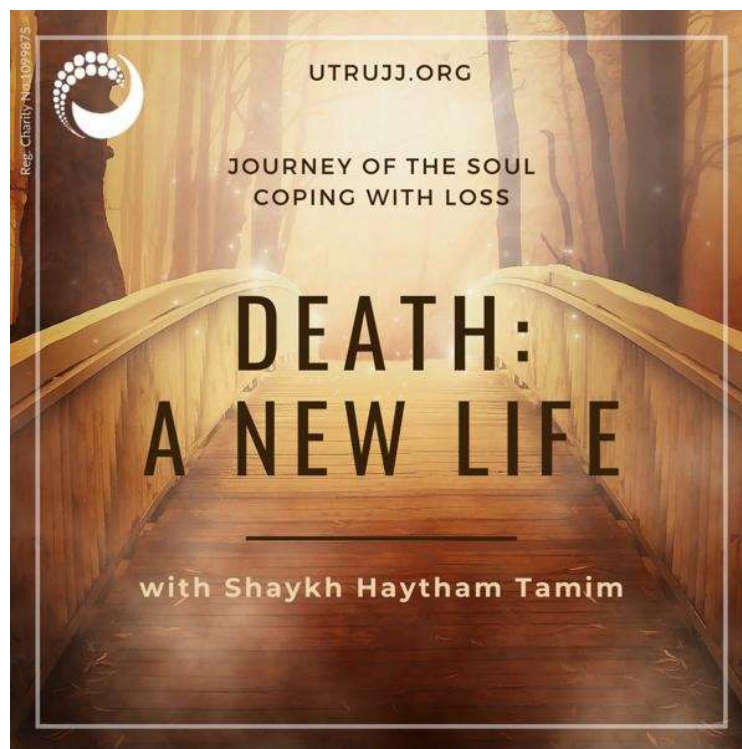


بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



Spiritual and Practical Preparation for Death

Delivered by Shaykh Haytham Tamim

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
 الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ
 وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ
 وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ أَمَا بَعْدُ

*In the name of Allah the most merciful the most kind
 Praise be to Allah the Lord of the worlds
 Peace and benediction upon our master Muhammad, all his family and his
 companions and all those who follow in their footsteps till the last day.*

اللهم علمنا ما ينفعنا، وانفعنا بما علمتنا، وزدنا علماً وعملاً وفقهاً في الدين يا رب العالمين
 اللهم وفقنا للعمل بما يرضيك عنا، وإلى غيرك لا تكلنا. افتح أقفال قلوبنا بذكرك، وألهمنا شكرك،
 واجعلنا من أهل معرفتك، ولا تجعلنا من الغافلين

*O Allah, teach us beneficial knowledge, and benefit us from what we have learnt
 and increase us in knowledge, action and in understanding in our deen.*

*O Allah ease for us to do that what pleases You, and do not leave us to anyone
 other than You*

*O Allah, open the locks of our hearts by your remembrance, inspire us to be
 grateful to you Ya Allah, make us among those who know You. And do not make
 us of those who are heedless of you.*

Course Synopsis

'Every soul shall taste death' (3:185)

Each and every one of us will one day meet with our death. Islam places great emphasis on the preparation for death and our journey to another lifetime. It is essential as Muslims that we study the spiritual and practical preparations for death in order to make our attitudes and actions in line with the Qur'an and the Sunnah of the Prophet (ﷺ). Here is an opportunity for us to learn the best practice regarding the preparation for death and its relevance to us, both in this world and in the hereafter.

