



# Washing & Shrouding- Janaza



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Firstly we humbly ask Allah's (swt) forgiveness for any shortcoming or sin that we may have committed in either the compiling-typing of these notes and in washing and shrouding the janaza.

Whatever good is in the compiling of these notes –it is from Almighty Allah (swt) in accordance to the Holy Prophet (sal) and whatever wrong and evil is in it, we ask for the guidance of Almighty Allah and ask for His forgiveness.

Masha Allah Almighty Allah (swt) has given us the opportunity to study the sunnah method of preparing oneself for death, and washing and shrouding the Janaza of our righteous sisters.

Washing and shrouding one's dead is a Fardh Kifaya – communal obligation, a duty that lies on each and every Muslim. MAY ALLAH (swt) GRANT THE JANAZA "JENNATHUL FIRDHOUSE" AND GIVE US THE REWARD WITH HIS FORGIVENESS OF OUR SINS. AMEEN.

## WHEN DEATH APPROACHES:

**When death approaches those around should prompt gently to the person to recite “La Illahah Illallah Muhammadurrasullullah**

(PAGE21-Book of Funerals )

Remind the dying person of the infinite Mercy of Allah (swt) and seek Jenna. If the person is aware of what he or she says – those around should first recite tawbah with the meaning in the language that the person understands – begging and seeking the Forgiveness of ALMIGHTY ALLAH (SWT) AND THEN PROMPT THE PERSON TO RECITE THE SHAHADA:LA Illahah Illallah Muhammadurrasullullah. Pg21.(book of Funerals)

No other recitals of the Holy Quran should be done. Pg33. (book of Funerals)

May Almighty Allah (swt) help us all to die with the shahada on our lips, tongue, throat, soul, mind and body- ameen.

**When one dies:**

1. when one dies, massage and close the eyes saying:  
“Bismilla, wa ala millatha rasoolullah” ( in the name of Allah, in the manner of Prophet(sal)
2. Tie the jaw up-very lightly
3. Bend and extend the limbs and keep them straight- hand straight. Pg134
4. Tie the feet together at the ankles-very lightly-not toes.

5. Cover the whole body with a cloth (always make sure the body is covered) then remove clothes worn.
6. Keep a light object on the stomach-approx weighing one pound book.

IMPORTANT: Please note that the sunnah does not specify the method of washing Janaza twice, as it is recommended to give immediate burial, but the methods of society warrant this method.

Please try to bury the dead immediately – the common practice in Lanka is to wash once and then bathe before burial ...in this case one can give the Janaza a body wash- using the same method of washing – but cover the body with two thick non-transparent sheets – instead of shrouding up until the body is bathed again in preparation for burial.

### **IN THE FUNERAL HOUSE**

Crying is not prohibited- but do not wail or cry loudly- nor proclaim that life won't go on without this person – Almighty Allah (swt) forbids that.

Only speak of the good of the deceased- do not say anything bad about the dead person – as Angels say Ameen to what you say – pg 24.

Ask forgiveness for the deceased from ALMIGHTY ALLAH (swt) – make dua. pg 24.

Kissing between the eyes is Sunnah.

Prepare to wash and shroud the body – remember washing a Janaza is a fardh Kifaya(Communal obligation)

1<sup>st</sup> ablution of janaza should be done.  
2<sup>nd</sup> –do light body wash,  
Later start bathing the body. Always start from right side.  
After wiping body after first cover with two sheets  
and cover the head with scarf-temporary wash.

**THE Kaffan for women – 3 pieces of cloth: 54"X 2½ yards each white cotton.**

**Width of material – 54 inches or join 2 pieces – 36"+18" - 54"**

**Length of material – 2 ½ yards.**

**Material required. 54"Material = 7 ½ yards  
36" MATERIAL = 12½ YDS.**

**GUIDELINES: PLEASE READ – PRIOR TO TAKING TO WASHING JANAZA**

**INSHA ALLAH, WHEN PREPARING TO WASH THE BODY TAKE 5 PERSONS WITH ONE ACTING AS A LEADER (AMIR) as the sunnah of the Holy Prophet (sal) ...and Mashoorah in a place away from Janaza as to the proceedings in washing and shrouding the janaza.**

**Make Dua to Allah (swt) – to seek Almighty Allah's (swt) Pleasure and thanks and to give you the reward for bathing and shrouding the janaza.**

**According to the Hadith of our beloved Prophet (sal): in washing a Muslim one should seek Allah's (swt) pleasure and thanks.**

**Please remember that the persons washing should conceal and not mention anything loathsome they observe during the washing to anyone.**

**“HE WHO WASHES AND CONCEALS BAD SMELL OR APPEARANCE OF THE JANAZA – ALLAH (SWT) GRANTS HIM FORGIVENESS OF 40 MAJOR SINS.**

