



Islamic Funeral Handbook

“Every soul shall taste of death, and you shall only be paid fully your reward on the Day of Judgment; then whoever is removed far away from the fire and is made to enter the garden, he indeed has attained the object; and the life of this world is nothing but a provision of vanities” [al-Imran 3:185]

[كل نفس ذائقة الموت وإنما توفون أجوركم يوم القيامة فمن زحزح عن النار وأدخل الجنة فقد فاز وما الحياة الدنيا إلا متاع الغرور.]
[القرآن الكريم- سورة آل عمران- 185/3]

About this handbook

This brief handbook describes the arrangements and considerations for Islamic funerals. Although careful attention has been paid to its content, it is not meant to be a religious reference. It is intended to educate and relieve some of the overwhelming burden Muslims face during the difficult time of death.

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Brief Description of UWMS Funeral Committee

The UWMS Funeral Committee is committed to serving all Muslims, regardless of race, ethnicity or socioeconomic background. The committee also organizes a group of volunteer Muslims who are trained in all aspects of the funeral service and burial. Committee members are trained in Janaza and Ghusl rites and rituals. From washing to prayer and burial, trained and experienced Muslims are in charge of the entire process. UWMS also has trained sisters to provide services for deceased Muslim sisters. The cost of services, through arrangements with carefully selected providers, is well below that offered by commercial cemeteries, and an independent endowment fund helps to subsidize the costs, thereby making the cemetery's services accessible to all Muslims.

Islamic Will

The Islamic will is called *al-wasiyya*. Writing a will is a religious obligation on all Muslims. The Prophet (pbuh) said, "It is the duty of a Muslim who has anything to bequest not to let two nights pass without writing a will about it." [Bukhari and Muslim]

«مَا حَقُّ أَمْرِي مِ مَسْلَمٍ لَهُ شَيْءٌ يُوصِي فِيهِ بَيْتٌ لَيْلَتَيْنِ إِلَّا وَوَصِيَّتُهُ مَكْتُوبَةٌ عِنْدَهُ.»
[البخاري ومسلم من حديث الإمام مالك]

Creating and maintaining a will is a very important duty, especially in the West. It avoids costs and complications for the heirs of the deceased. It provides for the proper distribution of assets, properties and possessions, instruction for payment of debts, selection of an executor and appointment of a guardian for minors. Without a will, the state would intervene to distribute the wealth according to state laws, and the court would select an administrator for the estate and a guardian for children.

Legal documents such as wills should always be prepared by attorneys.

What to Do When Death is Imminent?

Family members of the dying person and their most pious friends should be present at their side to help direct final thoughts towards Allah (swt), recalling his or her good deeds, as well as Allah's mercy and favors. Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said: "Let no Muslim die except expecting and hoping the best from Allah." [Muslim]

«لَا يَمُوتَنَّ أَحَدُكُمْ إِلَّا وَهُوَ يُحْسِنُ الظَّنَّ بِاللَّهِ»
[رواه مسلم عن جابر]

Family members and friends can advise the dying person very gently (encouragement without insistence) to say the shahada: "La Illaha illallah", which means there is no God but Allah, in a very kind and sincere manner as these may be their last words. Abu Saeed Al-Khuduri reported that Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said: "Help Muslims who are dying to say 'La Illaha illallah.'" [Muslim]

«لَقِّنُوا مَوْتَاكُمْ، لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ»
[رواه مسلم عن أبي سعيد، وعن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنهما]

Family members should make Du'a (supplication) to Allah to make the final moments easy, and to forgive them.

All efforts should be made to fulfill any requests that the person may have before dying.

What to Do Immediately After Death?

The eyes and the mouth of the deceased should be closed, and the body covered with a clean sheet. Those present should say, “Innaa lillahi wa innaa ilayhi raji’un” (“*Surely we are from Allah, and to Him is our return*” [Al-Baqarah 2:156]).

"إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون"

Once again, a Du’a should be made seeking Allah’s forgiveness for the deceased.

The hospital should be informed about Islamic tradition, including not performing any autopsy or surgeries on the body unless required by law.

Please call the designated representative of the UWMS Muslim Cemetery Committee (see ‘Contact Information’ section). He or she will make the necessary arrangements to start the burial process. The next of kin or guardian must be prepared to provide the following information to the UWMS representative and the funeral home representative:

- a. Name of deceased
- b. Social Security number
- c. Place of birth
- d. Place of death
- e. Name of legal guardian and relation to the deceased *and* contact information

It typically takes a minimum of 2 to 3 hours to make all the arrangements (obtain death certificate, open the grave, arrange the transportation). As such, a person can be buried on the same day if the death occurred prior to 8 AM. If the death occurred after that time, the arrangements will be typically made for burial the next day.

