International humanitarian law requires the parties to the conflict to bury persons who died on the battlefield, in civilian internment camps, and for prisoner of war camps; for reasons related to occupation; or in detention resulting from occupation or hostilities.

See also Graves; Dead persons; Missing persons

**OUTLINE**

Chapter 7, VII. Introductory text on Dead and Missing

Chapter 7, VII. Introductory text on Dead and Missing, b) decent burial

**LEGAL SOURCES**

GCI, 17 (see ICRC updated Commentary)

GCII, 20 (see ICRC updated Commentary)

GCIII, 120/3-6
GCIV, 130 [13]

PI, 34 [14]

CIHL, 115 [15]

**CASES**

**Israel, Evacuation of Bodies in Jenin** [16]

**Israel, The Rafah Case** [17] [paras 24-27 [18]]

**Colombia Peace Agreement** [19]

**UN, Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances: Report on Mission to Serbia, including Kosovo** [20]

**Source URL:** https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/burial

**Links**

[1] https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/detention
[18] https://casebook.icrc.org/node/20714/#para24