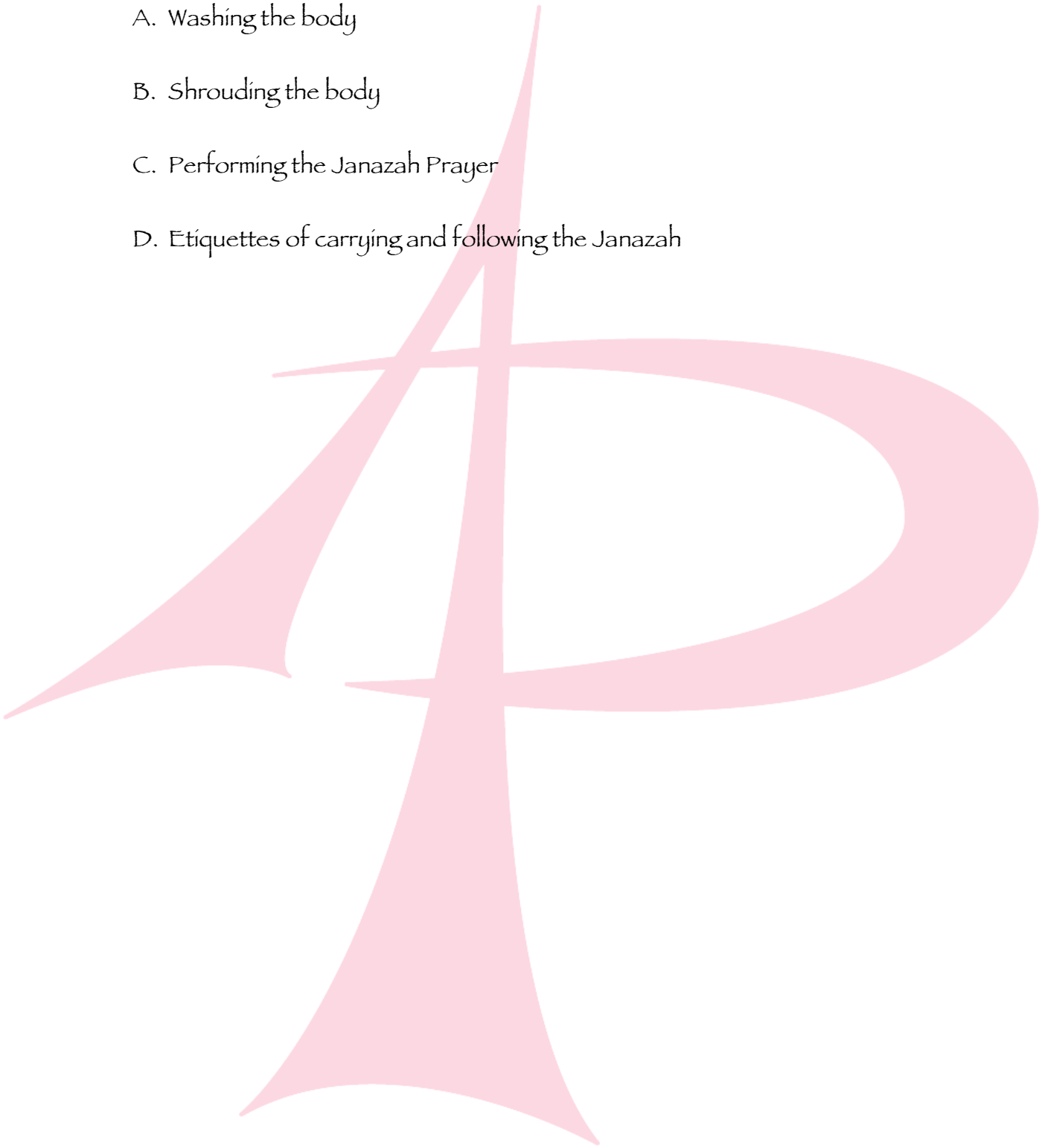


Step-by-Step Procedures – Contents

- A. Washing the body
- B. Shrouding the body
- C. Performing the Janazah Prayer
- D. Etiquettes of carrying and following the Janazah



A- WASHING THE BODY:

The 13 steps to washing the body:

