



# LIFE IN THE GRAVE

## Part 1

Today we have become so engrossed in worldly affairs that we have forgotten about the reality of the grave and what we will have to face after we die. Hereunder is a brief description of what one will have to face in the grave depending on how one conducted one's self in the world.

When the deceased is put to rest in his grave, then his Namaaz appears to his right, his Saum (Fast) appears to his left, his Tilawat (Qur'anic recitation) and his Zikr appear at his head-side, his walking towards Namaaz appears at his foot-side, and his Sabr (Patience) appears in one corner of his grave. Then, when Almighty Allah sends down Azaab (punishment) of the grave, then the Namaaz says to it, "Step back! He endured difficulties all his life, and now he is resting comfortably." Now the Azaab will approach from his left and his Fasts will give the same response. When it approaches from the head-side, it will get the same response. Hence, the Azaab will not be able to approach him from anywhere. No matter whichever direction it tries to approach from, it will find the beloved servant of Allah protected. Finding him protected, the torment will leave. At that time Sabr (Patience) will say to all his other virtuous deeds, "The only reason I remained silent is because all of you were successful, otherwise I would have spoken; but now I will be of assistance to him on the Pul Siraat (Bridge) and Mizaan (Scale)."

Then, Allah Ta'ala will send two Angels, whose eyes will be like swooping lightning, their voices will be like the sound of loud claps of thunder, their teeth will be as huge as horns, their breath will be like intense flames, and they will walk tramping on their immensely long hair. There will be a massive distance between both their shoulders. With the exception for the Believers, their hearts will not feel pity and compassion for anyone else. Their names are Munkar and Nakeer. They will both have in their hands a hammer-like object. If all the Jinns and humans had to get together, they would not be able to lift it. They will then awaken the deceased asking him to sit up. The deceased will sit up and they will ask, "Who is your Rabb?", "What is your Religion?" and "Who is this Rasool?" He (the deceased) will reply, "My Rabb is Allah," "My Deen is Islam" and "This is Muhammadur Rasoolullah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) and He is Khaatimun Nabiiyeen." Both of them will say, "You have spoken the truth." They will then lay him in his grave and his grave will be expanded from all sides. They will then say to him, "Just look up!" When he looks up, the door towards Jannah will be opened. It will then be said to him, "O Friend of Allah! This is your place in Jannah, for you remained obedient to Almighty Allah."

Rasoolullah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "At this moment he will receive such pleasure and delight, which he will never forget. Now, it will be said to him, "Just look down a bit!" When he looks down, he will be able to look through a door that is opened towards hell. Both Angels will say, "O Friend of Allah! You have attained salvation from this." Rasoolullah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "By Allah! In that moment, he will experience happiness that will be never ending. Seventy-seven (77) Doors of Jannah will be opened unto him, through which the coolness and fragrance of Jannah will reach him, and this will continue until he is raised from the grave on the Day of Qiyaamah."

Thereafter Rasoolullah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "Almighty Allah says, "O Malakul Maut (Angel of Death)! Now go to my enemy and bring him with you. I increased his sustenance and blessed him with many bounties, but he always remained ungrateful and rejected My favours. So, bring him today so that he may face his retribution." Malakul Maut then goes to him in the most horrifying form. He appears to him having twelve eyes and with him are the iron bars of Hell.

Five hundred Angels accompany him. Each one of them has with them copper, sparks from Hell and whips raging with fire. Malakul Maut then strikes him with the thorny bars that become embedded into the roots of his blood vessels and muscles. He then firmly twists the bars, and his soul exits with agony from his toe nails. During this time the enemy of Allah becomes unconscious, and the Angels, who were sent towards him, lash him with their whips on his back and face, and whilst hitting him, it (the soul) reaches his throat. They then place the copper and the sparks of Hell under his chin. Malakul Maut then says, "O Cursed Soul, come out towards the extremely scorching wind and water and the intensely hot shade."

The question might arise in one's mind that if a person is undergoing so much of torment as the soul is coming out, how is it that he does not scream with pain. Once, someone asked Hazrat Fuzail Ibn Ayaaz (Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh), "How is it possible that the soul of a deceased is being removed, yet he remains so quiet. However, if a mere ant has to bite a human on his foot, he becomes restless with pain?" Hazrat Fuzail Ibn Ayaaz (Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh) replied, "The Angels strap him up."

After Malakul Maut removes the soul, the soul says to the body, "O Body! May Allah punish you with the most severe punishment on my behalf, because you used to take me swiftly towards sinning and you kept me away from goodness. You have destroyed yourself and you have destroyed me as well." The body will then say the same to the soul. The portions of the earth on which he placed his sight will curse him. The army of Iblees (Shaitaan) will go to Shaitaan and give him the pleasing news that they have driven one more of the humans towards hell.

When he is placed in his grave, his grave will be constricted upon him, so much so that his ribs from one side will pierce through the other side. Almighty Allah will send black serpents towards him, which will bite him. Munkar and Nakeer will then appear to him and ask, "Who is your Rabb?", "What is your Deen?" and "Who is your Nabi?" He will continue saying, "Alas, Alas! I do not know!" The Angels will ask, "Did you ever attempt to know the Truth?" They will then strike him with objects that will cause sparks to fly in his grave. They will then say to him, "Just look up for a bit!" When he looks up, he will see the door of Jannah. The Angels will say to him, "If you obeyed Allah, then this would have been your destination."

Rasoolullah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "By Allah! At this moment, his heart will be engulfed with remorse, which will be never ending. Then, the door of Hell will be opened and shown to him and it will be said to him, "O Enemy of Allah! This is now your destination due to your disobedience. Seventy-seven (77) Doors of Hell will be opened towards him, from which intense heat and extremely hot gusts of wind will reach him. This will continue until Qiyaamah comes."

May Allah Ta'ala bless us with His Mercy and Salvation and save us from His Wrath and Punishment, Ameen.

[Compiled from *Sharhus Sudoor* by Hazrat Imaam Jalaaluddin Suyuti Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh]