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Surial Customs--Creek  
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## BURIAL CUSTOM

An interview with Tom Simpkins, colored,  
3 miles northwest of Castle,  
Oklahoma

Billie Byrd, Field Worker  
Indian-Pioneer History, 3-149  
5-29-37

About 1895, the Muskogee-Creek Indians custom of burying their dead was to keep the body of the dead four days before taking it to the burial grounds.

During this time, the women mourners would sit on the ground and pull their hair down over faces and sit on the ground.

The mourning cry was sounded like Coo-coo and began with a loud mournful cry until the sounds had diminished.

After four days the body was taken to the burial grounds where it was lowered into the grave and covered.

A fire was built at the head of the grave and certain men appointed to keep the fire blazing night and day for four days.

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After the four days of keeping the blazing fire up had expired, the little grave house was then built.

This custom w s similar or signify the death and the resurrection of Christ, the light of Spirit----three days in the rave and the ascension on the fourth day..