If death happens over a weekend or during a holiday, the burial procedure could proceed but at an extra cost.

Summary of Burial Procedure

1. Announcement:

After all immediate details are finalized, UWMS will send a notice on its electronic mailing list announcing the death as well as the date and time for Janazah prayer.

2. Ghusl:

The next of kin, or guardian, must agree to abide by all UWMS policies and guidelines before washing of body can begin. Ghusl will be performed by trained UWMS Ghusl team members. A male will wash the male body, and a female will wash the female body. If the deceased is a young child, however, either gender may perform Ghusl. Participation of family members is optional.

In the event that the deceased is a miscarried fetus less than four months old: According to the Shafi'i school of jurisprudence, do not perform Ghusl nor Janazah prayer for this fetus. According to Hanafi school, Ghusl and Janazah prayer is performed for this fetus.

3. Shrouding:

After Ghusl, [غسل] the body will be covered in a kafan [كفن] (shroud). The Kafan of a male should consist of three white winding sheets about 7 x 7 feet, after having been perfumed with incense. The Kafan of a female should consist of five white garments. After shrouding the deceased is placed in a simple casket (plain unfinished pressed wood).

The funeral home will maintain the deceased overnight, if necessary, at no extra cost. The casket is transferred by the funeral home director in a hearse to Hudson Valley Islamic Community Center for the Janazah prayer.

4. Janazah Prayer

Salat-al-Janazah [صلاة الجنازة] will be prayed on the deceased at the time previously scheduled by the cemetery committee representative. To ensure greater attendance, all efforts will be made to schedule Janazah prayer to coincide during a regular prayer time.

All those who take part in the service should perform wudu , [وضوء] or ablution. The casket is placed in front of the congregation; the Imam stands facing the middle of the casket if it is a woman and opposite the head if it is a man, and faces the qiblah, i.e., towards Makkah. The people form themselves into lines according to the number of those who take part and face the qiblah. The general practice is to have three rows at least. If the number of people is very small, there is no harm if they form only one line. The number of rows should always be uneven, i.e., three, five, seven, nine, and so on.

5. The Funeral Procession

After Salat-al-Janazah, the deceased will be transported for burial to the UWMS Muslim Cemetery.

Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said: "*Visit the sick and walk with the Janazah, it will remind you of the hereafter.*" [Ahmed]

«عُودُوا الْمَرَضَى وَاتَّبِعُوا الْجَنَائِزَ تُذَكِّرُكُمْ بِالْآخِرَةِ»
رواه الإمام أحمد في «المسند»، عن أبي سعيد الخدري

Women are prohibited from participating in the funeral procession.

6. Burial:

The person lowering the body into the grave should be in a state of *tahara* [طهارة] (ritual purity), and the body should be placed on the right side with the face towards the *qibla* [قبلة]. The following words are reported in a hadith as having been uttered by the Prophet (pbuh) when the dead body was lowered in the grave:

Bis-mil laa-hi wa bil-laa-hi wa `a-laa sun-na ti ra-soo-lil-laah.

[بِسْمِ اللَّهِ وَبِاللَّهِ وَعَلَى سُنَّةِ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ]

"In the name of Allah and with Allah and in accordance with the Sunnah of the Messenger of Allah."

It is the Sunnah of the Prophet (pbuh) to throw three handfuls of soil into the grave, saying:

"minha khalaqnakum" [منها خلقناكم] (from it did We create you) after the first, "wa feeha nu'idukum" [وفيها نعيدكم] (and into it shall We return you) after the second, and "wa minha nukhrijukum taraatan 'ukhra" [ومنها نخرجكم تارة أخرى] (and from it shall We bring you out once again) after the third. [Taha 20:55]

7. After Burial:

The debts of the deceased should be paid, and charity may be given on their behalf. Neighbors and friends are advised to offer condolences, sympathy, assistance, and food to the family, but leave them afterwards to take care of their affairs. It is customary to hold a community food event after the burial. Relatives and friends make the arrangements for food delivery. The UWMS committee can suggest food caterers if needed.

8. Visiting the Cemetery:

When visiting a cemetery, the following prayer is recommended:

As-sa-laa-mu `a-lai-kum ah-lad di-yaa-ri mi-nal mu'-mi-nee-na wal-mus-li-mee-na wa innaa in-shaa-al laa-hu bi-kum la-laa-hi-qoon. Nas-a-lul laa-ha la-naa wa la-ku-mul `aa fiyah.

