How to Perform

SALATUL JANAZAH

For all Madhabs
(Shafi, Hanafi, Hanbali, Maliki)

In many ahadith, the Prophet Muhammed(S) emphasized and encouraged the Muslims to attend funeral ceremonies. Every Muslim male should try his best to fulfill his duty towards the deceased. If no one from the whole of the Muslim Community offers the Janazah Prayers, then the whole community will be considered sinful in the sight of Allah(SWT). If some of the people offer the Janazah prayer then the whole community will be saved from the anger of Allah(SWT). There are 4 Takbeers in funeral prayer in Islam.

(Sahih Bukhari, Vol. 2, Hadith #337).

1. Facing Qiblah, make Intention (Niyyah) for Salaatul Janazah upon the deceased male or female in order to please Allah (SWT). Without Iqamah the Imam will recite Takbeer. You will then raise your hands between the shoulders & ears (1a) and recite Takbeer:

Al-lāhū Akbār
"Allah is the Great"

(1a)

Follow the arms, right hand over left (1b) and according to Hanafi you read any Du'a such as below. According to Shafi, Hanbali, and Malik it is mandatory to recite Surat al-Fatiha.

Subḥā-nā nākāl-lāh-hum-ma biḥamdiyā ḫa-ta-ba-rā-kasmu-kā wa-ta-‘alā jad-dukā wa jal-lā thānaa-uuka wa laa-ilāa-ha ghayrūk
"Glory be to You, o Lord, all Praises are due unto You, and blessed is Your name and high is Your majesty and Your praises are elevated and none is worthy of worship but You."

(1b)

2. Then say Takbeer: Alahu-Akbar, (Raise hands as shown in position 1a and then return to position 1b. Hanifi: Hands are not raised, kept in same position as 1b). Then recite Assalatul-İbrahimiyah (Salutations on The Prophet (S) (Durood-e-Ibrahim). All Madhabs agree upon this:

Aℓ-lāhūm-ma aal-‘alā Muḥammadi(w) wa ‘alāa aali Muḥammadin, kamaa sal-layta ‘alāa İbraheemaa wa ‘alāa aali İbraheema, in-naka hameedum majeed. Al-lāhūhum-ma sal-lī ‘alāa Muḥammad(n)’w wa-‘alāa aali Muḥammadin, kamaa sal-layta ‘alāa İbraheemaa wa ‘alāa aali İbraheema, in naka hameedum majeed. Al-lāhūhum-ma baarik
"Peace upon you, and the mercy of Allah" once whilst turning your head to the right (4a).

(4a)

3. Then say Takbeer: Alahu-Akbar, (Raise hands as shown in position 1a and then return to position 1b. Hanifi: Hands are not raised, kept in same position as 1b). Then say the Dua for the Deceased:

Aℓ-lāhū-hum-magh-fir lee-hay-yinaa wa may-yitinaa, wa shahididinaa wa ghaa-‘i-bi-nnaa wa sagheerinaa wa-kabeerinaa, wa z(th)a-κarinaa wa unthaana. Al-lāhū-hum-ma man aah’yaytuhu min-naa fa-ah’ yihee ‘alal İslam, wa man ta-waf-faytahu min-naa fata waf-fahu ‘alal eeman.
"O Allah, forgive our people who are still alive and those who have passed away, forgive those who are present here and those who are absent, forgive our young and elderly, forgive our males and females. O Allah, the one whom You wish to keep alive from among us make him live according to Islam, and anyone whom You wish to die from among us, let him die in the state of Iman (Belief)"

4. Then say Takbeer: Al-lahhum-ma baarik (Raise hands as shown in position 1a and then return to position 1b. Hanifi: Hands are not raised, kept in same position as 1b). Then say:

As-salaamu alaykum wa rah-matullaah
"Peace upon you, and the mercy of Allah"

All conditions for regular Salah are required for Salatul Janazah such as Cleanliness (Tahara), clean clothes, and being in the state of Wudu. The Imam should stand level with the head and shoulders of the dead body of a male, and should stand level with the abdomen of a female body. There is no fixed time for offering this prayer however Makruh times must be avoided for example, Sunrise (Zawaal) and Sunset. Janazah Salah is performed standing up, there is no Ruku, Sajdh, etc. There is also no Athan or Iqamah.

If you have any questions then please ask a scholar.

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