Benefits

This booklet is additional information to supplement the course:

- The importance of the Remembrance of Death and the Afterlife
- The example and Sunnah of the Prophet (ﷺ) regarding the correct attitudes towards death
- What to say and do when someone is at the point of approaching death
- How to wash the body of the deceased correctly (with practical demonstration)
- Funeral arrangements, who to contact & how to get help if cannot afford
- The ghusl and shroud
- How to pray the funeral prayer (Janazah Prayer) and du'as for the deceased
- The rulings and etiquettes of burial

Section 1: The Importance of Remembering Death & Preparing for it

{كُلُّ نَفْسٍ ذَائِقَةُ الْمَوْتِ وَإِنَّمَا تُوَفَّوْنَ أُجُورَكُمْ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ فَمَنْ زُحِرَ عَنِ النَّارِ وَأُدْخِلَ الْجَنَّةَ فَقَدْ فَازَ وَمَا الْحَيَاةُ الدُّنْيَا إِلَّا مَتَاعُ الْغُرُورِ} آل عمران 185

[3.185] Every soul shall taste death. You shall be paid your wages in full on the Day of Resurrection. Whoever is removed from Hell and is admitted to Paradise shall prosper, for the worldly life is nothing but the enjoyment of delusion.

{كُلُّ نَفْسٍ ذَائِقَةُ الْمَوْتِ وَنَبَلُّوْكُمْ بِالشَّرِّ وَالْخَيْرِ فِتْنَةً وَإِنَّا تُرْجَعُونَ} الأنبياء 35

[21.35] Every soul shall taste death. We will try you with a trial of evil and good. Then, to Us you shall be returned.

{كُلُّ نَفْسٍ ذَائِقَةُ الْمَوْتِ ثُمَّ إِنَّا تُرْجَعُونَ} العنكبوت 57

[29.57] Every soul shall taste death, then to Us you shall be returned.

قُلْ إِنَّمَا أَنَا بَشَرٌ مِّثْلُكُمْ يُوحَىٰ إِلَيَّ أَنَّمَا إِلَهُكُمُ اللَّهُ وَاحِدٌ فَمَنْ كَانَ يَرْجُوا لِقَاءَ رَبِّهِ فَلْيَعْمَلْ عَمَلًا صَالِحًا 110 : الكهف وَلَا يُشْرِكْ بِعِبَادَةِ رَبِّهِ أَحَدًا

[18.110] Say, 'I am only a human like you, revealed to me is that your God is One God. Let him who hopes for the encounter with his Lord do good work, and not associate anyone with the worship of his Lord.'

{إِنَّمَا تَكُونُوا يُدْرِكُكُمُ الْمَوْتُ وَلَوْ كُنْتُمْ فِي بُرُوجٍ مُّشِيدَةٍ} النساء 78

[4.78] Wherever you may be, death will overtake you even if you are in fortresses built up strong and high.

{أَفَحَسِبْتُمْ أَنَّمَا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ عَبَثًا وَأَنَّكُمْ إِلَيْنَا لَا تُرْجَعُونَ} 115: المؤمنون

[23.115] Then did you think that We created you uselessly and that to Us you would not be returned?

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَلْتَنْظُرْ نَفْسٌ مَّا قَدَّمَتْ لِغَدٍ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ خَبِيرٌ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ (18) وَلَا تَكُونُوا كَالَّذِينَ نَسُوا اللَّهَ فَأَنْسَاهُمْ أَنفُسَهُمْ أُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْفَاسِقُونَ (19)

[59.18-19] Believers, fear Allah. Let every soul look to what it has forwarded for the future, and fear Allah, for Allah is Aware of the things you do. Do not be like those who have forgotten Allah so that He has caused them to forget their souls. Those, they are the evildoers.

Section 2: The Sunnah of the Prophet (ﷺ) regarding our attitudes towards death

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: {أَكْثَرُوا ذِكْرَ هَادِمِ اللَّذَاتِ يَعْنِي الْمَوْتَ}

“Remember much the destroyer of pleasures, death.” [Tirmidhi, Nasa’i and Ibn Majah]

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: {اسْتَكْبَرُوا مِنْ ذِكْرِ هَادِمِ اللَّذَاتِ، فَإِنَّهُ مَا ذَكَرَهُ أَحَدٌ فِي ضَيْقٍ إِلَّا وَسَّعَهُ اللَّهُ، وَلَا ذَكَرَهُ فِي سَعَةٍ إِلَّا ضَيَّقَهَا عَلَيْهِ.} {المعجم الكبير للطبراني.

