

PREPARING YOUR SOUL

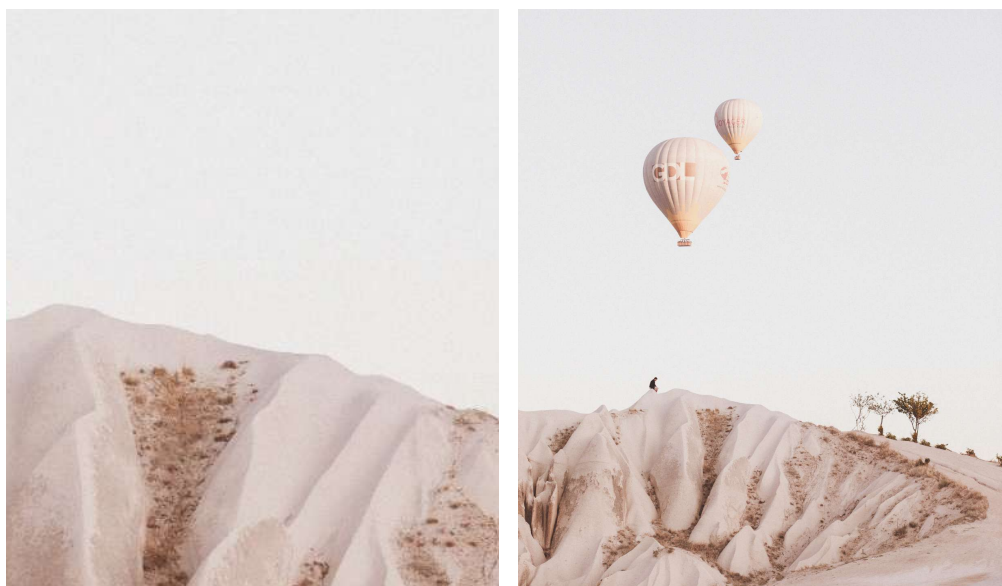
for Jannah

Lesson 3: What the Living Can Do for the Dead

with Ustazah Syariatul Sulaiman + Aida Azlin



The Three Deeds



- We are not disconnected from our loved ones even after death because we can do so many things for them even after they have passed on.
- Nothing will accompany a person in the grave except for their deeds. There are certain deeds that will continue to supply the rewards that we can benefit from in the grave, and there are some deeds that are cut off from us such as our prayers, fasting or pilgrimage.
- *Abu Hurairah reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, “When the human being dies, his deeds end except for three: **ongoing charity, beneficial knowledge, or a righteous child who prays for him.**”* (Muslim)
- We can do two out of the three deeds to ensure continuity of our ibadah after we die. They are our responsibility so that we can continue to benefit from them in our graves In Sha Allah.

Hadith

Abu Hurairah narrated that the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said, “Among the acts and good deeds that will reach a believer after his death are:

knowledge which he learned and then spread;

a righteous child whom he leaves behind;

a copy of the Qur'an that he leaves as a legacy;

a mosque that he built;

a house that he built for wayfarers;

a canal that he dug;

or charity that he gave during his lifetime when he was in good health.

These deeds will reach him after his death.”

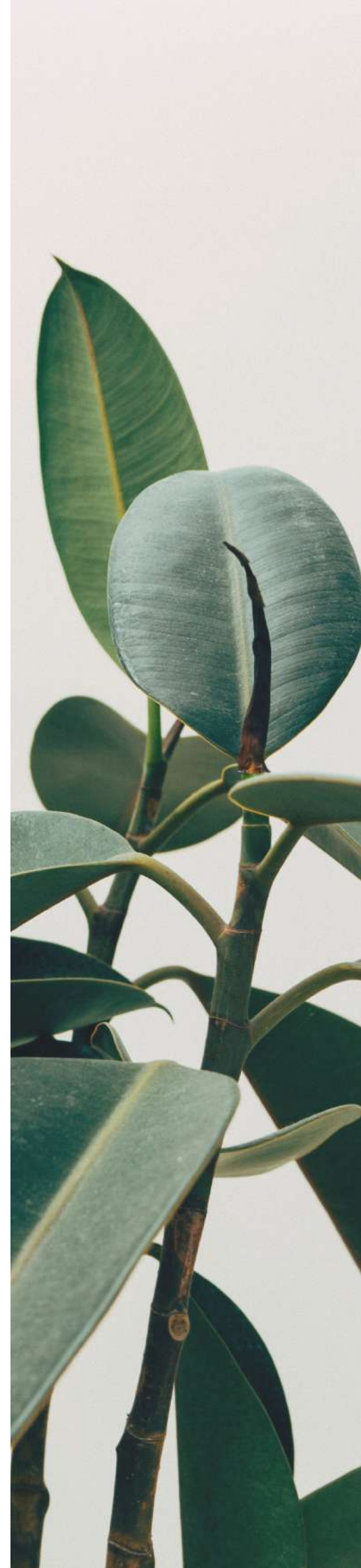
(Ibn Majah — authenticated by Al-Albani)