[السلام عليكم أهل الديار من المؤمنين والمسلمين، وإنا إن شاء الله بكم لاحقون، نسأل الله لنا ولكم العافية]

"Peace be on you, O residents of this world from among the faithfuls and the Muslims, and we will surely join you, if it please Allah. We pray to Allah for security for you and for ourselves."

Women are allowed to visit the cemetery.

9. Al-Hidad (Mourning)

Loved ones and relatives are to observe a 3-day mourning period. Mourning is observed in Islam by increased devotion, receiving visitors and condolences, and avoiding decorative clothing and jewelry. Widows observe an extended mourning period (*iddah*) [عدة], 4 months and 10 days long, in accordance with the Qur'an 2:234. During this time, she is not to remarry, move from her home, or wear decorative clothing or jewelry.

When one dies, everything in this earthly life is left behind, and there are no more opportunities to perform acts of righteousness and faith. The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) once said that there are three things, however, which may continue to benefit a person after death: charity given during life which continues to help others, knowledge from which people continue to benefit, and a righteous child who prays for him or her.

Unauthentic/Prohibited Beliefs and Actions

These practices are neither supported nor have any basis in the Qur'an and Sunnah. They were not practiced by the Prophet (pbuh) or his companions.

- Embalming or autopsies (unless absolutely necessary or obligatory due to police involvement)
- Excessive displays of grief:

Islam forbids indulgence in intemperate grief for the dead. It requires that all affliction be borne patiently. On hearing of the death of a relative or a friend, or of any other affliction, a Muslim is enjoined to say: In-naa lil-laa-hi wa in-naa I-lay-hi raa ji-'oon [إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون] (*We belong to Allah and to Him is our return*). These words are a source of unlimited solace and comfort in bereavement. Hence it is forbidden that one should indulge in regular mourning or ostentatious grief.
- Putting the Qur'an under the head of a dying Muslim.
- Lighting candles in the deceased's room at the funeral home.
- Use of Zamzam water on the deceased's body.
- Making special dhikr (words to remember Allah) during the Ghusl, or before, during, or after the burial.
- Writing on the shrouds.
- Shaving the head.
- Putting the picture of the deceased, or his clothes in front of or around the kafan (shroud).
- Revealing the face of the deceased after putting the body in the grave.
- Putting food, water, money or anything around the grave 'to benefit' the deceased.
- Slaughtering an animal during or after burial.
- Arranging a day of mourning on the third, seventh, twentieth, fortieth day/ anniversary of death.
- Burial during sunrise, the zenith, and sunset.

A- Contact Information

Costs:

The total costs (payable to service providers) are estimated at \$6000 as of April 2008.

UWMS Burial Committee:

Address:

Upper Westchester Muslim Society
P.O. Box 9
Thornwood, NY 10594
(914) 747-2955
www.uwms.org; info@uwms.org

Contact:

Ahmed Goma (cell) (917) 498-6111
Arshad Khan (cell) (914) 434-1132
Yehia Abu-Alam (cell) (914) 310-8011

| Service | Cost |
|---|--------|
| Provide the burial plot at the cemetery (check payable to UWMS) | \$1000 |
| Wash the body (Ghusl) according to Islamic tradition | Free |
| Provided shroud (Kafan) | \$100 |

Cemetery:

Address:

Rose Hills Memorial Park
101 Mill St
Putnam Valley, NY 10579
(845) 528-3516

| Service | Cost |
|---|--------|
| Open the grave | \$1082 |
| Open the grave over a weekend or during a holiday | \$1300 |
| Install the foundation for the grave marker | \$278 |

Funeral Home:

Address:

P.O. Box 325
35 Morrissey Drive
Putnam Valley, NY 10579
(845) 526-3000, (800) 924-7454
<http://www.heritagefuneralhomeny.com/>

Contact:

Ronald Powe

| Service | Cost |
|--|--------|
| Transfer the body, provide the room for Ghusl, provide the casket, * | \$2100 |

* Additional services extra. For further details please see Appendix.

Funeral Prayer:

Address:

Hudson Valley Islamic Community Center
3680 Lexington Ave,
Mohegan Lake NY 10547
(914) 528-1626
www.hvicc.org

Contact:

Mohamad Al-Menawi (cell) (914) 245-0506

| Service | Cost |
|--|-------------|
| Perform funeral prayer according to Islamic tradition | Free* |
| Hold community food event. The food is organized by relatives and friends. | Free* |
| Hold Azaa. | Free* |

* Donations to HVICC will be appreciated.