“Remember much that which destroys (cuts off) the pleasures. Since no one remembers it at times of difficulty except that Allah makes things easy, nor mentions it at times of ease except that the affairs become constricted on him.”

[Al-Mu’jam Al-Kabeer by Tabarani]

عَنْ الْبَرَاءِ قَالَ قَالَ مَعَ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فِي جِنَازَةٍ فَجَلَسَ عَلَى شَفِيرِ الْقَبْرِ فَبَكَى حَتَّى بَلَ الثَّرَى ثُمَّ قَالَ {يَا إِخْوَانِي لِمَنْتِلِ هَذَا فَأَعِدُّوا.} سنن ابن ماجه

The Prophet (ﷺ) stood at the edge of a grave and cried, then said:

“O my brothers! For this, prepare yourselves.” [Ibn Maajah]

A man asked the Messenger (ﷺ): “Who is the most wise of people O Messenger of Allah?” He replied: “The one who remembers death most often and the one who is well-prepared to meet it; these are the wise; honorable in this life and dignified in the Hereafter.” [Ibn Maajah & Tabarani]

In another Hadith, he, (ﷺ) said: “The wise one is he who reproaches himself and acts in preparation for what is after death.” [Ahmad]

عَنْ سَالِمٍ عَنْ أَبِيهِ أَنَّهُ سَمِعَ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ {مَا حَقَّ أَمْرِي مُسْلِمٍ لَهُ شَيْءٌ يُوصِي فِيهِ يَبِيتُ ثَلَاثَ لَيَالٍ إِلَّا وَوَصِيَّتُهُ عِنْدَهُ مَكْتُوبَةٌ}

قَالَ عَبْدُ اللَّهِ بْنُ عُمَرَ مَا مَرَّتْ عَلَيَّ لَيْلَةٌ مُنْذُ سَمِعْتُ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ ذَلِكَ إِلَّا وَعِنْدِي وَصِيَّتِي.

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“It is not permissible for any Muslim who has anything to bequeath that s/he may pass even three nights without having his/her last will and testament written and kept ready with him/her” [Hadith reported by Salim from his father]

Abdullah ibn Umar said: “not a night has gone past after hearing the prophet ﷺ saying this, except that I had my last Will and testament with me” [Muslim]

Section 5: What to do when someone dies - Procedure for Funeral Arrangements

The following persons should be contacted immediately when death has taken place in the family:

1. The family doctor
2. The local undertaker/funeral director
3. The Imam of the local masjid (for ghusl and janazah prayer)
4. Close relations

During the Pandemic government guidance is constantly changing so check the latest guidance - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-a-funeral-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic>

Get Help with Funeral Expenses & Bereavement Support

The average cost of a burial-funeral is £4,321. Having a pre-paid funeral-plan in place alongside your will is therefore a good option. If you are finding difficult affording a burial, there is a bereavement support of up to £3,500 lumpsum onetime payment from the government within 48 hours plus a monthly payment of £360 per month for 18 months. In total, if you are eligible, you could receive £9,800 from the Department for Work & Pensions (& £17.90pw Guardian's Allowance if you're bringing up a child whose parents have died).

Prepare the information required – deceased's & your name, DOB, N.I. number, date of death, address, bank sort code & account number. File the [application online](#) or a faster route is to call the bereavement support line 08007310469 or 08001214433 (option 1 then 2). Within 20 minutes the application will be completed and filed by the call center agent and the money will be in the account in less than 24 to 48 hours, if your application qualifies.

And there is also a funeral expenses reimbursement program, that is up to £1,000 of the actual cost of funeral that you spend. You will need to pay this first and be reimbursed. So keep all supporting documents including the invoice from funereal directors. To avail this check if either the deceased and their nearest kin (spouse, any of the surviving children etc) were receiving benefits such as universal credit, social housing, unemployment, child benefit and certain tax credits). Call 08007310469 or 08001214433 (option 1 then 2) and they will guide it through or [post a claim form](#)

When death occurs at home and the cause of death is known:

1. Contact the family doctor immediately. Provided the doctor attended the dead person during his last illness and can certify the cause of death, he will issue a Medical Certificate free of charge, which states the cause of death.
2. Inform the local undertaker that a Medical Certificate has been issued. The undertaker will make all the arrangements with the cemetery and will advise the time and place for burial. He will also arrange for the body to be taken for washing (Ghusl).
3. A close relative, preferably a son or brother, should take the Medical Certificate to the Registrar of Births and Deaths of the district or borough where the death took place for Registration. The registrar is normally based in the Civic Offices of the Town Hall.

