

Important Notes About This Janazah Kit:

1. Keep this kit out of the reach of young children. It contains items which (if consumed) may be harmful. Also, the shroud should be kept inside the plastic until it is needed.
2. The liquid soap doubles as shampoo. A small amount makes a lot of lather.
3. The shroud (pieces) are labeled (by letters) which correspond to the illustrations.
4. Refrain from stitching seams. The burial shroud is required to be seamless.
5. The musk oil should be added to the final rinse water. **Do not**, under any circumstances, apply the oil directly to the skin of the deceased.
6. As the final step, the camphor block should be crushed into smaller pieces and sprinkled over the shrouded body.

In the name of Allah (SWT), Most Gracious, Most Merciful

THE WASHING AND SHROUDING OF A MUSLIM BODY

THE WASHING

1. NIA – Intentions should be made that you are about to wash this deceased sister's body;
2. The Pressing of the Stomach – After the jaw has been closed by tying the chin, and after pulling the big toe to close the eyes (if these actions are needed), the stomach must be, gently, pressed in a downward motion to expel any waste material still left in the stomach cavity;
3. The Washing of the Private Parts – The body must be undressed under a sheet and not unnecessarily exposed. With a sheet covering the entire body, the private parts of the deceased person should be washed with a rubber-gloved left hand. Again, this should be done under the sheet;
4. Giving Ablution – The same parts of the body that must be washed for ablution when the person is alive, should now be washed. The exception is that no water should be put into the nose, mouth, or ears of the deceased person;
5. The Washing of the Hair – Next, the hair of the deceased is thoroughly washed with the same soap (devoid of fragrance) with which the rest of the body is washed. Then the hair should be thoroughly rinsed. A towel should be wrapped around the hair while the washing of the rest of the body continues;
6. The Washing of the Rest of the Body – Next, the body is turned on its left side and washed from the neck to the foot (in the front first, then in the back); It is then turned on its right side and washed in the same manner. (A body can be washed once, thrice, or five times, but no more than seven times – for the purpose of removing all impurities). However many times it is decided the body should be washed, all washings should be completed on an odd or uneven number;
7. The Final Rinse – After the final rinse, the body should be dried with a clean towel, and the hair combed and brushed (by now, it should be only damp). Tradition says that a woman with long hair should have it braided into three braids. However, if the hair is short, combing and brushing is enough. Nails should not be cut, but nail polish should be removed. Hair under the arms should not be shaved. A light musk oil can be used in the final rinse water.

The Shrouding

8. **The Parts of the Shroud** – Clean (100%) cotton material should be used to shroud. There should be no seams in the material. If the use of two (2) tables is possible, one is used for washing the body, and the other one can be used for wrapping or shrouding the body;

* **If two tables are available**, before starting the washing, lay out all parts of the shroud (in layered fashion) on the second table (see item #9 of this sheet). Once the washing is complete and the body has been thoroughly dried (the sheets covering the body during the washing may need to be changed for dry ones), the attendees can lift the body (using the sheet underneath the body) onto the shrouding table.

* **If only the washing table is available**, again, make certain the body, table, and sheets covering the body are thoroughly dry (if they are damp or wet, change both the top, and the bottom sheet). Then slip the complete multi-layered shroud, as gently as possible, under the body (pushing the bottom sheet from under the body as you go)—turning the body from one side to the other.

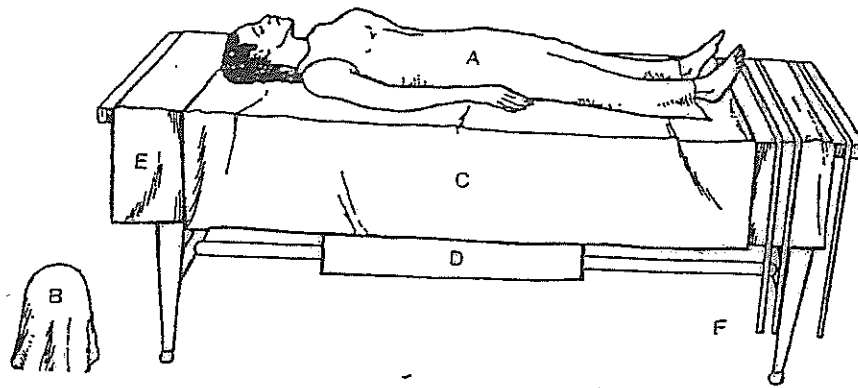
9. **The order in which the Parts Should be Laid :**

