدكم
Wa'fee'haa nu'eedu'kum
"And from it, we shall return you"

Third Throw:

ومنها نخرجكم تارة أخرى
Wa'min'haa nukh'ri ju'kun taa'ra'tan ukh'raa
"And from it we shall raise you a second time"

General appearance of the grave

- It should be simple and natural:
- No construction work of any kind should be done on it;
- No painting or white washing; fencing should be done to it;
- A mark eg. a piece of timber may be place at the head of the grave for ease of locating it;

Visiting a grave or graveyard

Sunnah: For males to visit the graves, especially that of his parents;

Recommended: To visit the graves on a friday;

When person visits a graveyard he should at all times think that he/her will also be a resident of the graveyard one day.

Our Nabi sol lal laahu alayhi wa'sal'lam said:

"Visit the graves for it reminds you of the Akhirah."

Dua'aa when visiting the graveyard

It is Sunnah to recite the following dua:

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ دَارَ قَوْمٍ مُؤْمِنِينَ وَيَرْحَمُ اللَّهُ الْمُسْتَقْدِمِينَ مِنَّا وَ مِنْكُمْ وَالْمُسْتَأْخِرِينَ وَ إِنَّا إِنشَاءُ اللَّهُ بِكُمْ لَا حَقُونَ أَنْتُمْ لَنَا فَرَطٌ وَ نَحْنُ لَكُمْ تَبِعٌ
أَسْئَلُ اللَّهَ لَنَا وَ لَكُمْ الْعَافِيَةَ

As'salaamu alay'kum daara qau'min mu'mi'neen. Yar'ha'mul'laahul mus'taq'di'meena min'kum wal'mus'ta'khireen, wa'in'naa in'shaa'al'laahu bi'kum laa'hiqoon. An'tum la'naa fa'ra'tun wa'nah'nu la'kum ta'ba'un, as'a'lul'laaha la'naa wa'la'ku'mul aafiyah.

"Greeting unto you o believing residents of the graveyard. May Allah bestow His mercy upon you and upon those who died before you and before us, and may He also bestow His mercy upon those who follow you and follow us; and with the will of Allah we will follow You, You preceded us and we will follow you. I beseech Allah to grant us and you protection and security."

When visiting the grave

Recommended: When a person comes to the specific grave, he intends to visit it, it is best to stand near the face of the deceased with respect and politeness;

- ❖ Greet in following manner: Assalaamu alaykum (mention the name of the deceased) or recite the Dua when entering the graveyard
- ❖ Turn to the direction of Qib'lah and recite a suitable Duah for the deceased.

Different circumstances of death

- **In the state of ihraam**
- **The shaheed/martyr**
- **The siqt/still born**

In the state of ihraam:

- Follow every step performed for a normal deceased person; except
- Do not use hannoot and perfume on the kafan;
- Do not rinse the deceased with camphor water;
- Do not wash the mayt with talcum soap;
- For a male: Do not cover his head;
- For a female: Do not cover her face.

The shaheed/martyr:

There are three types of Shaheed/Martyrs:

- **Shaheed of the Dun'ya & Aakhirah**
 - He is the person who went to fight for the cause of Allah and died as a result on the battle field;
- **Shaheed of Dun'ya**
 - He is the person who went to fight in a Jihaad for worldly reward and died as a result on the battle field;
- **Shaheed of Aakhirah**
 - He is the person who was killed unjustly, the person who died in a plague, the person who drowned, the person who died in a fire, the woman who died on account of giving birth and the student who died while seeking knowledge.

Shaheed of the Dun'ya & Aakhirah and Shaheed of Dun'ya

- Do not wash the Mayt;
- Do not pray Salah tul Janaazah;
- They must be buried in the cloth/garment that they died in;
- The blood which is on the body should not be removed;
- Use another piece of cloth, in cases where the garments/clothing are not sufficient to cover the whole body:

Shaheed of Aakhiraah

- Follow all the steps relating to washing, kafan, prayer and burial same as those performed on any normal mayt.

The siqt/still born

- Less than 6 months
 - There are signs of life at birth:
 - Perform washing, kafan and burial;
 - No salah to be performed.
- More than 6 months:
 - It does not matter if there are signs of life at birth or not;
 - Perform washing, kafan, salah and burial like any normal mayt.
- if there is no human pattern:
 - No obligations to perform washing, kafan and salah;
 - Perform the burial like any normal mayt.

The Iddah (waiting period)

The woman who lost her husband should go into a waiting period (Iddah).

This means that she should not leave her house during this period as a form of respect for her late husband.

