

Transporting the Deceased and the Transport Cost

Q: Janaa'iz-12: A person was not at home when he passed away. He leaves behind a wife, a son and a daughter who are of age and another son and daughter who are not of age. Although his burial can easily be arranged at the place where he passed away, but his friends and other heirs wanted him to be brought home for burial. The deceased brother therefore brought the body home by bus at a cost of 150 Rupees. Now will the cost for this have to be borne by the estate, thereby taking from the shares of the children who are not of age, or just it be borne by the brothers who were responsible for bringing the body home?

Answer: The Fuqahaa have prohibited transporting the deceased a distance of more than two miles and have declared this to be Makrooh. Therefore, the expense of transporting the body for a distance greater than two miles cannot be taken from the estate. If the heirs who are of age consent to having the expense deducted from their shares, this may be done, but it may not be paid from the shares of those heirs who are not of age. And Allaah knows best what is most correct.

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