- A) **Three to five ties** (depending upon the body's size)
- B) **The winding sheet** (should be 1 ½ to 2 feet higher than the head and lower than the feet)
- C) **The Breast Wrapper**
- D) **The Lower Garment**
- E) **The Head Covering or Hood**
- F) **The Sleeveless Dress**

10. **Order of dressing the Deceased:**

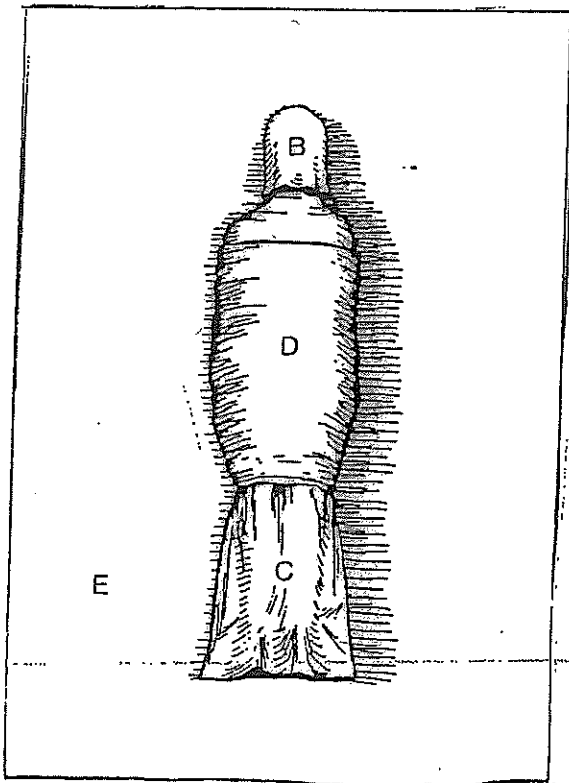
After the shroud has been placed under the body, the deceased sister should have dried camphor crumbled all over her body (excluding her face). This is recommended in order to slow down the process of deterioration and bad smell while the body is waiting to be buried.

SHROUDING

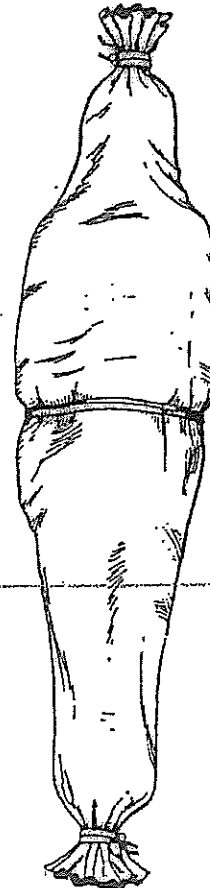


FEMALE POSITION FOR SHROUDING

Female shrouding garments. (A) Sleeveless dress. (B) Headwrapper. (C) Lower garment. (D) Breast wrapper. (E) Winding sheet. (F) Straps.



FEMALE PARTIALLY SHROUDED



3) Hood or Headwrapper. (C) Lower garment. (D) Breast wrapper. (E) Winding sheet.

Tying the winding sheet (E) of both the male and female.

Illustrations taken from Prayer and Al-Islam by Wanth D. Muhammad.

- a) First the sleeveless dress is pulled over the body; the sides are not stitched together. They just lie flat on the table;
- b) Second, the lower garment should cover the entire body from head to feet, and should be two feet wider than the deceased – the right side overlapping the left side;
- c) Third, the breast wrapper or bodice covers the body only from the breast down toward the upper thighs – and should, also, be folded with the right side overlapping the left side;
- d) Fourth, at this point, the head covering or the hood should be put on the deceased's head. It should cover her total head and face (see picture of partially shrouded female on next page);
- e) The fifth and final covering, the winding sheet, should be (as already stated) 1 ½ to 2 feet wider, higher, and lower than the deceased sister. It is folded over the body in the same manner in which all the previous garments were folded – the right side over lapping the left side; Next, a tie is used to tie the sheet above the head, and below the feet (see picture on next page). Another tie should be used to secure the winding sheet toward the middle of body. If needed, more ties can be used.

(This winding sheet is untied only after the body has been placed into the grave for burial or just before the coffin is sealed for burial. If the coffin is to be sealed, the body should be placed on its right side, in the position of facing the Ka'abah).

**Now, Insha'Allah, the body of the deceased is ready
For the Janazah service and burial**