**MASHAALLAH – ALBANI- AHKAMUL JANAZA – 106.**

**HE WHO SHROUDS A JANAZA, ALMIGHTY ALLAH(SWT) WILL REWARD THAT PERSON WITH THE SILK GARMENTS OF JANNAH.AMEEN**

**HADEES:**

**THE FOLLOWING ARE INNOVATIONS: BIDAATH.**

**PLEASE DO NOT PERFORM SUCH ACTS AS THEY ARE INNOVATIONS AND NOT RECOMMENDED...Pg 113.**

**1). CLIPPING NAILS OR REMOVING HAIR.**

**2). MOVING HANDS AND FEET REPEATEDLY AND PRESSING HARD ON THE STOMACH - TO EXPEL EXCREMENTS. STOMACH SHOULD BE PRESSED GENTLY ONCE OR TWICE- PRIOR TO WASHING.**

**3). STUFFING COTTON INTO ANUS, THROAT OR NOSE (except when secretion cannot be stopped)**

**4). RECITING ZIKR OR YASIN WHILE WASHING**

**5). ARRANGING A WOMAN’S HAIR BETWEEN HER BREASTS.**

**MATERIAL FOR SHROUDING: 3 nos white sheets of 54” width by 2 ½’ length (if one cannot find 54” material- then join 36” with a 18” piece to obtain the required width.**

**AMOUNT OF MATERIAL: 12 ½ yds of 36 inch material or 7½ yds of 54” material.**

**SETTING OF SHROUD: ( should be done prior to taking janaza for washing).**

**1). First place mat.**

**2). Place one strip of string like a cord – to tie in the middle.**

**3). Then the sheet on top of mat- sprinkle camphor.**

**4). the other sheet on top – sprinkle camphor**

**5). fina sheet on top**

**6). 3 strips for tying.**

**Please have more soft cloth and pads ready at hand to be used if necessary.**

**Now roll inwards with the mat to centre – roll inwards from both sides – for roll to meet AT THE CENTRE.....FOLD AND KEEP ASIDE - WITH THE OTHER 2 STRIPS.**

## **INSHA ALLAH – STEPS TO FOLLOW TO WASH**

### **JANAZA.**

#### **PLEASE CHECK LIST: FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

**1). 2 OR 3 NOS: SHEET FOR COVERING THE BODY – WHILE BATHING AND DRESSING.**

**2), 2 LARGE TOWELS OR SOFT VOILE SARI OR SARONGS TO DRY THE JANAZA.**

**3). COTTON ROLL, SOAP ,SHAMPOO, AND ATHAR PERFUME**

**4). SOFT CLOTH/SPONGE**

**5). 1 PAIR GLOVES**

**6). COMB**

**7) CAMPHOR IN A BUCKET FOR FINAL WASH. (OPTIONAL**

**8), PAIR OF SCISSORS.**

- 9) DUSTBIN WITH SHOPPING BAGS TO COLLECT WASTE CLOTHS AND COTTON
- 10). SANITARY PADS OR CLOTH TO BE FOLDED AS PAD.
- 11). BUCKETS OF WATER – or a hose with a flexible shower cord – water should not be forceful from shower cord.
- 12). OLD SOFT CLOTH- sari, sarong or sheets.

**A Table to hold contents to be used for washing.**

**1) SETTING OF WASHING BODY : WASHING SEQUENCE .pg 112.**

**1). Remember that one should act as Amir – this should be the person who does the physical washing-** the rest should help her out. She must allocate each one their tasks e.g. One person to hold the head, two people on each side including Amir.

**2) Make Du'a and ask for Allah's (swt) Forgiveness and Mercy for oneself and the Janaza, AS ONE SETS TO WASH AND SHROUD THE BODY.**

- A) ONE SHOULD BE IN CHARGE OF GENTLY HOLDING THE HEAD WHILE THE BODY IS TURNED FOR WASHING
- B) ONE SHOULD HAND OVER THE SOFT CLOTHS, SOAP ETC
- C) THE OTHERS SHOULD STAND IN POSITIONS NECESSARY TO ASSIST IN TURNING THE JANAZA, THIS WILL HELP TO MINIMISE THE TALKING WHILE WASHING AND SHROUDING.

**3) DO NOT MENTION TO ANYONE – HIDE AND CONCEAL ANY LOATHSOME APPEARANCE OR SMELL ONE ENCOUNTERS IN THE JANAZA.**

**4) PLACE A COVERING ON TOP OF BODY...THE SHEET SHOULD BE THICK AND NOT TRANSPARENT-**

5). WHEN WATER IS POURED THE BODY SHOULD NOT BE SEEN.

6). PLEASE KEEP AWRAH COVERED ALL THE TIME.

7). BODY CAN BE WASHED – 3 – 5- 7 OR ANY ODD NUMBER OF TIMES – IF NECESSARY OR REQUIRED DUE TO EMISSIONS. WASHING OF HANDS (3) TIMES etc.

