In the first quarter of the 21st century, an earthquake centred in Pazarcık (Kahramanmaraş) with a magnitude of 7·7 occurred on 06/02/2023 at 04:17:34 am (GMT+3) and was followed by a second earthquake centred in Elbistan (Kahramanmaraş) with a magnitude of 7·6 on 06/02/2023 at 01:24:47 pm (GMT+3). The number of the casualties in Kahramanmaraş, Gaziantep, Şanlıurfa, Diyarbakır, Adana, Adıyaman, Osmaniye, Hatay, Kilis, Malatya, and Elazığ provinces, as a consequence of these two different and major earthquakes, was announced as 45·089 on the official website of Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) on the date of this paper, 03/03/20231. World Health Organization stated that they are ready to support Turkish Republic Ministry of Health in terms of emergency humanitarian aid in 6 February 2023, the date the incidents took place, after the devastating earthquakes occurred in the southeast of Türkiye2. Interference of AFAD was needed for the earthquake occurred in 06/02/2023 at 04:17. AFAD published 29 press releases and one public statement on its official website with the title of “Press Release on Earthquakes in Kahramanmaraş” until 11/02/2023 when the article was written3. It was stated in the public statement (08/02/2023) “…It has been deemed suitable to bury the bodies which could not be identified by recognition or forensics and could not be delivered to their relatives in five days after being pulled from the wreckage in accordance with religious obligations, in line with presidential decree no. 4 on the organization of the institutions and organizations associated, related and affiliated to the ministry and other institutions and organizations to improve and implement policies on taking precautions to implement services effectively on civil defence and disasters and emergencies in Türkiye; facilitating coordination between the institutions and organizations that will planned to manage preparation and reduction of risk before the incidents, interference during the incidents and rehabilitation works after the incidents; organization and coordination of domestic and external humanitarian aid operations4. Interference of AFAD was needed for the earthquake occurred in 06/02/2023 at 04:17. AFAD published 29 press releases and one public statement on its official website with the title of “Press Release on Earthquakes in Kahramanmaraş” until 11/02/2023 when the article was written4. It was stated in the public statement (08/02/2023) “…It has been deemed suitable to bury the bodies which could not be identified by recognition or forensics and could not be delivered to their relatives in five days after being pulled from the wreckage in accordance with religious obligations,
A number of customs, rituals, ceremonies, religious and in some places magical activities, which are performed in three important “transitional” periods in human life as “birth”, “marriage”, and “death”, cluster and manage these transitions(7). Our wish is that after the two major earthquakes in Türkiye, efforts should be made to ensure that the burial process, which is one of the rituals of the transitional period, is carried out in accordance with the necessary cultural and religious standards, and that this happens under appropriate materials and conditions. To clear up the conscientious trauma and confusion, it should be ensured that the decisions taken for now are not questioned later. It should be emphasized that when issuing a fatwa by a competent authority on religious issues, the statement that a body bag can be used instead of a shroud can create a dilemma due to different opinions, and it is important to reach an adequate and complete agreement on this issue.

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