

THE SUNNAH BURIAL PROCEDURE

WHEN THE MAYYIT IS BURIED, THE CORRECT SUNNAH PROCEDURE IS AS FOLLOWS:

(1) AFTER THE BODY HAS BEEN LAID IN THE QABAR, AND THE GRAVE IS READY FOR FILLING, THOSE NEARBY AND ANYONE ELSE, SHOULD WITH BOTH HANDS THROW SAND INTO THE QABAR THREE TIMES.

When throwing sand with both hands the first time, recite:

مِنْهَا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ

The second time, recite:

وَفِيهَا نُعِيدُكُمْ

The third time, recite:

وَمِنْهَا نُخْرِجُكُمْ تَارَةً أُخْرَىٰ

If you have not memorized these three Qur'aanic verses, then simply recite Bismillaahir Raheem.

(2) THEREAFTER, FILLING WITH THE SPADES SHOULD BEGIN. Those with the spades should wait until the above Sunnah method has been observed.

(3) All those present should recite of the Qur'aan Majeed whatever they are able to. Surah Yaaseen, Surah Mulk, the first 5 Verses of Surah Baqarah and the last Ruku' of Surah Baqarah are preferable. Also the short Surahs from Surah Takaathur to the end are preferable.

(4) THE RECITATION SHOULD BE SILENTLY. There is no congregational ceremony / method of recitation and dua.

(5) After having recited the Qur'aanic Surahs and Aayaat, make a silent dua WITHOUT RAISING THE HANDS. Ask Allah Ta'ala to accept what you have recited and to bestow the *Thawaab* (reward) to the Mayyit.

(6) THE RECITATION AND THE DUA SHOULD BEGIN EVEN WHILST THE GRAVE IS BEING FILLED. IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO DELAY UNTIL AFTER THE QABAR HAS BEEN FILLED.

(7) AFTER YOU HAVE RECITED, YOU MAY LEAVE. IT IS NOT NECESSARY FOR ALL TO LEAVE AT THE SAME TIME. PEOPLE BASELESSLY BELIEVE THAT THE RECITATION AND DUA HAVE TO BEGIN AFTER THE GRAVE HAS BEEN FILLED, AND THAT THE IMAAM HAS TO COMMENCE. THERE IS NO IMAAM ON THIS OCCASION. THE ENTIRE PROCEDURE IS BY INDIVIDUALS. YOU MAY CONTINUE RECITING LONG AFTER THE GRAVE HAS BEEN FILLED AND THE PEOPLE HAVE DEPARTED, OR YOU MAY LEAVE WHILST THE GRAVE IS BEING FILLED.

(8) THE PRACTICE OF BEGINNING THE RECITATION AND DUA BY THE IMAAM AFTER THE GRAVE HAS BEEN FILLED, AND ALL STAND LISTENING IS BASELESS. IT IS BID'AH. REGARDING THE RECITATION AND DUA, NO ONE IS IN CHARGE. EVERY PERSON SHOULD MAKE DUA AND LEAVE WHENEVER HE DESIRES.

(9) BESIDES THE AFOREMENTIONED PROCEDURE, ALL OTHER METHODS WHICH ARE OBSERVED IN DIFFERENT PLACES ARE BID'AH. REGARDING BID'AH, RASULULLAH (SALLALLAHU ALAYHI WASALLAM) SAID:

“Every bid'ah is deviation, and every deviation will be in the fire.”

(10) OF ABSOLUTE IMPORTANCE IS TO REFRAIN FROM ENGAGING IN WORLDLY CONVERSATION IN THE QABRUSTAAN. THE CEMETERY IS THE ABODE WHERE YOU WILL HAVE TO COME ONE DAY. IT IS A REMINDER OF YOUR OWN IMPENDING DEATH. IT IS NOT A PLACE FOR WORLDLY CONVERSATION, LAUGHING, JOKING AND *GHAFLAT* (OBLIVIOUSNESS).