

April 2020

Islamic ruling on importance of offering the janazah prayer observing social distancing

Shaykh Abu Eesa Niamtullah

Minimal people at Janazah observing social distancing

The Janazah prayer is an obligation upon the Community to perform for the deceased. Due to physical distancing guidelines, this cannot be performed in the normal manner at our Mosques or outside prayer areas. Therefore it can be performed at the graveyard with as little as two people - such as those who have buried the deceased - upto a small number of no more than 10-15 people, all standing two metres apart from one another within a prayer line, and then each subsequent line spaced out two metres behind the line in front. Any family members who cannot attend can perform the Janazah prayer later themselves at the graveyard, or together themselves when legal rules allow it, as per the well-established rulings of fiqh. Please see your local scholars for more on how to perform this prayer later.