Grave Flat Marker:

Address:

Divine Monuments Corp.
1584 White Plains Road
Bronx NY 10462
(718) 592-3800

Contact:

Elias Khalil (cell) (917) 440-0344

| Service | Cost |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Bronze Marker on Granite base * | \$1050 |

* Additional services extra. For further details please see Appendix.

B- Janazah Prayer

The prayer is offered only in a standing posture. The service starts with the takbir (saying Allahu Akbar - Allah is the Greatest) at the pronouncement of which hands are raised to the ears and placed in the same position as in prayer. There are four takbirs in all, the final takbir being followed by a tasleem as in the ordinary prayer.

First Takbir:

After the first takbir the following prayer called Thana (praise to Allah), followed by the opening chapter of the Qur'an, Al-Fatihah, are recited.

Sub-haa-na-kal laa-hum-ma wa bi-ham-di-ka wa ta-ba-ra-kas mu-ka wa ta-`aa-la jad-du ka wa laa i-laa-ha ghay-ruk.

[سبحانك اللهم وبحمدك، تبارك اسمك، وتعالى جدك، ولا إله غيرك]

Glory to Thee, O Allah, and Thine is the praise, and blessed is Thy name, and exalted is Thy majesty, and there is none to be served besides Thee.

Al-Fatihah:

A-`oo-zu bil-laa-hi mi-nash shay-taa-nir ra-jeem.

Bis-mil laa-hir rah-maa-nir ra-heem.

Al-ham-du lil-laa-hi rab-bil `aa-la-meen.

Ar-rah-maa nir-ra-heem. Maa-li-ki yaw-mid-deen.

ee yaa-ka na `-bu-du wa ee yaa-ka nas-ta-`een.

Ih di-nas si-raa-tal mus-ta-qeem.

Si-raa-tal la-zee-na an-`am-ta `a-lay-him, ghay-ril magh-doo-bi `a-lai-him wa-lad-daal-leen.

[أعوذ بالله من الشيطان الرجيم،

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم،

الحمد لله رب العالمين،

الرحمن الرحيم، مالك يوم الدين،

إياك نعبد وإياك نستعين،

إهدنا الصراط المستقيم،

صراط الذين أنعمت عليهم، غير المغضوب عليهم ولا

[الضالين]

"Praise be to Allah, the Lord of the worlds, the Beneficent, the Merciful, Master of the day of Requital. Thee do we serve and Thee do we beseech for help. Guide us on the right path, the path of those upon whom You hast bestowed favors, not those upon whom wrath is brought down, nor those who go astray."

Second Takbir:

Then follows a second takbir without raising the hands to the ears, and the following prayer known as as-salaah `ala an-Nabi, i.e., salutations to the Prophet Muhammad, is recited:

Al-laa-hum-ma sal-Ii `a-laa Mu-ham-ma-din wa `a-laa aa-li Mu-ham-ma-din ka-maa sallay-ta `a-laa Ib-
raa-hee-ma wa-`a-laa aa-li Ib-raa-hee-ma, in-na-ka ha-mee-dum ma-jeed.

Al-laa-hum-ma baa-rik `a-laa Mu-ham-madin wa `a-laa aa-li Mu-ham-ma-din ka-maa baa-rak-to `a-laa
Ib-raa-hee-ma wa `a-laa aa-li Ib-raa-hee-ma, in-na-ka ha-mee-dum ma-jeed.

[اللهم صل على محمد وعلى آل محمد، كما صليت على إبراهيم وعلى آل إبراهيم إنك حميد مجيد.
اللهم بارك على محمد وعلى آل محمد كما باركت على إبراهيم وعلى آل إبراهيم إنك حميد مجيد.]

"O Allah! Exalt Muhammad and the true followers of Muhammad, as You did exalt Abraham and the true followers of Abraham, for surely, You are Praised, Magnified. O Allah! bless Muhammad and the true followers of Muhammad as You did bless Abraham and the true followers of Abraham, for surely You are Praised, Magnified."

Third Takbir:

The third takbir is then pronounced in a manner similar to the second takbir, and a prayer for the forgiveness of the deceased is made. Different forms of this prayer are reported as having been offered by the Prophet (pbuh), thus prayer in any form is permissible.

