

## **PROCEDURE FOR BURIAL AFTER THE DEATH OF A COMMUNITY MEMBER**

The following steps need to be followed whenever there is a death of a Muslim member of the Community:

Contact one of the following members of the ICLR

Primary Contact: Iftikhar Pathan 501-940-6951  
Secondary Contacts: Yasir Sultan 501-837-4370  
Hashim Ghori 501-791-6321

The above ICLR Contact person will get in touch with one of the following representatives from ICPB for making the funeral arrangements at the Muslim cemetery in Pine Bluff:

ICPB Primary Contact: Dr. Ghulam Khalil

Secondary Contacts: Salman Mekhari  
Qazi Qayyum

The ICLR Representative will also contact the Funeral Home listed below for the body to be picked up from the place of death, washed, brought back to the ICLR for salat-e-janaza (Funeral Prayer) and then taken over to the Muslim Cemetery in Pine Bluff for burial.

Name of the Funeral Home: Little Rock Funeral Home

8801 Knoedl Court  
NW corner of I-630 & John Barrow Rd.

Phone: 501-224-2200

[www.littlerockfuneralhome.com](http://www.littlerockfuneralhome.com)

*Prior arrangements have been made with the Funeral Home to have the body washed according to the Islamic Shariah by members of our community.*

The following members of the Community have agreed to wash the body at the Funeral Home: They will be contacted by the ICLR Representative:

Men: Shaikh Syed Osman, Omar Robinson, Mohsin Syed

Women: Yasmin Masood, Wendy Moursi, Mona Kamal

**Total Cost for the Funeral:** **\$2500.00**  
**(Payable to: Islamic Center of Little Rock)**

This price includes the payment to the following:

**Little Rock Funeral Home:**

Use of facility, transportation and casket.

(Total Cost could be higher if additional services are required)

**Islamic Center of Pine Bluff**

(Grave real estate); the amount of \$250.00

To be deducted from the total cost if already paid to ICLR.

**Archie Sanders**

Labor cost for digging and covering the grave

**Islamic Center of Little Rock**

Funeral package consisting of white cotton sheets, perfume (non-alcoholic), soap (Fragrance- free), gloves and cotton swab. (Separate sets for men & women).

*Items available with the Imam.*

**Please do not contact the ICPB representative, the funeral home or Archie Sanders directly.**

**DIRECTIONS TO THE MUSLIM CEMETERY IN PINE BLUFF**

- From Lucie St. take RIGHT on Fair Park Blvd.
- Merge onto I- 630 E.
- Merge onto I- 30W towards Texarkana.
- Take I-440E/I-550 S Exit
- Merge onto I-550S towards Pine Bluff
- Take the Princeton Pike exit. EXIT 36
- Muslim Cemetery is on the left (adjacent to
- Forest Lawn Garden Cemetery)
- 7409 Princeton Pike, Pine Bluff, AR 71603

## THE JANAZAH PRAYER (FUNERAL PRAYER):

The janazah prayer is a communal obligation. All conditions that apply to the normal prayer apply to the funeral prayer as well i.e. state of purity, wudu, awrah must be covered (no shorts allowed for men and only face and hands may be exposed for women) and facing the qiblah.

The body is placed in front of the congregation perpendicular to the qiblah with the head on the right side. The imam positions himself at the head of the body for a male, the middle of the body for a female and the followers form at least 3 rows behind the Imam. The prayer consists of 4 Takbirs in the standing position (for those able to stand), ending in Salaam with no athan, iqamah, bowing or prostration. The following steps outline the procedure for the prayer.

1. With the intention to pray upon the deceased seeking the pleasure of Allah, follow the imam in saying the first Takbir, Allahu Akbar.

Read Surah Fatihah after the first takbir.

2. Follow the imam in the second takbir, Allahu Akbar.

Read the salawat on the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). "Allahumma sallee ala-Muhammad wa'ala alee Muhammad kama sallayta ala Ibrahim wa ala alee Ibrahim, wa barik ala Muhammad wa'ala alee Muhammad kama barakta ala Ibrahim wa ala alee Ibrahim, innaka hamidun Majeed".