He should have with him the following information:

1. The deceased's NHS medical card (if available)
2. The date and place of death
3. The deceased's last address
4. The deceased's date of birth and place of birth
5. Occupation
6. Date of birth of the widower or widow

The Registrar will issue two free certificates:

A) Certificate of Disposal

(Green Certificate)- This certificate should be given to the undertaker as an authorization for burial.

B) Certificate of Registration of Death

This is for social security purposes and for probate etc. Take it to the local social security office if you wish to claim death grant or widows benefits. You can either wait for this certificate to be posted or otherwise wait for it to be posted to your address.

During public holidays or after office hours the Certificate of Disposal can be obtained from the home of the Registrar of Death. This service is only available in the event of an emergency i.e. if burial needs to take place and offices are closed.

The Registrar's telephone number can be obtained from the Town Hall/Civic Offices.

During the winter months the latest time for burial is usually 3:00 p.m. and during the summer time the latest time for burial is usually 4:00 p.m. Times may vary from town to town.

When Death Occurs at Home and the Cause of Death is Unknown

When the doctor is unable to certify the cause of death he will report the death to the police who in turn will inform the CORONER (usually a doctor or lawyer responsible for investigating certain deaths).

The matter will be referred to the CORONER if death occurs in any of the following circumstances:

1. If the deceased person was not attended to by a doctor during his last illness or within the last 14 days before his/her death.
2. If the cause of death is uncertain.
3. If death was sudden, violent or caused by an accident.
4. If death was caused by an industrial disease.

THE CORONER

1. The Coroner will probably arrange for a postmortem examination of the body. The consent of the relatives is not needed for this, but they can choose for a doctor to be present. The main purpose for carrying out the postmortem examination is to ascertain the cause of death.
2. The Coroners' office will issue a **PINK** form if the postmortem shows that death was due to natural causes. You must take the **PINK** notice to the **Registrar of Deaths** to obtain a **Certificate of Disposal** and a **Certificate of Registration of Death**.
3. The rest of the procedures are then exactly the same for burial arrangements.
4. If after the postmortem examination, the cause of death is uncertain or was due to an accident, violence, or industrial disease then an inquest will be held.

AN INQUEST

An **Inquest** is an inquiry into the medical cause and circumstance of death. It is held in public and is sometimes with a jury. It is up to the coroner how to organize the inquiry in a best way to serve. Relatives can attend and ask questions to witness with the coroners permission, or be represented with a lawyer. It may be important to have a lawyer to represent you if death was caused by a road accident or an accident at work which could lead to claim for compensation. But you cannot get legal aid for this. After the inquest the coroner will give an order for burial or will send a certificate to the Registrar stating the cause of death without any fee.

When Death Occurs in Hospital and Cause of Death is Known:

1. If the doctor is aware of the cause of death then he will issue a **medical certificate** so that the disposal **certificate** can be obtained from the Registrar of Deaths. The doctor may want to carry out a post-mortem but he has to obtain the permission of the nearest relative. If the post-mortem is required purely for the satisfaction of the doctor or the hospital then the permission is not normally given by the relative, in which case the body will be released to the undertaker for burial. Procedures outlined on burial arrangements should be followed.