The following two prayers are the most well-known:

Al-laa-hum-magh-fir li-hay-yi-naa wa may-yiti-naa wa shaa-hi-di-naa wa ghaa-i-bi-naa wa sa-ghee-ri-naa wa ka-bee-ri-naa wa zaka-ri-naa wa un-saa-naa, al-laa-hum-ma man ah- yay-ta-hoo min-naa fa-ah yi-hee `a-lal islaam, wa man ta-waf-fay-ta-hoo min-naa fa-ta-waf-fa-hoo `a-lal ee-maan. al-laa-hum-ma laa tah-rim-naa aj-ra-hoo wa laa taf-ti-naa ba ` -da-hoo.

[اللهم اغفر لحينا وميتنا وشاهدنا وغائبنا وصغيرنا وكبيرنا وذكرنا وأنثانا، اللهم من أحييته منا فأحيه على الإسلام ومن توفيته منا فتوفه على الإيمان، اللهم لا تحرمنا أجره ولا تفتنا بعده.]

“O Allah! Grant protection to our living and to our dead and to those of us who are present and those who are absent, and to our young and to our old folk and to our males and to our females. O Allah! Whosoever You grant to live among us, cause him to live in Islam (submission) and whosoever of us You causes to die, make him die in faith. O Allah! Do not deprive us of this reward and do not make us fall into a trial after him.”

Another prayer runs thus:

Al-laa-hum-magh-fir la-hoo war-ham-hu wa `aa fi-hee wa ` -fu `an-hu wa ak-rim nuzu-la-hoo wa was-si` mad-kha-la-hoo wa agh-sil-hu bil-maa-i was-sal-ji wal-ba-ra-di wa naq-qi-hee mi-nal kha-taayaa ka-maa naq-qay-tas saw-bal ab-ya-da mi-nad- da-na-si.

[اللهم اغفر له وارحمه وعافه واعف عنه وأكرم نزله ووسع مدخله واغسله بالماء والثلج والبرد ونقه من الخطايا كما ينقى الثوب الأبيض من الدنس.]

“O Allah! Grant him protection, and have mercy on him, and keep him in good condition, and pardon him, and make his entertainment honorable, and expand his place of entering, and wash him with water and snow and hail and cleanse him of faults as a white cloth is cleansed of stains.”

Children:

In the case of deceased children (i.e. before the age of puberty), the following prayer is added:

Al-laa-hum-maj- `al-hu la-naa fa-ra-tan-w waj- `al-hu la-naa zukh-ran-w waj- `al-hu lanaa shaa--fi- `an-w wa mu-shaf-fa- `aa.

[اللهم اجعله لنا فرطا واجعله لنا ذخرا واجعله لنا شافعا ومشفعا]

“O Allah! make him a cause of recompense for us and make him a treasure for us on the day of Resurrection and an intercessor and the one whose intercession is accepted.”

Except for the takbirs and the salaam (tasleem at the end), the entire prayer is performed silently. The hands are raised to the ears when the first takbir is said but not when the other three takbirs are pronounced. The latecomer can join the prayer at any stage by saying Allahu Akbar but preferably not later than the announcement of the third takbir when the main prayer for the dead is being offered.

Fourth Takbir and Tasleem:

The prayers for the deceased are followed by a fourth takbir, after which comes the tasleem as at the close of prayers:

As-sa-laa-mu `a-lai-kum wa rah-ma-tul-laah.

[السلام عليكم ورحمة الله.]

"Peace be on you and the mercy of Allah."

These words are uttered and the face is turned to the right. At the second utterance the face is turned to the left.

Source: <http://www.alkhidmat.no/artikler/ghusl.htm> accessed 03/31/2008

C- Grave Site Request Form



UPPER WESTCHESTER MUSLIM SOCIETY

401 Clairmont Avenue
Thornwood, NY 10594

"Every soul shall taste of death" [Al-Imran:185]

All of us, one day, will have to face this event and we have to prepare for it.

Assalamu Alaikum Brothers and Sisters:

UWMS has purchased a grave site (100 graves) for our community at a nearby cemetery, Rose Hill Memorial Park, 101 Mill Street, Putnam Valley

This site is next to 520 graves belonging to Westchester Muslim Center.

The price is \$1000 for one grave (\$300 tax deductible). If you would like to purchase, please fill out the form below and send along with a check **payable to "UWMS"** to the following address (please mark "grave site" in the memo):

Upper Westchester Muslim Society
P.O. Box 9
Thornwood, NY 10594

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Office) _____

E-mail _____

Number of graves _____ Total Amount (one grave/\$1,000) \$ _____

If you would like to support and contribute for Sadaqtul-Jariyah for cemetery,
Please select one: _____ \$1,000 _____ \$500 _____ \$300 _____ \$200 _____ \$100

You will receive a confirmation along with a receipt.

