

149136 - Carrying the deceased on a bier made of iron

the question

In our mosque there is a bier for carrying the deceased, and a platform for ghusl (washing the deceased) that is made of iron. We do not know whether it is permissible to carry the deceased on this kind of iron.

Detailed answer

We do not know of anything wrong with that. We know of nothing wrong with carrying the deceased on something made of wood or on a platform made of something other than wood, such as iron. But it is better to use something light so that it will not be too difficult for those who are carrying it, because when people carry it on their shoulders, it may be difficult for them.

But if the deceased is carried in a car (hearse), the matter is broader in scope, although using something light is better in all cases. Using a light board on which the deceased is placed and carried to the graveyard is better than using something heavy. But as for it being wrong, there is nothing wrong, in sha Allah, with it being made of iron or of wood. But if this iron is light and does not cause any difficulty to the people (who are carrying it), there is nothing wrong with that. But if it is heavy it should not be used, so that it will not cause hardship for those who carry it. End quote.

Shaykh 'Abd al-'Azeez ibn Baaz (may Allah have mercy on him)