

In the Name of Allah (swt), Most Gracious, Most Merciful



THE WASHING AND SHROUDING OF A DECEASED (MALE) MUSLIM:

- 1. Nia** – Intentions should be made that you are about to wash this deceased brother'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;
- 5. The Washing of the Hair** – Next, the hair of the deceased is thoroughly washed with the same (fragrance free) soap 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 washing the rest of the body. The brother's hair and beard should be well groomed.

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- The musk oil may be used in the final rinse water. After the final rinse, the body should be dried with a clean towel, and the hair combed and brushed (by now it should only be damp). Nails should not be cut. Hair under the arms should not be shaved.

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 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. 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 sure the body, table and sheets covering the body are thoroughly dry (if they are damp or wet, change both the top and the bottom sheets). 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 1-1/2 to 2 feet higher than the head and lower than the feet).
- C) **The Lower Garment**
- D) **Turban** (wrap the head)
- E) **The Sleeveless shirt**

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