We ask ALLAH SWT to guide us all to the straight path.

UWMS Cemetery Committee

D- Islamic Wills

The Prophet (pbuh) said, *"A man may do good deeds for seventy years but if he acts unjustly when he leaves his last testament, the wickedness of his deed will be sealed upon him, and he will enter the Fire. If, (on the other hand), a man acts wickedly for seventy years but is just in his last will and testament, the goodness of his deed will be sealed upon him, and he will enter the Garden."* [Ahmad and Ibn Majah]

There are several documents about Islamic wills available on the internet. You must discuss your estate planning needs with your counsel. Any will should not be executed without proper legal consultation.

You can bequeath to Upper Westchester Muslim Society and provide a sadaqa jariya (continuous charity) for yourself.

- Upper Westchester Muslim Society may have needs that are unknown to you and yet may parallel your particular gift-giving ideas exactly.
- We may be able to help you plan a suitable future memorial to a loved one.
- We may be able to suggest ways for increasing the value of your estate ... while increasing the size of your gift to Upper Westchester Muslim Society at the same time.
- We are able to say "Thank You" to you rather than to your heirs or executor.

For further information on providing for Upper Westchester Muslim Society through a charitable bequest, please contact:

Chair of Board of Trustees
Upper Westchester Muslim Society
P.O. Box 9
Thornwood, NY 10594
(914) 747-2955

UPPER WESTCHESTER MUSLIM SOCIETY INC

Is a not-for-profit organization incorporated in the State of New York, having its principal office at 401 Clairmont Avenue, Thornwood, New York 10594.

FOUR WAYS TO GIVE TO UPPER WESTCHESTER MUSLIM SOCIETY THROUGH YOUR WILL

Always consult an attorney before making your will

1. Outright Bequest This is the most common type of bequest. As with all bequests, it can be changed. A specific dollar amount – or specific property such as real estate, jewelry, or artwork – is stated. One drawback is that the assets of the estate may grow and only a portion of what the maker of the will intended is finally left to Upper Westchester Muslim Society.

“I give, devise, and bequeath to *Upper Westchester Muslim Society* the sum of dollars (*and/or the following described property*), to be used for (*e.g., its general purposes or a specific program or purpose decided upon in advance in consultation with an authorized representative of UPPER WESTCHESTER MUSLIM SOCIETY INC.*)”

2. Bequest of Residuary Estate This is a gift of whatever property remains after all other bequests have been fulfilled. Here the maker of the will is assured that loved ones will be provided for before dispositions are made to Upper Westchester Muslim Society or other charities.

“All the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, both real and personal property of whatever kind and wheresoever situated, which I may own or have the right to dispose of at the time of my decease, I give, devise, and bequeath to *UPPER WESTCHESTER MUSLIM SOCIETY INC*, to be used for

3. Bequest of Percentage of Estate This is the most flexible way to give. The size of the gift automatically changes with the size of the estate. This assures that the charitable gift remains in proportion to other bequests.

“All the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, both real and personal property of whatever kind and wheresoever situated, which I may own or have the right to dispose of at the time of my decease, I give, devise, and bequeath as follows: To *UPPER WESTCHESTER MUSLIM SOCIETY INC* **percent**, to be used for

4. Contingent Bequest It is advisable that every will contain a contingent bequest to direct distribution in case other beneficiaries do not survive you. Without this provision, your property might pass to beneficiaries in whom you have little or no interest.

“In the case of failure or lapse of any legacy or devise herein such that the property so bequeathed or devised would otherwise pass by intestacy (*absence of a will*), I give, devise, and bequeath any such failed or lapsed legacy or devise to *UPPER WESTCHESTER MUSLIM SOCIETY INC* to be used for

A final suggestion: a saving clause. No one can anticipate the changes that may occur at Upper Westchester Muslim Society in the coming years. When drafting a bequest having a restricted purpose – and to ensure that it will always be of maximum use to Upper Westchester Muslim Society when it may be needed no longer for the purpose designated originally – it is always helpful to add a saving clause. It might read as follows: “If at any time, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, this bequest shall be necessary no longer for the stated purpose, the Directors shall have the authority to designate its use for another purpose that most closely carries out my original intent.”