1. Carefully lay the deceased on their back on a washing table, in a location covered from any inquiring eyes.
2. Cover the deceased's 'aurah (private parts) with a large towel or sheet.
 - MALE: cover from above the belly button down to below the knees.
 - FEMALE: cover from the neck down to mid-shin.
3. If the deceased is still wearing their clothes then undress them by carefully cutting off the garments or whatever is not easy to slide off. In this and all subsequent steps, the deceased's aurah (private parts) must remain covered with a sheet or towel at all times.
4. Slightly move the deceased's limbs to loosen the joints – if necessary to make it easier during the washing and shrouding process during the janazah.
5. Wash the deceased's private parts (aurah) as best as possible.
 - Slightly press the deceased abdomen to remove any excrement (waste), by pressing stomach sides and mid section – carefully and gently.
 - Wash the private parts after the any waste has been removed.
 - If that does not stop after several attempts then cotton or cloth may be used to plug and stop any continual leakage.
 - Remember; be gentle when handling the body.
6. Untie any tied or braided hair.
7. Perform the wudu on them, by starting with the right side and wiping over their body parts just as you would do for yourselves.
8. Wash the deceased head and hair with shampoo/soap and warm water.
 - Be careful not to let water enter their facial openings; this includes their eyes, nose, mouth, and ears.
9. Start by using clean, warm water to wash the right side of the body: (You may mix camphor or their favorite musk/perfume with the warm water).

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- a. Begin by washing the head and shampooing the hair of the deceased. Remember; be careful not to let water enter their facial openings.
 - b. Then wash the front right side of the body, starting from the neck, and work your way down – the arms, armpit, chest, legs and including the feet.
 - c. Follow through by carefully turning the body onto its left-side.
 - d. Once the body is maneuvered into position, wash the remaining, right-side of the body, which includes under their arm, the side and back portion of their right-side.
 - e. Basically, you wash the entire **right**-portion of the body = front, side, and back, and including the right foot.
 - f. You want to repeat this procedure also for the left-side of the body. So turn the body back onto their back.
 - g. You will continue by washing the front, left-side of the body – just as you did the right-side of the body; washing from the neck down the front, left-side and down to the left foot.
 - h. Then carefully turn the body onto their right-side so that you can wash the remaining left-side of the body, which includes the arm, side, and back portion of the body including their foot.
 - i. Try as much as possible so that the water reaches all parts of the body.
 - j. Rinse the body and remove all the soap and dirt, leaving the body as clean as possible.
10. Comb the deceased hair.
- For Female, if their hair is long, divide it into three parts:
 - to the sides, and
 - to the center.
 - Place the hair behind the head.
11. Use a towel(s) and dry the body as best as possible.
12. Replace the wet sheet or towel covering the aurah with a dry one, remembering to always keep the deceased aurah covered.
13. The body is now ready to be shrouded.

B- SHROUDING THE BODY:

The 8 steps to shrouding the body:

1. You want to place the body on top of the three sheets on their back – centered on a dry table/area.
2. Fold the deceased hands over each other – right hand over the left hand and above the naval. (optional procedure).
3. Tie the hands together so-to keep it in place by using a strip of cloth. (optional procedure).
4. Take the top layered shrouding sheet – grab the right-side of the sheet and fold it over, and cover the right portion of the body.
5. Then with the same top sheet – grab the left-side of the sheet and fold it over the left-side of the body, covering the left-side of the body.
6. You will then repeat this procedure with the other two or one remaining sheets, depending on each person's condition; or for the women with more sheets.
7. Take the pre-cut strips, and tie and secure the sheets in-place, over the body. You will tie these pre-cut strips in three places;
 - One by the head,
 - Another in the middle of the body,
 - One by the feet.
 - If additional strips are needed, then do so as needed.
8. Once this is done, the deceased body should be completely covered and is wrapped like a cocoon.

Remember:

- a. Always start by folding the sheet over the right side of the body, and then fold the left side.
- b. Always keep the deceased aurat (private parts) covered at all times

C- PERFORMING THE JANAZAH PRAYER

Janazah Prayer general recommendation & requirements:

- a. Pray the Janazah in a Musallah area – Outside of the Masjid if possible.
- b. Stand in ODD number of rows, preferable three (3) or more rows.
- c. Place the casket in front of the congregation, with the body facing towards the Qiblah. Placement of the deceased body is important
 - If the deceased is a BROTHER, then the Imam must stand near the head-end of the casket.
 - If the deceased is a SISTER/CHILD, then the Imam must stand at the waist-area of the casket.
- d. There is no Adhan or Iqamah prior to the Janazah prayer.

Prayer Procedure:

1. The Imam begins with the FIRST TAKBIR.
 - He raises his hands and says – Allah-hu- Akbar. The congregation follows.
 - In the FIRST TAKBIR, everyone should silently recite Surat-ul al-Fatihah.
2. Then the Imam says the SECOND TAKBIR.
 - He raises his hands again and says – Allahu akbar. The congregation follows.
 - During the second takbir, the Imam recites the second part of the Tahiyaat.
 - This is when you send Peace and Blessings on the Prophet (pbuh), which is what a Muslim recites at the end of each prayer before giving tashlim (salams to the right and to the left).