Conditions:

- For a woman who is not pregnant:
 - Period is four muslim months and ten days;
- For a woman who is pregnant:
 - Period ends at the termination of pregnancy;
 - If she gives birth a day after the death of her husband, her Iddah comes immediately to an end;
 - If she gives birth nine months after the death of her husband, her Iddah ends after she has given birth;
- She is not allowed to get married;
- She is commanded to comply with the Laws of Hidaad;
 - Hidaad means that she is forbidden to use make-up, put on beautiful garments, apply perfume and wear jewelry;
 - She may leave the house if necessary. For example:
 - To go and do her shopping if there is no one to do it for her;
 - To go to the hospital;
 - To see a doctor for medical treatment;
 - If she feels alone and lonely during the day; to sit with decent people who are not strangers to her and with whom she cannot get married to for companionship; but she must be back at her place of residence before night falls;
- She is not allowed to perform pilgrimage; because the Hajj is not required to be performed immediately; but Iddah is immediately waajib;
 - If she is already on the way of Hajj and loses her husband on the travel, she is allowed to complete the Hajj;
 - She is only allowed to perform the essentials of the Hajj; for the rest of the time she should remain in her residence;
 - When she returns home after the pilgrimage and there remain some days of Iddah, then she should remain in the house for the remaining days.

The Muslim and his/her will

Important Notes:

- A Muslim is not allowed to draw up a will and leave his estate to whom he wishes;
- Be well aware that the Almighty has already divided the estate;
- A Muslim does whatever in his or her lifetime with their assets but the moment he or she dies, then all the assets belonging to them should be divided exactly as it is explained in the Quran;
- It is a major sin, a horrible deed, an audacious crime and a great injustice to say:
 - “It is my possessions and assets, I can do with it whatever I want to do with it, and I can give it to whom-soever I want to give it to.”
- **Wasiyyah:** Allah gives us the right to leave up to one third share after our death to whomsoever we want to give it, as long as the recipients are not of our heirs. This is called Wasiyyah;
- We can leave a certain amount for a mosque, school, welfare organisation, a family member who is not an heir and to a friend even to a non-Muslim, as long as the total Wasiyyah/bequest to them does not exceed one third of our total assets;
- **BEST:** Wasiyyah should be less than one third.
- **GOOD & STRONGLY RECOMMENDED:** If Allah has favoured a person with wealth, that person should leave a portion of his wealth in a form of Wasiyyah to a mosque, madrasah or welfare organisation.

What are the conditions of inheritance?

- Children:
 - Be aware that our children do inherit from us;
 - They are entitled to their share of their inheritance from Allah;
 - As long as they are Muslims;
 - It does not matter whether they were good or bad, obedient or disobedient;
- Male & Female
 - Male always inherit twice the share of a female;
- Mother & Father
 - Mother: Receives a sixth or a third share;
 - Father: Receives either a sixth or more share;
- Wife
 - If no child/children: A wife inherits a quarter share of the total assets of her deceased husband;
 - If with child/children: A wife inherits an eighth share (even if child/children from previous marriage).
- Husband
 - If no child/children: A husband inherits half a share of the total estate of his deceased wife;
 - If with child/children: A husband inherits a quarter share (even if child/children from previous marriage)
- Brothers, Sisters & Other Close Relatives
 - Also inherit under certain conditions

What are your duties?

- Every person who wants to make a will to consult a learned person who is well versed with the subject of inheritance in Islam;
- As we are not living in a Muslim country, it becomes incumbent upon each person who has some assets to make a will in accordance with Islamic law;
- Be aware that:
 - We have no right whatsoever to stipulate a condition (e.g. in the event of the wife re-marrying that she should be deprived from her inheritance);
 - We are not allowed to dictate any un-Islamic conditions (e.g. all my children, males and females should receive equal shares);
 - A Muslim cannot inherit from a non-muslim and vice-versa; but they can make for one another a wasiyyah.

Janaazah Checklist

Use this checklist as a guide in planning the burial arrangement:

Immediate arrangements after the death

- Prepare the body; cover with a white sheet
- Contact a member of a Mosque's Janaazah Service
- Obtain a Medical Practitioner/Doctor's Certificate (Or ask Mosque for a referral)
- Complete the Death Registration Statement (Obtainable from Mosque)
 - Deceased Details (Including Spouse, Parents, Children)
 - Informant Details
 - Medical Practitioner Details
 - Funeral Director Certifications
- Contact the cemetery to book a burial plot (Or Ask Mosque for assistance)
- Confirm the burial date and time (Or Ask Mosque for assistance)
- Appoint Ghaasil and Ghaasilah (Or ask Mosque to arrange)
- Inform relatives and friends
- Have the required payment to pay

Kafan materials purchase/preparation

- White Unstitched Cotton Material
- Cotton Wool
- Hanoot (refined camphor, frankincense, oriental frankincense, dry roses etc)
- Non-Alcoholic perfumes (Attar)
- Water (luke warm, if necessary)
- Soap
- Gloves
- Wash-cloths