Upper Westchester Muslim Society

Please detach and return this card to:
Chair of Board of Trustees
Upper Westchester Muslim Society
P.O. Box 9
Thornwood, NY 10594
(914) 747-2955

To the Chair of Board of Trustees

- () In confidence, I want you to know that:
 - () I have provided for Upper Westchester Muslim Society in my will.
 - () I am considering the idea of a provision in my will.
 - () Other: _____

- () Please provide me with more complete language for my attorney’s guidance in making a bequest to Upper Westchester Muslim Society. This is what I have in mind:

- () Please provide further information on:
 - () Making A Will
 - () Why a Woman Needs a Will
 - () _____

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip Code _____

About Upper Westchester Muslim Society

- A university student: “Alhamdulillah, this masjid is nothing short of my home. I believe Allahu Ta’ala has blessed this community and protected it from many problems.”
- A family that came from South Africa recently: “When we came to America, we arrived in a foreign land, anxiously, not knowing a soul. Exactly a year later, Alhamdulillah, the Upper Westchester Muslim Society is now our family, our friends.... our home!”
- A family that attends our masjid from Connecticut: “In a land so far away from home, there is nothing like the taste of a close community, friends, good meal, good advice and people that care. We are so fortunate to have it all at UWMS.”
- A local convert Muslim father: “I like being part of a diverse multi-cultural Muslim community where everyone respects each other’s opinion. I like the way my children have made close friends with other Muslim children in this community. Hopefully these will be life-long friendships.”
- A seven year old girl: “I like going to the UWMS masjid because I like to pray and make du’a. I also like to eat the delicious food from all different countries and play with all my friends. Assalaamu Alaikum.”

Please let us know ...

If you plan a bequest to Upper Westchester Muslim Society, there are a number of good reasons for keeping us apprised of your intentions. Among these are:

- Upper Westchester Muslim Society may have needs that are unknown to you and yet may parallel your particular gift-giving ideas exactly.
- We may be able to help you plan a suitable future memorial to a loved one.
- We may be able to suggest ways for increasing the value of your estate ... while increasing the size of your gift to Upper Westchester Muslim Society at the same time.
- We are able to say “Thank You” to you rather than to your heirs or executor.

Please do let us know if you plan a bequest to Upper Westchester Muslim Society. Just drop us a line – or send back the card inside.

Chair of Board of Trustees
Upper Westchester Muslim Society
P.O Box 9
Thornwood, NY 10594
Phone (914) 747 2955
info@uwms.org
www.uwms.org

*Save for
attorney’s
guidance*

Four Ways to Give to Upper Westchester Muslim Society Through Your Will

Legal documents such as wills should always be prepared by attorneys. Upper Westchester Muslim Society submits these few sample bequest forms for the information of our friends – and especially for the guidance of attorneys preparing wills for the benefit of Upper Westchester Muslim Society.

E- Driving Instructions to Cemetery

From:

