

CEMETERIES.

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THE ISLAND OF NAURU.

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No. 6 of 1922.

**Cemeteries Ordinance 1922.**

**W**HEREAS it is expedient to make general provision for the burial of persons who die in the Island of Nauru, and for the proper maintenance of cemeteries, now therefore I, Thomas Griffiths, Administrator, of Nauru, do hereby enact, order, and proclaim as follows:—

2. This Ordinance may be cited as the *Cemeteries Ordinance* 1922, and shall come into operation forthwith.

3. No person shall be buried in any place within the limits of the Island of Nauru, other than in one of the cemeteries hereinafter described, and in that portion of such cemetery allotted according to the community or race to which such deceased person belongs.

For the time being the provisions of this Ordinance shall not apply to bona fide natives of Nauru.

4. On the death of any person taking place, the Medical Officer who attended the case, or the friends or next-of-kin, or relatives of the deceased, or in the case of persons under contract to the British Phosphate Commission the Local Manager of such Commission, shall, within eighteen hours of death occurring, report the fact of such death to the Administrator, or in the case of a person other than a European, to the Postmaster, Yangor District, producing a death certificate duly signed by a medical officer and shall supply full information concerning the name, sex, age, and such other particulars as may be necessary, for the identification of the deceased.

Penalty for not notifying such death within prescribed time: Fine not exceeding Ten pounds, or, in default of payment, imprisonment not exceeding one month.

No burial shall take place unless and until the certificate of death signed by a medical officer has been produced—the Administrator, however, may, by order in writing, give authority for burial, notwithstanding that death certificate has not been obtained.

5. The site of any grave may be selected by the next-of-kin or relation or friends of deceased, provided that such site be within the section allotted to the community or race to which the deceased belonged, and subject to the approval of the Administration officer charged with the control of the cemetery.

The grave may be dug by the friends of deceased, but in such a case it shall not be closed until after inspection and approval by an Administration official.

Each grave must be of a minimum depth of 5 feet.

6. The fee for burial shall be One pound, and the fee for digging and closing a grave, if carried out by Government labour, a further sum of Ten shillings.

Such sums, in the case of persons under contract to the British Phosphate Commission, shall be payable by such Commission, and in all other cases shall be a charge against the estate of the deceased.

7. A register and plan of the cemeteries shall be kept by the Administrator, in which shall be recorded, the name and sex of the deceased, the date of death, date of interment, and an account of the fees collected, the plan being marked to indicate the site of each grave.

8. The cemeteries referred to in section 3 are—

*For Europeans* (and others having the recognized status of Europeans)—The cemetery, the property of the Government, situated in the Boe District near to the Government Station.

*For Chinese and Kanakas*—The cemeteries in the Denigomodü District situated at the north end of the Yangor Settlement, and divided as follows:—

Cemetery No. 1.—For Chinese.

Cemetery No. 2.—For South Sea islanders other than natives of New Guinea.

Cemetery No. 3.—New Guinea natives.

9. Any person who disposes, or attempts to dispose of, or aids or abets in the disposal of a dead body of any person, in contravention of section 3 of this Ordinance, shall, upon conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding Ten pounds (£10) or in default of payment, to imprisonment not exceeding one month.

*Cemeteries.*

**10.** Any person who unlawfully interferes with, or damages any grave, tombstone, fence, hedge, or plant belonging to a cemetery, or creates any nuisance or disturbance, within a cemetery, or desecrates a cemetery, shall upon conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding Ten pounds (£10), or, in default of payment, to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for a period not exceeding one month, and in addition may be ordered to pay the cost of making good any damages done.

**11.** No person shall, within the boundaries of any cemetery, erect any tombstone or memorial, or place upon any tombstone or memorial already existing, any mark, inscription, or writing, without the consent of the Administrator first had and obtained.

Any person contravening the provisions of this clause shall be liable to a fine of not more than Ten pounds, or, in default of payment, to imprisonment not exceeding one month.

Given under my hand this twentieth day of July, 1922.

T. GRIFFITHS  
Administrator.