

Ilm Essentials

Zakāh Lesson 3

Preference in Zakāh Recipients

2

- Closest poor blood relatives
 - ▣ From among them, those who live nearest
- Then to the poor of your locality
 - ▣ Can give in other areas if the need is more severe
- Within each group
 - ▣ Best to give to the most pious and most needy

Ineligible Zakāh Recipients

3

- ❑ Non-Muslims
- ❑ A wealthy man or child
- ❑ A direct descendant of the Prophet (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam)
 - ❑ A person of the family of Hāshim
- ❑ Your descendants or ascendants
- ❑ Your spouse

Ineligible Zakāh Recipients

4

- ❑ Anyone where you end up benefitting
 - ❑ In a clear and direct way
 - Recommended to take a tax deduction wherever possible
- ❑ That person whose wealth is below the nisāb
 - ❑ But has non-essentials which raise him above it
- ❑ To purchase a funeral shroud
- ❑ In payment of a deceased person's debt
- ❑ A masjid, hospital or organization
 - ❑ Unless they are acting as a wakīl

Mistaken Recipient

5

- If you give your zakāh to a needy person
 - ▣ After due deliberation and coming to the conclusion that the person is worthy of zakāh
 - Only to find out later that he was not
 - Your zakāh has been legally discharged
- If you did not make due deliberation
 - ▣ It will not be discharged

Using an Agent

6

- Permissible to appoint an agent (wakīl) to disperse your zakāh on your behalf
 - ▣ The obligation of zakāh will not be fulfilled until the funds have been given to the recipient
- If your wakīl is reliable, trustworthy and knowledgeable about the rules of zakāh
 - ▣ But after due deliberation ends up giving the money to someone who was not eligible
 - Your zakāh is legally discharged

Using an Agent

7

- If the wakīl loses the money or is robbed
 - ▣ The obligation of zakāh will not be fulfilled
 - The wakīl will not be held responsible for the missing funds
- Correct for a zakāh recipient to appoint a wakīl to collect zakāh on his behalf
 - ▣ Once the funds have been given to his wakīl
 - The obligation of zakāh is fulfilled
 - ▣ If the wakīl is then robbed or loses the money
 - Your zakāh is still fulfilled

Makrūh Acts Regarding Zakāh

8

- To give a single poor person so much zakāh that he has to pay zakāh (the following year)
 - ▣ Praiseworthy to pay enough zakāh to a single poor man to help him make ends meet
- To transfer your zakāh outside of your city without reason
- To temporarily transfer your wealth to someone else in order to avoid paying zakāh
- Lengthy or unnecessary delay in paying zakāh

Various Issues

9

- While zakāh funds are impure for us
 - ▣ They are pure for the recipient
- If a zakātable person has unpaid medical bills
 - ▣ You cannot use your zakāh to pay those bills on his behalf
 - You must give him the money
 - Which he can then use to pay the bill
 - Or give back to you to pay on his behalf
- Business partners will pay zakāh based on their portion of ownership in the business

Various Issues

10

- A husband cannot pay the zakāh of his wife or mature child without their permission
 - ▣ If he has their permission, he can pay from their wealth or his own (whichever was agreed upon)
 - ▣ If it is customary between them that one will give for the other, then permission is not needed
 - Their understanding serves as implicit permission
 - But better to confirm with them regardless
- If you owe zakāh from the past
 - ▣ It remains a debt and should be paid

Various Issues

11

- Harām wealth must be given to a zakātable person without any intention of reward
- You can pay zakāh using books, clothing, give a house, medicine, car, gold, silver, cash, etc.
 - ▣ Any item of material value

Questions and Discussion

12

- Reliable places to give zakāh
 - ▣ The Giving Foundation (founded by Khalid Sattar)
 - <https://www.givingfoundationcharity.org/>
 - ▣ Ask your local ulamā for other reliable places
- Zakāh Worksheet
 - ▣ Available in the Student Section