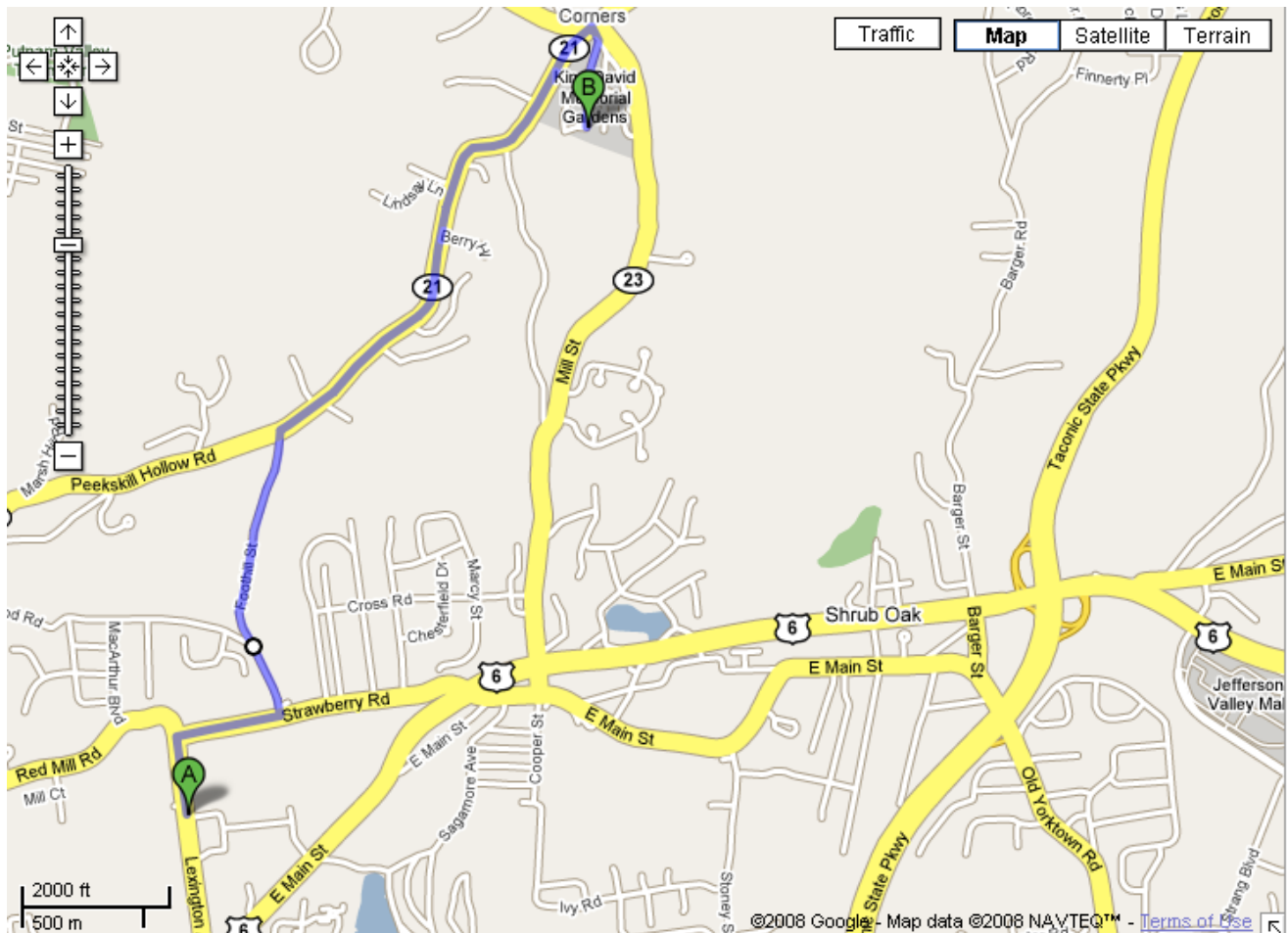
Hudson Valley Islamic Community Center
3680 Lexington Ave, Mohegan Lake, NY 10547

To:

Rose Hills Memorial Park
101 Mill St, Putnam Valley, NY 10579

Drive: 2.9 mi – about 7 mins

1. Head north on Lexington Ave toward Carol Way/Cortlandt Homes 0.2 mi
2. Turn right at Strawberry Rd 0.3 mi
3. Turn left at Foothill St 0.8 mi
4. Turn right at CR-21/Peekskill Hollow Rd 1.4 mi
5. Turn right at Church Rd/CR-22 207 ft
6. Turn right and go uphill 0.2 mi



F- Copy of Quote from Funeral Home

**Agreement between Heritage Funeral Home and
Upper Westchester Islamic Center and
Hudson Valley Islamic Center
Effective Date: February 1, 2007**

**TRANSFER OF REMAINS TO THE FUNERAL ESTABLISHMENT INCLUDING
PERSONNEL, EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLES**

Local within 10 mile radius \$ 340.00

PREPARATION OF REMAINS

Use of Preparation Room only \$ 200.00

ARRANGEMENTS

Basic Arrangements:

Including funeral director, other staff, equipment, and facilities to respond to initial request of service, the arrangement conference, securing of necessary authorizations, and coordination of service plans with parties involved in the final disposition of the deceased \$ 135.00

SUPERVISION (Funeral Director and Staff)

Supervision for service at other than funeral home \$ 500.00

LIVERY

Hearse:

Local within 15 miles; \$3.50 per mile thereafter \$ 375.00

MERCHANDISE

Caskets - plain pine \$ 550.00

Total Funeral Home Charges \$2,100.00

G- Quote from Maker of Grave Marker

Divine Monuments Corp.
1584 White Plains Road
Bronx NY 10462
(718) 592-3800

Quote to Upper Westchester Muslim Society, effective July 1st, 2008:

- Flat Bronze Marker: \$1050
 - Bronze 24”X12”, Granite Base 28”X16”, 4”
 - 4 Lines:
 1. Name in Arabic (15 letters, extra letters = \$5 each)
 2. Name in English
 3. Dates (for additional hijri date add \$40)
 4. Four extra words (30 letters, extra letters = \$5 each)



لينا حجار

Lina Hajjar

12/6/1388-9/1/1428 , 9/5/1968-1/28/2007

God, Family, Service, Smile

For additional designs: www.divinemonuments.com



Contact:

Elias Khalil, (cell) (917) 440-0344

To write the name in Arabic:

Turn on Languages Option in Windows XP, select Arabic language; write script with Microsoft Powerpoint.