



Pronouncing Shahaadah to one who is dying
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Ahkaam al-Janaa'iz¹

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

When someone is dying then those who are near him or her should be mindful of the following:

A: To do Talqeen² of the Shahaadah³. The Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) said, *“One who is dying amongst you, Talqeen ‘Laa ilaaha illallaah’ to him.⁴ .. One who utters ‘Laa ilaaha illallaah’ before dying will eventually enter Jannah⁵, no matter how much he is punished before that.”⁶*

B: To supplicate for him, and only mention good things before him. The Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) said, *“When you are present with a patient or one who is dying then only say good because the Angels say ‘Aameen’ to what you say.”⁷*

Talqeen does not only mean to dictate or to repeat the Shahaadah but it also means to urge the one who is dying to say it (even if some of the people of Knowledge differ in this). Our proof is the following Hadeeth of Anas (radiallaahuAnhu), *“The Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) went to visit one Ansaari and said, ‘O Uncle, say ‘Laa ilaaha illallaah’”. He asked, ‘Uncle (maternal) or Uncle (paternal)?’ He (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) said, ‘No, but Uncle (maternal).’ He asked, ‘Is saying ‘Laa ilaaha illallaah’ good in my favor?’ He (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) said, ‘Yes.’”⁸*

To recite Surah Yaseen or to turn him (i.e. one who is dying) in the direction of Qiblah⁹ is not proven from any Saheeh Hadeeth¹⁰, rather the famous Taaba’ee¹¹

¹ [Translators Footnote] This is translated from the Urdu version of the book Ahkaam al-Janaa'iz, (pg.48 – 51)

² [Translators Footnote] Dictate, Pronounce, Repeat also, persuasion or urging someone to pronounce.

³ [Translators Footnote] The first Testification of Creed, that : *Laa ilaaha illallaah Muhammadur Rasoolullaaah* [There is no Ilaah except Allaah, and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam)].

⁴ Saheeh Muslim, Kitaab al-Janaa'iz, Hadeeth 916,917

⁵ [Translators Footnote] Heaven

⁶ Saheeh Ibn Hibbaan, Hadeeth 3004

⁷ Saheeh Muslim, Kitaab al-Janaa'iz Hadeeth 918

⁸ Musnad Imaam Ahmad v.3 p.154, Imaam Albaani graded it Saheeh on Muslims' conditions.

⁹ [Translators Footnote] the direction of Qaa'bah, in Makkah, Saudi Arabia.

Sa'eed bin al-Mus'ayyib disliked it (turning the one who is dying in the direction of Qiblah) and said, 'Is not the one who is dying a Muslim?'

Zar'ah bin Abdir Rahmaan (rahimahullaah) said that he was present when Sa'eed bin al-Mus'ayyib was sick. Unexpectedly Sa'eed fainted. On Abu Salmah's direction his bed was turned towards the Qiblah. When he recovered then he inquired if his bed was turned? We said Yes! He turned towards Abu Salmah and said, 'I think it was done on your direction.' Abu Salmah replied, 'Yes, I had asked (to do it).' Sa'eed replied, 'Turn my bed as it was before.'¹²

There is no problem in someone going to a dying Kaafir so as to invite him to Islaam, perchance he becomes a Muslim. Anas (radiallaahuAnhu) said, "A Jewish child used to assist the Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam). He became sick. He (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) went to visit him. He (i.e. the Prophet) sat near his head and said, 'Accept Islaam.' He (i.e. the child) looked at his father who was sitting nearby questioningly. He (i.e. the child's father) said, 'Accept what Abul Qasim (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) says'. Accordingly he became a Muslim. The Messenger of Allaah(sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) happily came saying, 'Praise be to Allaah who saved him from the fire.'¹³ When the child died then he said, 'Pray the prayer of burial over your brother.'¹⁴

¹⁰ Even though there is one Hadeeth present in Sunan Abee Dawood and other books but they do not in any condition qualify to a Saheeh, not even Hasan. So to act on it is not appropriate. For complete discussion of this Hadeeth refer to ارواء الغليل للامام الاباني, v.3 p.150, Hadeeth 288.

¹¹ [Translators Footnote] One from the generation that followed the companions of Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam)

¹² Musnif ibn Abee Shaibah v.4 p.76, chain is Saheeh.

¹³ Saheeh Bukhari, Kitaab al-Janaa'iz Hadeeth 1290

¹⁴ Musnad Imaam Ahmad v.3 p.26, The chain is Hasan.