Janazah prayer duas

The funeral prayer in order, Hanafi method. Four takbirs, all standing.

In the Shafi'i and Hanbali schools, Al-Fatiha is recited after the first takbir instead of the thana, and a short dua may come after the fourth. The full guide shows both.

The wording is the wording on our page, with its source under each dua. Quran ayat: Tanzil Project (tanzil.net), Uthmani script. Quran English: Sahih International. Reviewed by Hafez Mawlana Abu Darda and Mawlana Akramul Haque Fenwi, Islamic scholars. For a more accurate answer to your own situation, consult a scholar. Full guide: amalkit.com/how-to-pray-janazah.

Line up behind the imam

The deceased is placed in front, facing the qibla side. The imam stands level with the chest of the deceased, man or woman. Form rows behind him, ideally three or more. There is no ruku, no sajdah and no sitting: the whole prayer is standing.

Make the intention

Intend in your heart to pray the janazah prayer for Allah, as a dua for this deceased person, following the imam. Wudu and facing the qibla are required, as for any prayer.

First takbir, then the thana

Say Allahu akbar with the imam, raising your hands to the ears, then fold them. This is the only takbir with raised hands in the Hanafi school. Then say the thana quietly:

اللّٰهُ أَكْبَرُ

Allāhu akbar

Allah is the Greatest.

سُبْحَانَكَ اللّٰهُمَّ وَبِحَمْدِكَ وَتَبَارَكَ اسْمُكَ وَتَعَالٰى جَدُّكَ وَجَلَّ ثَنَاؤُكَ وَلَا إِلٰهَ غَيْرُكَ

Subḥānakallāhumma wa biḥamdika wa tabārakasmuka wa taʿālā jadduka wa jalla thanāʾuka wa lā ilāha ghayruk

Glory be to You, O Allah, and praise. Blessed is Your name, exalted is Your majesty, great is Your praise, and there is no god but You.

The thana, with "wa jalla thanauk" added for the janazah, as in the Hanafi manuals (Nur al-Idah).

Second takbir, then the salawat

Say Allahu akbar without raising your hands (Hanafi), and recite the salawat on the Prophet ﷺ, as in the prayer:

اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلٰى مُحَمَّدٍ وَّعَلٰى اٰلِ مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلٰى إِبْرَاهِيْمَ وَعَلٰى اٰلِ إِبْرَاهِيْمَ إِنَّكَ حَمِيْدٌ مَّجِيْدٌ، اَللّٰهُمَّ بَارِكْ عَلٰى مُحَمَّدٍ وَّعَلٰى اٰلِ مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا بَارَكْتَ عَلٰى إِبْرَاهِيْمَ وَعَلٰى اٰلِ إِبْرَاهِيْمَ إِنَّكَ حَمِيْدٌ مَّجِيْدٌ

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

O Allah, send prayers on Muhammad and the family of Muhammad, as You sent prayers on Ibrahim and the family of Ibrahim. You are Praiseworthy, Glorious. O Allah, bless Muhammad and the family of Muhammad, as You blessed Ibrahim and the family of Ibrahim. You are Praiseworthy, Glorious.

Sahih al-Bukhari 3370, from Kab ibn Ujrah.

Third takbir, then the dua for the deceased

Say Allahu akbar and make dua for the deceased. This is the heart of the prayer. Say this dua for an adult man or woman:

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِحَيِّنَا وَمَيِّتِنَا وَشَاهِدِنَا وَغَائِبِنَا وَصَغِيرِنَا وَكَبِيرِنَا وَذَكَرِنَا وَأُنْثَانَا، اللَّهُمَّ مَنْ أَحْيَيْتَهُ مِنَّا فَأَحْيِهِ عَلَى الإِسْلاَمِ، وَمَنْ تَوَفَّيْتَهُ مِنَّا فَتَوَفَّهُ عَلَى الإِيمَانِ

Allāhummaghfir li-ḥayyinā wa mayyitinā wa shāhidinā wa ghāʾibinā wa ṣaghīrinā wa kabīrinā wa dhakarinā wa unthānā. Allāhumma man aḥyaytahū minnā fa-aḥyihī ʿalal-islām, wa man tawaffaytahū minnā fa-tawaffahū ʿalal-īmān

O Allah, forgive our living and our dead, those present and those absent, our young and our old, our men and our women. O Allah, whoever of us You keep alive, keep him alive in Islam, and whoever of us You take, take him in faith.

Jami at-Tirmidhi 1024, graded hasan sahih by Tirmidhi; also Sunan Abi Dawud 3201. This is the dua in the Hanafi manuals.

If the deceased is a child

For a child who died before puberty, say instead the dua for a boy or a girl:

اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْهُ لَنَا فَرَطًا، وَاجْعَلْهُ لَنَا أَجْرًا وَذُخْرًا، وَاجْعَلْهُ لَنَا شَافِعًا وَمُشَفَّعًا

Allāhummajʿalhu lanā faraṭā, wajʿalhu lanā ajran wa dhukhrā, wajʿalhu lanā shāfiʿan wa mushaffaʿā

O Allah, make him go ahead of us to prepare our way, make him a reward and a treasure for us, and make him one who intercedes for us and whose intercession is accepted.

For a boy. The wording of the Hanafi manuals (al-Hidayah, Nur al-Idah). Al-Bukhari reports a similar dua from al-Hasan al-Basri, without a full chain, in the chapter on Al-Fatiha over the janazah.

اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْهَا لَنَا فَرَطًا، وَاجْعَلْهَا لَنَا أَجْرًا وَذُخْرًا، وَاجْعَلْهَا لَنَا شَافِعَةً وَمُشَفَّعَةً

Allāhummajʿalhā lanā faraṭā, wajʿalhā lanā ajran wa dhukhrā, wajʿalhā lanā shāfiʿatan wa mushaffaʿah

O Allah, make her go ahead of us to prepare our way, make her a reward and a treasure for us, and make her one who intercedes for us and whose intercession is accepted.

For a girl. The same dua in the feminine, from the Hanafi manuals.

More duas you may add

You may add this dua the Prophet ﷺ made at a janazah, or any sincere dua in your own words:

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 lahū warḥamhu wa ʿāfihī waʿfu ʿanh, wa akrim nuzulah, wa wassiʿ mudkhalah, waghsilhu bil-māʾi wath-thalji wal-barad, wa naqqihī minal-khaṭāyā kamā naqqaytath-thawbal-abyaḍa minad-danas, wa abdilhu dāran khayran min dārih, wa ahlan khayran min ahlih, wa zawjan khayran min zawjih, wa adkhilhul-jannah, wa aʿidhhu min ʿadhābil-qabri aw min ʿadhābin-nār

O Allah, forgive him, have mercy on him, keep him safe and pardon him. Honour his arrival and widen his entrance. Wash him with water, snow and hail, and cleanse him of sins as a white garment is cleansed of dirt. Give him a home better than his home, a family better than his family and a spouse better than his spouse. Admit him to Paradise and protect him from the punishment of the grave, or he said, of the Fire.

Sahih Muslim 963, from Awf ibn Malik. For a woman, say lahā and -hā in place of lahū and -hu.

Fourth takbir, then salam

Say Allahu akbar, then without any dua give salam to the right and to the left, quietly, with the imam. The prayer is complete. Leave your hands at your sides after the salam.

اَلسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ

As-salāmu ʿalaykum wa raḥmatullāh

Peace be upon you and the mercy of Allah.

Sunan Abi Dawud and Jami at-Tirmidhi, from Ibn Masud.