Section 6: Practical tasks immediately after death

1. As soon as a person dies, their eyes should be gently closed. The one who closes the eyes may read: **BISMILLAH WA ALA MILLATI RASUL-LIHI SALLALLAHU ALAYHI WA SALAM** [In the Name of Allah and on the creed, religion and faith of RasulAllah (ﷺ)] [Al-Hakim]
2. Gently push the chin upward while holding the top of the head. Then place a strip of cotton under the chin and around the head, tying it firmly at the top.
3. Remove any jewellery such as rings, necklaces, bracelets and nose studs (It is especially important to remove rings before swelling occurs).
4. Straighten the limbs carefully and gently. If they will not straighten (i.e. due to stroke) do not force them, as this could cause breakage. In this situation it is better to leave the limbs as they are.
5. Place the toes together and bind the ankles carefully.
6. Do not cut nails or remove any hair from the body.
7. Until the time of bathing, the body must remain covered by a tahir (clean) sheet.

Duas for the deceased

One may read: **ALLAHUMMA YASSIR ALAYHI AMRAHU WA SAH-HIL ALAYHI MA BA DAHU WA AS'ID HU BI LIQA'IKA WAJ AL MA KHARAJA ILAYHI KHAYRAM MIMMA KHARAJA 'AN HU** [O Allah! Ease upon him his matters, and make light work for him whatever comes hereafter and honour him with Your meeting, and make that which he has gone to better than that which he has come out from] [Ad-Dur Al-Mukhtar]

All the individuals of the deceased's family may read: **ALLAHUM-MAGHFIRLI WA LAHU WA A QIBNI MINHU UQBAN HASANAH** [O Allah! Forgive me and him and grant me a good reward after him] [Muslim]

All who hear of the death of a Muslim should say: **INNA LILLAHI WA INNA ILAYHI RAJI'UN** [To Allah we belong and to Him shall we return] [Al-Bukhari]

Those who are particularly affected by the death may pray: **ALLAHUMMA 'JURNI FI MUSIBATI WA KHULUF LI KHAYRAM MINHA** [O Allah! Reward me in my affliction and requite me with (something) better than this] [Muslim]

Section 7: Checklist for washing and shrouding the dead

- 3 or 5 pieces of clean sheets, preferably white material, cut into the required lengths. (see "shrouding" below – similar to what is used for Umrah/Hajj so can be purchased as ihram)
- Approximately 15 yards of material required
- 5 sheets for a woman
- 3 sheets for a man
- 3 strips of cloth tying the shroud. One long enough to go round the middle of the body and two shorter ones to secure the ends of the shroud
- 2 pieces of thicker material of any dark colour to cover the body while washing - towelling material is recommended. Each sheet should be at least one metre squared
- 2 large clean towels for drying the body. These should preferably not be new as towels that have been washed absorb moisture better
- 2 pairs of strong rubber gloves
- A box of disposable surgical gloves
- Cotton wool and shampoo
- Soap and liquid soap in a dispenser
- Nail polish remover, if required
- 2 pairs of scissors and masking tape
- Camphor and a non alcoholic form of perfume
- Bin bags for disposing of rubbish and for taking soiled material and towels to be washed
- A jug and a large bucket, if a hose/shower cannot be used

Notes:

Section 8: The Shroud

The shroud should be three sheets for a man and five for a woman.

WOMENS SHROUD

| Sheet | Length / Width |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Lifafah (Outer Sheet) | 8 ft by 5 ft |
| 2. Khirqah (Sinabad-chest wrap) | 7 ft by 5 ft |
| 3. Izar (Loin Cloth) | 7 ft by 5 ft |
| 4. Qamis (Kurta-Shirt) | 5 ft by 4-5 ft |

The Qamis needs to be folded in half and from the centre one should make a T- shaped cut for the neck front region (no sleeves)

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 5. Khimar (Orhni-Scarf) | 4 ft by 2 ft |
|-------------------------|--------------|

3 strips of cotton material is needed to keep the shroud in place

MENS SHROUD

Sizes are the same as above, except fewer sheets are used. These are:

1. Lifafah
2. Qamis
3. Izar

NOTE: If a pilgrim (whether of Hajj or 'Umrah) dies, he is to be washed normally, but he should be shrouded in his Ihram. His head should not be covered, nor should any perfume be applied to his body, because the restrictions of Ihram still apply to him. Women do not wear the Ihram, thus will be shrouded normally.

