

# **ISLAMIC CENTER OF THE CAPITAL DISTRICT**

## **CEMETERY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

*“(From the earth) We have created you, and into it We shall return you, and from it We shall bring you out once again. (20:55)*

For the proper management of the cemetery and arrangements for burial, policies and procedures have been formulated by the ICCD BOT. Persons requesting the use of the cemetery for burial arrangements shall observe these policies and procedures and any subsequent amendments made in the policies and procedures.

### **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE USE OF THE CEMETERY**

1. The cemetery shall be managed by the ICCD BOT.
2. Permission of the ICCD shall be required for the use of cemetery.
3. The cemetery shall be for the use of ICCD Muslim community of the Capital District.
4. They may be buried may be buried in the cemetery upon permission of ICCD BOT and payment of lot charges to ICCD in exceptional situations. Deserving families can request relief from Zakat Committee to offset burial lot charges.
5. Funeral arrangements and associated costs at funeral home shall be the responsibility of the family.
6. Burial costs at the cemetery shall be the responsibility of the family to be paid before the burial.
7. Lot assignments shall be regulated by the ICCD Cemetery Committee
8. Reserved lots shall not be assigned to other persons without the permission of the owner/ICCD BOT.
9. Lot assignment fee will be determined by the ICCD BOT. This fee is subject to change.
10. Burial lot cost for out of the Capital District will be 50% more than the current assigned charges.
11. As per the Evergreen Memorial Park Association only flat bronze memorials are allowed.
12. ICCD disclaims all responsibility for loss or damage beyond its control, especially damages caused by the elements, acts of God, common enemy, thieves, vandals, malicious mischief makers, explosions, unavoidable accidents, invasions, insurrects, riots or order of military or civil authority, whether damage be direct or collateral.
13. As part of the contractual agreement with the Evergreen Memorial Park, ICCD will abide by their rules and regulations.

14. According to New York State Law and these policies and procedures lots are not for resale or transfer, but to be used by the named person assigned to the lot.

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**Procedures for Burial Request**

1. For burial arrangements at least 24 hours' notice shall be required to the Cemetery Committee.
2. The request for burial should be accompanied by the following documents:
  - a. Hospital release certificate/death certificate
  - b. Interstate transportation certificate if the body is brought from out of town (if permission granted).
3. The formal death certificate from the state shall be provided by the family within a month.

The following Islamic rules based on the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad (S) and the consensus of most of the Muslim scholars shall be observed by all using the cemetery for burial and visitation.

1. Preparation of the body (washing and shrouding) will be done according to the Sunnah of the Prophet (S). There is no Islamic teaching of reading the Quran or making special Zikr while washing the body. There is no Islamic teaching of writing anything on the Kafan (shroud). There is no Islamic teaching of putting the picture of the deceased or some of his/her clothes or flowers in front of or around the Kafan.
2. The use of a biodegradable box will be allowed if requested or needed.
3. Women can attend the funeral prayer and visit the grave site after the burial.
4. Wailing, chanting, or expression of grief aloud, is not consistent with the Sunnah of prophet (S) and shall not be allowed.
5. During the burial all people present should observe the solemnness of the occasion by keeping quiet and not indulging chatting, remembering death and the truth of the Hereafter.
6. There is no Islamic teaching that requires people attending the funeral to wear black clothes or tie a black band on the arm. However, they should wear proper clothes.
7. Only Muslim men should carry the body and lay it in the grave. They should be in a state of complete Tahara (purity).
8. A deceased female is laid in the grave by her husband, sons, her father, brothers, uncles, or in the absence of these, by the Imam and elderly persons of the community.
9. The grave should be perpendicular (horizontal) to the direction of Qiblah and should be dug at least 5 feet deep.
10. The deceased body should be entered into the grave from the direction where his/her feet will be toward the rear of the grave unless it is not possible to do so.
11. People lowering the body into the grave should say: "Bismillah wa'ala millati/sunnati Rasool Allah"
12. The body of the deceased should rest on his right side and should be close to the wall of the grave, and face should be toward Qiblah.
13. The ties of the feet and head should be undone. There is no Islamic teaching to reveal the face of the deceased in the grave.
14. After the body is fully covered, it is desirable to throw three handfuls of soil into the grave.
15. Just after the burial all present at the grave site should make Dua' for the deceased.