Acts of love for our loved ones who have passed on

To fulfil the rights of the dead through washing their bodies, shrouding them in clean white clothes, performing funeral prayer for them and also to bury them

- These are rights of every Muslims who have passed away that needs to be fulfilled; they should be honoured with these last acts of love. It is an obligation and a responsibility for us to fulfil for them (*Fard Kifaya*)
- We should grab the opportunity to do this one last act of love for our loved ones while they are still on Earth - to honour, to pray for them and to seek forgiveness for them. These will help with our grieving hearts too.



How is *Salatul Janaza* performed?

There are no Ruku' or Sujud to be performed in *Salatul Janaza*; everyone will be standing up throughout the prayer with the janaza placed at the front.

- 1) Say the *Takbeer*
- 2) Seek refuge from the Shaytan
- 3) Recite *Surah al-Fatiha*
- 4) Say the second *Takbeer*
- 5) Recite *Salawat*
- 6) Say the third *Takbeer*
- 7) Make *Du'a* for the deceased
- 8) Say the fourth *Takbeer*
- 9) Make *Du'a* for ourselves and/or our loved ones
- 10) End with *Salam*





Acts of love for our loved ones who have passed on (*continued*)

Visit their graves and make *Du'a* for them

- Exception for a woman in *'Iddah*, who is not allowed to leave her house unless necessary.
- They can still make *du'a* for the deceased from wherever they are, even if they can't visit the grave, for Allah is All-Hearing.
- *'Iddah* is enjoined for women who go through separation from their husbands either by death or divorce.
- Those in *'Iddah* can still go to work or the market to buy their living essentials as these constitute a necessity.
- The *'Iddah* period is 3 period cycles (about 4 months) and its hikmah is to ensure that there is no *fitnah* for the women and also allows for establishing if the widow is pregnant or not, to avoid confusion in lineage. ***'Iddah* is a form of protection and honour from Allah SWT.**

First Break

AT 16:07





Adab of visiting the grave

- We should comply with the *Adab* (etiquettes) of visiting the grave - by dressing modestly and not having a feast or turning on the music.

- The deceased can recognise the visitors to their grave and they derive comfort from the company of those who visit them.

- The *Du'a* that is being sent does benefit the deceased in the grave, but they don't enjoy the company of having visitors.

- *Du'a* when visiting grave:

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ أَهْلَ الدِّيَارِ مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ وَإِنَّا
إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ بِكُمْ لَاحِقُونَ نَسْأَلُ اللَّهَ لَنَا وَلَكُمْ الْعَافِيَةَ

'Peace be upon you all, Dwellers of this Home, from the believers and the Muslims. Verily we will, Allah willing, be following you, we ask Allah for well-being/ wellness for us and you.' (Muslim)



Acts of love for our loved ones who have passed on (*continued*)

Fulfil their vows, settle their debts and give Sadaqah in their name

- We can also continue some of the deeds that they have yet to fulfil such as the fasting that they vowed to complete before they die, or their intention to perform *Umrah* or *Hajj*.

- *Abdullah b. Buraida (Allah be pleased with him) reported on the authority of his father: When we were sitting with the Messenger of Allah (may peace be upon him), a woman came to him and said: I had gifted to my mother a maid-servant, and now she (the mother) has died. Thereupon he (the Holy Prophet) said: There is a definite reward for you and she (the maid-servant) has been returned to you as an inheritance. She (that woman) again said: Fasts of a month (of Ramadan) are due upon her; should I observe them on her behalf? He (the Holy Prophet) said: Observe fasts on her behalf. She (again) said: She did not perform Hajj, should I perform it on her behalf? He (the Holy Prophet) said: Perform Hajj on her behalf. (Muslim)*

To mention the good character of the deceased

- It is commendable to praise the deceased and to make mention of them only in terms that are excellent and beautiful.