Notes:

Section 9: How to wash the body correctly

THE METHOD OF WASHING

- It is recommended that at least four persons are present to help bathe and carry the body (six women in the case of a female).
- Washing will normally take place at the undertaker's premises or at the Masjid where facilities are available.
- The Imam of the Masjid can be asked to guide the washing and shrouding (kafan) of the deceased.
- Only women should wash female bodies and men should wash male bodies. It is allowed for a woman to wash her husband in the absence of men, while a man, if no women are present, cannot bathe his wife but will enact Tayammum (dry ablution) upon her using a cloth or towel. A woman may also wash the body of a young (minor) boy.
- It is Makruh (disliked) for a woman to wash a dead body if she is in menstrual bleeding or bleeding after the birth of the child. She may however, assist the washer without touching the body or observe for the benefit of learning.
- The dead body should be handled very gently; hard rubbing must be avoided.
- It is preferable for those performing the washing to have Wudhu.

During the Pandemic, there have been differing opinions whether Ghusl is still a requirement or if tayammum may be performed over the body-bag covering the deceased. Please read - <https://www.utrujj.org/should-the-deceased-from-the-coronavirus-have-ghusl-or-tayammum/>

Notes:

Section 10: How to lay the dead in the kafan (shroud)

THE METHOD OF ENSHROUDING:

1. Lay out three thin strips of material for tying the shroud inside the coffin, and tape them outside the coffin to keep them in position. One strip should be placed near the head, one in the middle, and one near the feet.
2. Lay out the Lifafah in the coffin.
3. (For women) - Lay out the Khirqah from where the shoulders will lie.
4. Lay out the Izar from the feet end of the coffin upwards.
5. Lay out the back of the Qamis and roll up the front. Keep it near the head end from the neck down to the feet.
6. (For women) - The khimar will be put on last.

HOW THE KAFAN SHOULD BE PUT ON:

1. Lower the body gently onto the Kafan. Draw down the front of the Qamis over the top part of the body down to the calves.
2. Only remove the sheet covering the body once it is covered.
3. Rub camphor mixture on the places of Sajdah (forehead, nose, both palms, both knees, and the undertoe of both feet).
4. (For women) - A woman's hair should be divided into 2 parts, and put onto the shoulders of the Qamis.
5. (For women) - Cover the head and hair with Khimar. Do not fasten but tuck in properly.
6. (For women) - Close the Khirqah in the same way as described above.
7. Fold the Izar the left side first and then the right over the Qamis (and Khimar).
8. Close the Lifafah, the left side and then the right.
9. Lastly, using the strips of cloth, fasten the ends of the Lufafah at the head-side, then by the feet and then around the middle to keep the complete Kafan in place.

PROHIBITED ARTICLES IN THE KAFAN:

Section 11: Janazah Prayer

The Funeral prayer of a deceased Muslim is a communal obligation (Fard Kifayah). If someone is buried without it being performed, then the whole community is responsible but as long as some gather and perform it, the obligation is removed from the whole community.

Abu Hurayra (may Allah be pleased with him) reported that the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said, "The rights one Muslim has over another Muslim are five:

- 1) Returning the greeting,
- 2) Visiting the sick,
- 3) **Joining funeral processions,**
- 4) Accepting invitations and
- 5) Blessing those who sneeze." [Agreed upon]

In Sahih Muslim, "The Muslim has six rights:

- 1) When you meet him, you should greet him.
- 2) When he invites you, you should accept his invitation.
- 3) When he asks you for counsel, you should counsel him.
- 4) When he sneezes and praises Allah, you should bless him.
- 5) When he is ill, you should visit him.
- 6) **When he dies, you should follow him."**

Abu Hurayra (may Allah be pleased with him) reported that the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said, "**Anyone who joins a funeral procession, staying until he has done the prayer, will have one qirat. Anyone who stays until after the burial will have two qirats.**" It was asked, "**What are two qirats?**" He said, "**Like two huge mountains.**" [Agreed upon]

During the Pandemic, restrictions limit attendance to immediate family.

