

Chapter 13

ZAKAT

1. Zakat is the third pillar of Islam. It is charity given to the poor and the needy.
2. The meaning of Zakat is to purify. When we give Zakat, we purify our wealth.
3. Zakat is mentioned in the Qur'an many times and must be given by those who have wealth.
4. When we give Zakat, we give two and half percent of our wealth to the poor.
5. We should give Zakat to poor and needy Muslims who accept it.
6. The best time to give Zakat is in Ramadhan but we can also give it at any other time of the year.
7. Allah (S.W.T) is pleased with those who give Zakat.
8. We also give Zakatul Fitr when the month of fasting comes to an end. It should be given before Eid Salah.
9. Zakatul Fitr is a must and should be given to the poor and needy.
10. It makes us kind and helps the needy to fulfill their daily needs such as food and clothes, so that they can also have a happy Eid.
11. Apart from Zakat we should also give Sadaqah.
12. Sadaqah is given to please Allah (S.W.T) and can be given in the form of money or food.
13. Allah (S.W.T) increases the wealth of those who give Sadaqah.
14. Other examples of Sadaqah are the kind things we do, for example, clearing stones from the paths, helping old people with their luggage, letting an older person sit in our seat in the bus, and holding the door open for others.
15. Sadaqah removes your sins and will help you on the Day of Judgement.
16. Another form of charity is Sadaqah Jariya which is continuous charity. This type of charity helps you even after you have passed away as it benefits others for many years.
17. Some examples are providing a source of water for people, putting fans in the masjid where there is hot weather, building masjids or orphanages, or educating an orphan child.
18. Our Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) was most kind and charitable and he taught us to be kind and to share the wealth that Allah (S.W.T) has given us.
19. When we give Zakat or Sadaqah we benefit others as well as ourselves as Allah (S.W.T) is pleased with us.