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إِنَّا لِلّٰهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

Duas & Islamic Condolences

What to Say When Someone Passes Away

A short, practical guide with authentic duas,
transliteration and English meaning

Compiled for HajjUmrahPlanner.com readers

1. The First Words to Say

Upon hearing news of someone's death, Muslims are encouraged to say the following verse from the Qur'an (Surah Al-Baqarah 2:156):

إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

Innā lillāhi wa innā ilayhi rāji'ūn

"Indeed, we belong to Allah, and indeed, to Him we will return."

Surah Al-Baqarah 2:156

This phrase is not obligatory (fard), but it is a highly recommended Sunnah response — a declaration of patience, acceptance of Allah's decree, and trust in His wisdom.

2. Duas for the Deceased

These are authentic supplications Muslims make on behalf of someone who has passed away.

Full Dua for Forgiveness

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لَهُ وَارْحَمْهُ وَعَافِهِ وَاعْفُ عَنْهُ

Allāhumma-ghfir lahu warḥamhu wa 'āfihi wa'fu 'anhu

"O Allah, forgive him, have mercy on him, grant him well-being, and pardon him."

For a female: replace "lahu" with "lahā"

Short Dua for Forgiveness

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لَهُ وَارْحَمْهُ

Allāhumma-ghfir lahu warḥamhu

"O Allah, forgive him and have mercy on him."

For a female: replace "lahu" with "lahā"

3. What to Say to a Grieving Family

Suitable Islamic condolences that comfort the family without making claims about Allah's judgment:

- May Allah forgive your loved one and grant them Jannah.
- May Allah reward your patience and give you strength during this difficult time.
- May Allah shower His mercy upon the deceased and make their grave spacious and filled with light.
- May Allah reunite you with your loved one in Jannatul Firdaus.
- May Allah replace your loss with something better and grant your family peace.

4. Ready-to-Send Condolence Messages

1. General Condolence — May Allah forgive your loved one, have mercy upon them, and grant them the highest place in Jannah. May He also grant you patience and strength during this difficult time.

2. Short Islamic Message — Innā lillāhi wa innā ilayhi rāji'ūn. Indeed, we belong to Allah, and to Him we shall return. May Allah bless the deceased with His mercy and grant your family patience.

3. For a Friend — May Allah ease your grief, forgive your loved one, illuminate their grave, and reunite you in Jannatul Firdaus.

4. For Parents — May Allah reward your patience, forgive your parent, expand their grave, and admit them into Paradise without accountability.

5. Professional / Formal — Please accept my sincere condolences. May Allah forgive the deceased, shower them with His mercy, and grant comfort and patience to your entire family.

5. What to Avoid Saying

Avoid definitive claims such as:

- "They are definitely in Paradise."
- "Allah needed another angel."
- "Everything happens for a reason," if it dismisses the family's grief.
- Any statement that questions Allah's wisdom or decree.

6. Quick Reminders

- Attend the funeral prayer (Salat al-Janazah) if possible.
- Visit or contact the grieving family, and offer practical help such as food or daily support.
- Keep conversations respectful — avoid unnecessary questions about the circumstances of death.
- Non-Muslims may offer respect by saying "I am sorry for your loss" or "May God grant your family peace and comfort," and may also say the Arabic phrase if they wish.

May Allah grant patience to the grieving and mercy to the departed. Āmīn.