For performing funeral prayer please read - <https://www.utrujj.org/how-to-perform-salatul-janaza-can-you-offer-salatul-janaza-remotely/> - otherwise:

- The funeral prayer is performed in congregation
- All participants in the funeral prayer must be in a state of Wudhu'

Abdullah Ibn Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) used to say, "**No one should pray over a dead person unless he is in a state of Wudhu.**" [Muwatta Imam Malik]

- There is no Adhan or Iqamah for Janazah Salah
- It is recommended that the Imam should arrange the people in three rows as it was the practise of RasulAllah (ﷺ)

- Funeral prayer consists of 4 Takbeers
- If there are multiple bodies then:
 - a) The male bodies should be placed immediately before the Imam (even if it is a child)
 - b) Female bodies should be followed by the male bodies
- Imam should stand:
 - a) Opposite the head of the dead male
 - b) Opposite the middle of the dead female
- The prayer begins with the first Takbeer known as Takbeeratul-Ihraam after which the hands are tied (as in normal prayer) and Thana' is read:

سبحانك اللهم وبحمدك تبارك اسمك وتعالى جدك ولا إله غيرك

[Glory to You Allah, and the Praise, and Blessed is Your Name, and Exalted is Your Majesty. And there is no other object of worship beside You].

- After the second Takbeer we recite Asalat Al-Ibrahimiyyah:

اللهم صل على محمد وعلى آل محمد

- The Imam then recites the third Takbeer and du'a (prayer) should be made for the deceased adult (male or female).

اللهم اغفر لحينا وميتنا وصغيرنا وكبيرنا وذكرنا وأنثانا وشاهدنا وغائبنا اللهم من أحببتنا منا فأحبنا على الإيمان ومن توفيتنا منا فتوفه على الإسلام اللهم لا تحرمنا أجره ولا تضلنا بعده

[O Allah, forgive those of us who are living and those of us who are dead, those of us who are present and those of us who are absent, our young and our old, our male and our female. O Allah, to whomsoever of us Thou givest life grant him life as a believer, and whomsoever of us Thou takest in death take him in death as a follower of Islam. O Allah, do not withhold from us the reward (of faith) and do not lead us astray after his death]

- The Imam then recites the fourth Takbeer and concludes the prayer by doing Salam on both sides.

Section 12: Rulings & Etiquettes of Burial

AT THE TIME OF BURIAL

- At the time of burial, when lowering the body into the grave, this du'a should be recited: **BISMILLAHİ WA BİL-LAHİ WA'ALA MILLATI RASULİL-LAHİ SALLALLAHU 'ALAYHI WA SALLAM** [In the name of Allah, with the help of Allah, and on the creed, religion, and faith of RasulAllah (ﷺ)]. [Al-Hakim]

THE SHAR'I METHOD OF DAFN (BURIAL)

- After the Janazah Salah is performed the Mayyit should be buried as soon as possible. The Mayyit should be carried and placed at the Qiblah side of the grave. The head should be on the right side of the grave if one faces the Qiblah.
- It is desirable that Maharim or close relatives (of a female Mayyit) enter the grave to lower the body.
- **The husband should not enter the grave to bury his wife.**
- It is Mustahabb (recommended) to hold a sheet over the grave while lowering and burying a female. If there is fear of her Kafan opening then it is Wajib to do so.
- It is Mustahabb for those present to recite this du'a whilst the body is being lowered: **BISMILLAHİ WA BİL-LAHİ WA 'ALA MILLATI RASULİL-LAHİ SALLALLAHU 'ALAYHI WA SALLAM** [In the name of Allah, with the help of Allah, and on the creed, religion, and faith of RasulAllah (ﷺ)]. [Al-Hakim]
- After placing the body into the recess of the grave it is Masnun to turn it onto its right side to face the Qiblah.
- The strips of cloth tied at the head, chest and leg side should now be untied.
- The recess should then be covered with unbaked bricks, bamboo or timber.
- It has been related by Uthman that after the Messenger (ﷺ) buried the dead, he paused and said, **"Beseech forgiveness from Allah for your brother and make du'a for his steadfastness because he is now going to be questioned."** [Abu Dawud, al-Hakim]

May Allah benefit us all