- *Aisha reported: The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "Do not abuse the dead, for they have reached what they put forward."*

In another narration, the Prophet said, "When your companion dies, leave him alone without speaking badly about him." (Bukhari)

- *Ibn Umar reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "Mention what is good about your dead, and refrain from speaking about their evil."* (Sunan al-Tirmidhī)

- If they should be of the people of Heaven, we would be sinning. While should they be people of Hell, whatever they get in the grave is enough for them.





Tahlil reading for the deceased

- Having 7 days, 40 days etc. *tahlil* reading for the deceased is not a Prophetic practice, but some Scholars do not stop these practices because people come together in these gatherings to recite *Quran* and make *Du'a* for the deceased. The Prophet SAW has taught us to pray for those who have passed on before us, and to sit in Majlis of *Dhikr*.

- The problem lies in the gathering being a place for gossip, or when the practice is made compulsory on the families of the deceased to the extent that they are pressured to comply.

Prompting the Deceased After the Burial

At-Tabarani reported that Abu Amamah said: "When one of your brethren passes away and you have levelled the ground over his grave, you should stand by the grave's head and say: 'O so-and-so, son of so-and-so,' for the deceased will hear him, but he cannot respond. Then he should say 'O so-and-so, and son of so-and-so, whereby the deceased will sit up in his grave. Then he should say: 'O so-and-so, son of so-and-so, at which the deceased says: "Guide me, may Allah be merciful to you," but you cannot hear him. Then he should say to the deceased: 'Remember the faith with which you left this world, and remember to bear witness that there is no god but Allah and Muhammad is His servant and Messenger, and remember that you have accepted Allah as your Lord, Islam as your religion, Muhammad as your Prophet and the Qur'an as your guide.' At this Munkar and Nakir (the two angels appointed to question the people in the graves) will hold each other's hand and say: 'Let us go! Why should we sit for a person who has been taught this.'"

(Al-Hafiz in his book Al Talkhis said that the chain of narrators of this hadith is sound. Ad-Diaya' in his Al-Ahkam has also described it as a sound hadith. There is in its chain of narrators one called 'Asim ibn Abdullah who is a weak narrator.)

Source: Fiqh-us-Sunnah Volume 004, Funerals and Dhikr, Fiqh 4.065.

Second Break

AT 32:22

Reminders for ourselves

- We are able to benefit from certain practices and deeds but we have to build these foundations while we are alive.
- There is no way we can get the reward of ongoing charity if we have never made a single charity, or gaining the reward of beneficial knowledge when we are not learning or sharing about what we learnt to others.
- The best *du'a* to ask Allah to guide us is ***Surah Al-Fatihah***, which Allah SWT has prescribed we read in every prayer. We should recite it with a mindful heart and ask Allah to guide us and thank Him for everything we have in this Universe.
- When the Prophet SAW was at his lowest after the loss of his beloved wife and uncle, he SAW did not ask for anything except for Allah not to be angry with him SAW.



Love beyond this world



“They that love beyond the world, cannot be separated. Death cannot kill what never dies.”

by William Penn "Fruits of Solitude"

To Remarry or not?

- Marriage is not all about love; it's also about choosing good partners.
- The Prophet SAW did not re-marry after Sayyidatina Khadijah RA has passed away until he SAW was instructed by Allah SWT.
- Rasulullah SAW and Sayyidatina Aisha RA had an open communication in their marriage - they would talk freely about their feelings.
- It is entirely up to the person who lost their spouse to remarry or not.
- It's not wrong to keep the love for your deceased loved ones and grieve for their passing. It's mercy from Allah SWT!
- Our love can really transcend beyond the realm of this Dunya.





Heart work

- 1) List some of the good deeds that will continue to benefit us even after our death.
- 2) What are one of the acts of love that we can do for our loved ones after they have passed away?
- 3) How many *Takbeers* are there in Salatul Janaza?
- 4) How long does an *'Iddah* period lasts?
- 5) What rights is made compulsory upon us to fulfil for a dead Muslim?