Tahiyaat (sending Peace and Blessings on the Prophet pbuh):

Allah- humma salli ‘alaa Muhammadin wa ‘alaa ‘aali Muhammad,
kamaa sallaita ‘alaa ‘Ibrahiim wa ‘alaa ‘aali ‘Ibrahiim,
wa barik ‘alaa Muhammadin wa ‘alaa ‘aali Muhammad,
kamaa barak-ta ‘alaa ‘Ibrahiim wa ‘alaa ‘aali ‘Ibrahiim.

Meaning of Tahiyaat:

O Allah! Send Your Mercy on Muhammad and the family of Muhammad,
As You sent Your Mercy on Ibrahiim and the family of Ibrahiim,
And O Allah! Send Your Blessings on Muhammad and on the family of
Muhammad,

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As You sent Your blessings on Ibrahiim and the family of Ibrahiim.

3. Then the Imam says the THIRD TAKBIR.
 - He raises his hands again and says – Allahu akbar. The congregation follows.
 - During the third takbir, the Imam and followers make a sincere du'a (supplication) for the deceased.

Du's (supplication) example:

Allahumma 'abduka wabnu amatik,
ihtaja ila rahmatik,
wa-anta ghaniyyun 'an 'athabih.
In kana muhsinan fazed fi hasanatih,
wa-in kana musian fatajawaz 'anh –

English meaning of supplication:

O Allah! Your slave, son of Your female slave.
He is in need of Your Mercy,
and You are in no need of punishing him.
If he did well, multiply his good deeds,
and if he was a sinner, excuse him.

* please see the Supplication section for additional supplications to memorize.

4. Then the Imam says the FOURTH and FINAL TAKBIR.
 - He raises his hands again and says – Allahu Akbar. The congregation follows.
 - During the fourth takbir, you should make another short du'a (supplication) for the deceased family and for Ummah (Muslims in general).

* please see the Supplication section for additional supplications to memorize.

5. Then, finally the Imam says the TASLIM.
 - The Imam says this once or twice; meaning that the Imam turns his face to the right to give salam and recites 'Assalamu alaikum wa-Rahmatullah,' which is required, and then to the left, which is optional and also says 'Assalmu alaikum wa-Rahmatullah.'
 - It is optional to say it once or twice depends on the school of thought, but also because the Prophet (pbuh) did it both ways as it was reported in several hadith.

6. This completes the Janaazah prayer.

D- ETIQUETTES:

Etiquettes of Carrying and Following the Janazah:

1. When carrying the casket/deceased:

- Those who lift the body should recite, “Bismillah” (In the Name of Allah).
- The head of the deceased should always be towards the front of the casket.
- The procession should proceed at a brisk pace.
- It is preferred to follow the casket from the behind and sides, rather than walking in front of the casket.
- Remain quiet, DO NOT chant or make dhikir.
- DO NOT carry torches or fires during the procession.
-

2. Ruling on Caskets and Coffins:

- DO NOT spend on lavish coffins/caskets
- If possible, the deceased should be carried on a bier.
- Men should carry the coffin/casket.
- Women SHOULD NOT carry the coffin/casket (under most/normal conditions).

3. At the grave site:

- DO NOT sit before the casket/coffin is put down, EXCEPT for those who are SICK or the ELDERLY.
- DO NOT bury the Muslims with the non-Muslims, and DO NOT bury the non-Muslims with the Muslims.
- DO NOT bury during these three (3) times:
 - a. Sunrises
 - b. Noontime (Zenith)
 - c. Sunset
- Do not call the Adhan or Iqamah.

4. When lowering the body into the grave:

- The grave should be dug straight, wide enough, and deep.
- Bring the deceased head first from the feet-side of the grave.
- Blood relations have first right to lowering the body into the grave.
- Say, “With Allah’s name, and following the Sunah of the Prophet (pbuh) when lowering the body.
- Turn the body so that it is facing the Qiblah.
- Untie the ‘ties’.
- It is recommended to throw three (3) handful of soil into the grave.
- NOTE: Men who had intercourse on the previous night should not lower the body into the grave.

5. Things that SHOULD NOT be done over the grave:

- Do not dig your own grave.
- Do not slaughter an animal on behalf of the deceased.
- Do not pour water over the grave.
- Do not spread flower petals over the grave.
- Do not deliver a speech after the burial; ACCEPT for the supplication.

NOTE: Please refer to other books and fiqh sunnah for more details of what one can and cannot do during the burial process and its etiquettes.