WHEN THE JANAZA IS BEING WASHED – IT IS BETTER THAT IT IS TURNED TO A SLIGHTLY SLANTING POSITION EITHER TURNED TO ITS RIGHT OR LEFT WITH 2 PERSONS HOLDING IT CAREFULLY- this is to minimize water entering the body.

**START – with niyath – reciting Bismillahi wa ala millathi rasullulah . Meaning: In the name of Allah in accordance to the Sunnah of the Holy Prophet of Allah.**

- 1) Use a soft glove or wrap hand IN SOFT CLOTH AND REMOVE ANY EXCRETA OR EMISSIONS -PRESS ABDOMEN SLIGHTLY KEEPING THE AWRAH COVERED ALL THE TIME.
- 2) **UNDRESS THE JANAZA** and cover the awrah with a covering sheet – cutting out whatever clothing is difficult to remove.
- 3) Untie any knots or braids in hair.
- 4). **Ablution for Janaza**...Just as one would take ablution....please take precaution not to allow water into nose, mouth and ears.



5). Then wash and shampoo the hair – when pouring water, take care to avoid the face, to minimize water entering the body. On completion of washing hair, pour water on complete body from head to toe – 3 times, starting from right side. (This completes the fard ghusul bath)

6). **Towel dry and wrap the hair.**

7). Slightly turning the deceased to the left side, start bathing the janaza (just as you would bathe a baby) taking care to soap gently and wash well under arms and between folds.

..(remember that the person washing should have her hand covered with a cloth or glove all the time –taking care not to touch the awrah with her bare hands.)

8). After soaping and washing the right side complete from neck to toe – slightly turn the body to the right and wash the left side of the janaza.

9). Conclude the final wash with water mixed with camphor.

**NOTE:** PRIOR TO FINAL WASH—after bathing- check on awrah for emissions- should there be any emissions then the janaza requires a second bath. Please note that if a second bath is given to janaza- than a 3<sup>rd</sup> bath becomes necessary as it has been recommended to **wash the body an odd number of times**- this is the sunnah of the Holy Prophet (sal)

After the third wash should there be continuous emissions, place a sanitary pad or soft cloth folded as a pad.

**BATH** means pouring water 3 times from neck to toe.

**After bath- COVER THE AWRAH WITH A DRY SHEET, and then gently remove the wet one which is now over the janaza**

This should be a very wide sheet so that the awrah is not exposed when turning the janaza from right to left to place the shroud beneath

**Wipe hair....COMB HAIR AND PLAIT INTO 3 AND ARRANGE BEHIND THE HEAD.**

Wipe Face gently and then the body-using soft used towels or cloth-then place another dry sheet – until the hair is well dried and braided into 3 plaits – placed at the back of the head.

Then wipe body well – gently and now the janaza is ready for shrouding.

Wipe bed well – prior to shrouding the janaza.

Should the sheet that covers the janaza be wet – cover with another sheet and remove wet sheet prior to shrouding – to minimize the shroud to be wet.

Please note: all sheets and towels that were used can be reused by others of the family. Not necessary to throw or give away.

**Once janaza is taken for washing, until completion of washing, the room should remain closed. NO ONE should be taken in until the janaza is shrouded completely. Relatives MALE or**

**FEMALE coming into the room to pour water is not in accordance with the sunnah.**

## **SHROUDING THE JANAZA**

**1). Please make sure someone is holding the head gently throughout the entire process of washing and shrouding.**

**Before shrouding pad awrah- cloth, cotton pad etc.**

**2).Place rolled shroud lengthways along with the janaza on the right side of the janaza. Slightly tilt janaza to the left and slip in the entire roll beneath janaza ( keeping the top cover sheet on)**

**3). Then slightly tilt janaza to right and spread out the roll.**

**At this point if emissions have not stopped-place thick pads of cotton- or sanitary pads or soft cloth.**

**Then start shrouding – sheets drapes one by one singularly left over right 3 times- to a fairly tight fit.**

**first the cloth on the right side taken to the centre and then place the left side of the cloth over the right side.**

**The top of cloth used as head cover if the face is to be kept open .**

**Finally, straighten out sheets – and wrap covering the face – tie the centre string – one above the head and one below the feet.**

**Wrap with mat when placing on the sanduk/**

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**Whatever good is in this of compiling of these notes- it is from Almighty Allah in accordance to the Holy Prophet (sal)...and whatever**

wrong and evil is in it – we ask for the guidance of Almighty Allah and ask for His forgiveness.

**MAY ALLAH GRANT THE JANAZA “JENNATHUL FIRDOUSE’ and give us the reward with His Forgiveness of our SINS - AMEEN.**

**TO apply Athar (perfume) finally.**

**Mahrams -husbands, their fathers, their husbands’ fathers, their sons, their husbands’ sons, their brothers, their brothers’ sons, their sisters’ sons, their women, that which their right hands possess, or those male attendants having no physical desire, or children who are not yet aware of the private aspects of women.24;31**

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