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ  
مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ  
إِبْرَاهِيمَ إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مُجِيدٌ  
اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ  
كَمَا بَارَكْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ  
إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مُجِيدٌ

3. Follow the Imam in the third Takbir and supplicate for the deceased.

4. Follow the imam in the 4th and final Takbir and supplicate for yourself and the other deceased.

5. End the prayer with tasleem as for the prescribed prayers.

For the prayers/dua after the 3rd and 4th Takbirs, the following dua may be read.

67. Dua in janaazah salaah for an adult

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِحَيِّنَا وَمَيِّتِنَا وَشَاهِدِنَا وَغَائِبِنَا  
وَصَغِيرِنَا وَكَبِيرِنَا وَذَكَرْنَا وَأُنْثَانَا اللَّهُمَّ مَنْ  
أَحْيَيْتَهُ مِنَّا فَاحْيِهِ عَلَى الْإِسْلَامِ وَمَنْ تَوَفَّيْتَهُ مِنَّا  
فَتَوَفَّهُ عَلَى الْإِيمَانِ

O Allah ﷻ, forgive amongst us those who are alive and those who are dead, those who present and those who are absent, those who are young and those who are old, those who are males and those who are females, O Allah ﷻ, whom You keep alive amongst us, keep him alive upon Islam and whom You caused to die, let him die upon imaan.  
*(Firmidhi, Vol. 1, Pg. 121)*

Allahummaghfirli hayyina wa mayyitina, wa sagheerina, wa kabeerina, wa dhakarina wa unthana, wa shahidina, wa ghaebina, allahumma mann ahyaytahu minna fa'ahyih alal islam wa mann tawaffaytahu minna fatawaffahu alal imaan.

In the dua, the ending hu is changed to haa for a female deceased and to hum for multiple deceased

Imam Nawawi mentions in his book al-athkar that you can say the following dua before the final takbir.

"Oh Allah. Do not make forbidden to us his reward and do not put us to trial after him and forgive us and him."

All of this is good, the minimum of which is to just say Alaahummaghfirlahu warhamhu (ending with ha for a lady and hum for many. This will suffice for the duahs following the 3rd and 4th takbirs.

## **The Burial**

Following the janazah to the cemetery is a reminder of the hereafter and a recommended practice of great reward. It is permissible for those who have missed the first janazah prayer to pray it in the same manner at the cemetery when the body arrives. Two types of graves are used for burial, al-Shaqq which is a deep vertical hole or al-Lahd which has an additional horizontal carving in one end of the hole for the body to fit in. The grave should be perpendicular to the qiblah.

Only men are allowed to perform the burial. The deceased male relatives place the body in the grave. In the case of a female deceased her husband, father, sons and/or uncles may place her in the grave. It is recommended for those placing the body in the grave to say, "Bismil lahi wa 'ala millati rasulillah", meaning "In the name of Allah and in the faith of the turned toward the Qiblah. The ties at the head and feet can then be undone. Once the body is placed in the grave in this manner, it is recommended that followers take 3 handfuls of soil to be thrown into the grave. After the grave is covered it is recommended to pray for the deceased as the prophet Muhammad (pbuh) advised us, "*Supplicate for forgiveness for your brother and request steadfastness for him because he is now being questioned*".

It is important to note that the Islamic burial is a simple yet dignified procedure. There is no need to incorporate practices which are not from the Sunnah of the prophet Muhammad (pbuh). It is not allowed to sit on the grave, decorate the grave or face the grave in normal prayer. Other than duah and what is mentioned above nothing further is required to be said or recited.

Muslims are encouraged to be accepting of the will of Allah, to have patience and look forward to a reward from Allah. To Allah belongs what he takes and to Him belongs what he gives and for everything there is an appointed time. May Allah grant our believing deceased the highest rank in Jannah.