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Islamic burials in the Netherlands and Belgium. Legal, religious and social aspects

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Propositions accompanying the dissertation

Islamic Burials in the Netherlands and Belgium. Legal, Religious and Social Aspects

By Khadija Kadrouch-Outmany

1. The expectation that future generations of Muslims in the Netherlands and Belgium will chiefly opt for burial in these countries, as expressed to me by cemetery managers, has not proven to be true (this thesis, Section 4.4).
2. The study of Islamic burials among Muslims in the Netherlands and Belgium reveals much about the feeling of belonging and the much debated matter of the integration of Muslims into these societies (this thesis, Section 6.1).
3. Policy makers neglect the reality of Muslims and Islam in the Netherlands and Belgium, if they suggest only one Islamic cemetery or one Islamic burial plot for all Muslims when developing policy on this matter (this thesis, Section 6.3).
4. Muslims in the Netherlands and Belgium have to realize that clearing out graves after a certain period of time, is unavoidable (this thesis, Section 4.3.3).
5. The assumption of Van den Breemer and Maussen that ‘Muslims prefer burial in a public cemetery instead of investing resources in a private (and costly) cemetery’ is incorrect (Van den Breemer and Maussen, 2012. *Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies* 10 : 279-298)
6. The work of Ryad provides much greater elaboration on the various streams within contemporary Islamic scholars in matter of eschatology, than the work of Smith and Haddad (Smith and Haddad, 2002. *The Islamic Understanding of Death and Resurrection*. Ryad, unpublished. *Eschatology between Reason and Revelation. Death and Resurrection in Modern Islamic Theology*)
7. Beck’s theory on the multilayered messages of rituals has proven very useful in illuminating the various functions and meaning of rituals in the multicultural, religiously pluralist context of the Netherlands and Belgium (Beck, 2010. *Temenos* 46: 195-211).

8. Employers should not overlook the importance of grief and mourning and the development of a mourning leave should be encouraged both by national law and collective labor agreements (Cozijnsen and Van Wielink, *Monuta Nazorgboek*, 2008, 42-45).

9. The Dutch saying 'De een z'n dood, is de ander z'n brood' reveals the interdependence between people.

10. The quote 'Only love and death changes all things' is indeed true (K. Gibran).