



Burying the dead before offering funeral Salah (Prayer)

The first question of Fatwa No. (9008)

Q 1: If someone dies in an area that is remote from inhabitation to which those who can offer funeral Salah can move only through long travel on horses or camels. Is it obligatory to wait until such persons come to offer funeral Salah or should such a person be buried immediately? What is the ruling on a dead person being buried without offering burial Salah?

A: According to the basic principles of Shari`ah (Islamic law), a dead Muslim person may not be buried before offering funeral Salah on his behalf. What you have just cited is no more than a hypothetical case. However, given that a Muslim is buried without offering funeral Salah on his behalf, such a Salah is to be offered on his behalf at the grave. Moreover, leading funeral Salah is not limited to a certain Imam.

May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions!

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