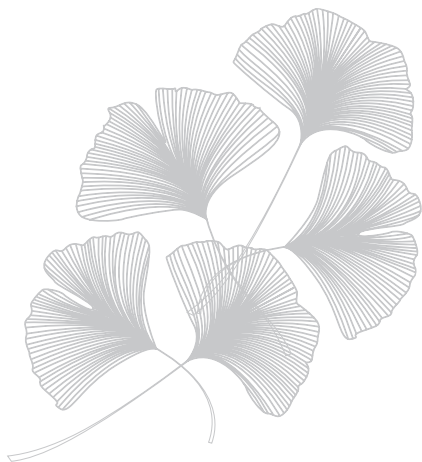


WHAT TO DO
when a
Muslim Dies



Noorjehan Ravalia

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In the Event of a Death

1.1 Practical Tasks Just After a Death

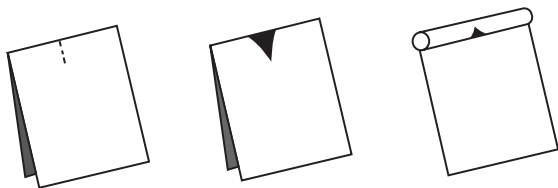
- ♦ As soon as death occurs, the eyes of the deceased should be gently closed (Muslim, Abu Dawud Book of Funerals).
- ♦ The chin should be gently pressed upwards while holding the top of the head. A length of cloth should be firmly tied around the head passing under the chin. This prevents the jaw from sagging.
- ♦ Any jewellery such as rings, necklaces, bracelets, earrings and nose studs should be removed. It is especially important to remove rings before swelling occurs.
- ♦ The limbs should be straightened carefully and gently. If they will not straighten, for example due to a stroke, they must not be forced, as this could cause breakage.
- ♦ The feet should be placed together and the ankles bound carefully with a length of fabric.

3. Chest Band (Sina'band)

This piece covers the body from the arms downwards. It should be about 2m in length and at least 1.5m wide.

4. Shirt/ Kurta (Qamees)

This piece covers the top half of the body from the shoulders down. It should be approximately 2.5m in length and at least 1.5m in width. This piece should be folded in half, a T-shaped cut made as an opening for the head and the front rolled up as shown below:



5. Head scarf (Hijab)

This is used to cover the head and should be about 1.25m square. The hair is not to be combed or trimmed.

Finally, three ties about 2m in length are needed to tie the shroud: a) above the head; b) around the waist; and c) below the feet.