SALAH · CHEAT SHEET

How to Pray Janazah

The funeral prayer in five steps, with the words to say. Four takbirs, prayed standing.

1. **Stand in rows** behind the imam, facing the qiblah, with the intention of praying over the deceased. There is no ruku‘ and no sujud. (Bukhari 1245)
2. **First takbir:** recite al-Fatihah quietly. Ibn ‘Abbas did this and said it is the Sunnah. (Bukhari 1335)
3. **Second takbir:** send salawat on the Prophet ﷺ, for example the salawat of the tashahhud below.
4. **Third takbir:** make a sincere dua for the deceased, such as the dua below. (Abu Dawud 3199)
5. **Fourth takbir, then the salam.** Abu Umamah described this order as the Sunnah. (an-Nasa’i 1989)

SECOND TAKBIR: SALAWAT

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ، وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ، كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ، اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ، وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ، كَمَا بَارَكْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ، وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ

Allāhumma ṣalli ʿalā Muḥammadin wa ʿalā āli Muḥammad, kamā ṣallayta ʿalā Ibrāhīma wa ʿalā āli Ibrāhīm, innaka Ḥamīdun Majīd. Allāhumma bārik ʿalā Muḥammadin wa ʿalā āli Muḥammad, kamā bārakta ʿalā Ibrāhīma wa ʿalā āli Ibrāhīm, innaka Ḥamīdun Majīd

“O Allah! Send Your mercy on Muhammad and on the family of Muhammad, as You sent Your mercy on Abraham and on the family of Abraham, for You are the Most Praiseworthy, the Most Glorious. O Allah! Send Your blessings on Muhammad and the family of Muhammad, as You sent Your blessings on Abraham and on the family of Abraham, for You are the Most Praiseworthy, the Most Glorious.”

Sahih al-Bukhari 3370 · Narrated by Ka‘b ibn ‘Ujrah

THIRD TAKBIR: DUA FOR THE DECEASED

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لَهُ وَارْحَمْهُ وَعَافِهِ وَاعْفُ عَنْهُ وَأَكْرِمْ نُزُلَهُ وَوَسِّعْ مُدْخَلَهُ وَاغْسِلْهُ بِالْمَاءِ وَالثَّلْجِ وَالْبَرَدِ وَنَقِّهِ مِنَ الْخَطَايَا كَمَا نَقَّيْتَ الثَّوْبَ الأَبْيَضَ مِنَ الدَّنَسِ وَأَبْدِلْهُ دَارًا خَيْرًا مِنْ دَارِهِ وَأَهْلاً خَيْرًا مِنْ أَهْلِهِ وَزَوْجًا خَيْرًا مِنْ زَوْجِهِ وَأَدْخِلْهُ الْجَنَّةَ وَأَعِذْهُ مِنْ عَذَابِ الْقَبْرِ أَوْ مِنْ عَذَابِ النَّارِ

Allāhummaghfir lahu warḥamhu, wa ‘āfihi wa‘fu ‘anhu, wa akrim nuzulahu, wa wassi‘ mudkhalahu, waghsilhu bil-mā‘i wath-thalji wal-barad, wa naqqihi minal-khaṭāyā kamā naqqaytath-thawbal-abyaḍa minad-danas, wa abdilhu dāran khayran min dārihi, wa ahlan khayran min ahlihi, wa zawjan khayran min zawjihi, wa adkhilhul-jannah, wa a‘idhhu min ‘adhābil-qabri aw min ‘adhābin-nār

“O Allah! forgive him, have mercy upon him, give him peace and absolve him. Receive him with honour and make his grave spacious; wash him with water, snow and hail. Cleanse him from faults as Thou wouldst cleanse a white garment from impurity. Requite him with an abode more excellent than his abode, with a family better than his family, and with a mate better than his mate. Admit him to the Garden, and protect him from the torment of the grave and the torment of the Fire.”

Sahih Muslim 963a · Narrated by ‘Auf bin Malik

For a woman, the dua is commonly said with “her” in place of “him” (an adaptation, not stated in the hadith). Raising the hands at each takbir, a dua after the fourth takbir, and one salam or two differ between the schools of fiqh: follow your imam.