

Wash her three times, or five times, or more if you find that necessary. Wash her with water and Sidr (ground lote leaves), add camphor—or a pinch of camphor—to water in the last time, and let me know when you finish

'Umm 'Atiyyah (may Allah be pleased with her) reported: One of the daughters of the Prophet ([]) passed away, so the Prophet ([]) went out and said: "Wash her three times, or five times, or more if you find that necessary. Wash her with water and Sidr (ground lote leaves), add camphor—or a pinch of camphor—to water in the last time, and let me know when you finish." She said: When we finished, we told him, so he gave us his lower garment and said: "Let it be the first thing you shroud her in." She said: We plaited her hair into three braids.

[Authentic hadith] [Narrated by Bukhari & Muslim]

Zaynab, the daughter of the Prophet ([]), passed away. The Prophet ([]) entered upon the women who were to wash her and said to them: Wash her with water and lote leaves an odd number of times—three, or five, or more if needed—and in the final wash, add some camphor. When you finish, inform me. When they finished washing her, they informed him. He then gave his lower garment to the women who washed her and said: Wrap her in it, and make it the garment closest to her body. Then her hair was braided into three plaits.

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