

'By your side...'

A selection of poetry, prose and prayers

Vol 5: Muslim Prayers

When a Muslim is near death, those around him or her are called upon to give comfort, and reminders of God's mercy and forgiveness. They may recite verses from the Qur'an, give physical comfort, and encourage the dying one to recite words of remembrance and prayer.

It is recommended, if at all possible, for a Muslim's last words to be the declaration of faith: "I bear witness that there is no god but Allah."

Dying persons may wish to face Mekkah (South-East).

The Declaration of Faith (Shahada) is said and if possible, the dying person responds,

I bear witness that there is no God but God and Muhammed is His Messenger."
Lā ilaha illal-Lāh, Muhammadun rasūlula-Lāh

The articles of faith, which a faithful Muslim should hear, as they are dying: -

La illaha ill-Lallah Muhammad-ur-Rassul Allah
(There is no God except Allah and Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him) is the Messenger of Allah) (First Pillar of Islam or Shahada)

In the absence of another Muslim they may be said by anyone present if this seems appropriate.