

Q-6 Write a comprehensive note on Zakat System of Islam and its spiritual, moral and social impacts.

Ans

(1) **Introduction:**

Zakat is one of the five pillars of Islam and is a form of obligatory charity. It involves giving a portion of one's wealth, usually 2.5% of certain assets, to help those in need and to purify one's wealth. It promotes social equality within the Islamic community.

(2) **Literal Meaning:**

The term "Zakat" is repeated almost thirty times in Quran. It is an Arabic word. It means, "To clean or to purify," "growth," and

"giving better part of thing"

(3) Contextual Meaning:

It means to

purify wealth and belonging.

A famous quote by Sachiko Murata and William Chillick,

"Just as the ablution purify the blood and salat purifies the soul, so zakat purifies possessions and make them pleasing to God."

(4) Why Zakat is necessary in Islam

Zakat hold significant importance in Islam due to its multifaceted role. It serves to purify wealth by instilling a sense of generosity and

selflessness), ensuring equalization of
distribution of resources in
the society. (like: Allah (swt) said in Quran.

"Zakat expenditures are only for
poor and the needy and those
employed to collect and for
bringing hearts together and
for freeing captives" 9:60

By aiding the less fortunate, it
promotes social welfare and
solidarity. It also promotes
our religious obligations, marking
it as a fundamental
practice for financially able
followers to demonstrate their
commitment to faith and
community.

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"And whatever you spend,
He will replace it. (34:39)"

(5) Conditions of Zakat:

There are certain conditions on which zakat is made compulsory.

- Zakat is obligatory on Muslim Only the holder of Islam.
- He/She must be adult, sane and free person.
- He/She must be financially capable.
- Zakat is obligatory on surplus wealth.
- The intention to give zakat as an act of worship.

(6) Recipients of Zakat.

Zakat is not for everyone. It is only for

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specific persons, like Allah Revealed
told in Quran.

"So give to the near relative
his right, as well as to the
needy and the traveler. That
is best for those who desire
the countenance of Allah, and
it is they who will be
the successful. 30:38

(7) Nisab of Zakat:

Nisab of
Zakat on certain possessions is
described in Quran. This possession
is for the minimum of one
year. Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W.)
said, "Allah has made Zakat
obligatory on you for this
very reason that the remaining

wealth of yours may be pure for you."

Nisab of Zakat

Type of Possession | Nisab of Zakat

- Buried wealth/minerals | 200/25
- Wealth/Income | 2.5%
- Gold | 7.5 tola
- Silver | 52.5 tola
- Trading in Stocks | 2.5% on running stock (1)
- Arid land | 10% on every yield
- Irrigated land | 5% on every yield
- Goats | 40 Goats / 1 goat
- Cows | 30 cows / 1 goat or 1 calf
- Camels | 5 camel / 1 goat

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(8) Heads of Zakat:

Allan said that

"Zakat expenditure is only for the poor and the needy, and the officials (appointed) over them, and those whose hearts are made to incline and the (reasoning of) captives and those in debts and in the way of Allah and the way fairer; an ordinance from Allah: and Allah is knowing, wise". (al-Tawbah 9:60)

Neither the Quran nor the Hadis specify the relative divisions of Zakat into eight categories. According to the Shaffi

Jurisprudence book, 'Umdat
 as salik' wa'Uddat on Nasik
 (Reliance of the Traveller and
 Tools of the Worshipper) by
 Ahmed ibn an-Naqib al-Misri,
 the shafi School requires zakat
 to be contributed equally
 among the eight categories
 of recipients

Masarif of Zakat

Masarif	Zakat/Description
- Fugara	Those living without means of livelihood
- Masakin	Those who cannot meet their basic needs
- Zakat collectors	These personnel of zakat collection and distribution department

- New Muslims/
Inclined towards Islam

Those who have
embraced Islam newly

- Freeing captives

To free slaves of
Muslims who intend
to free from their master.

- Those in debt

Those who have incurred
overwhelming debts
while attempting to
satisfy their basic needs

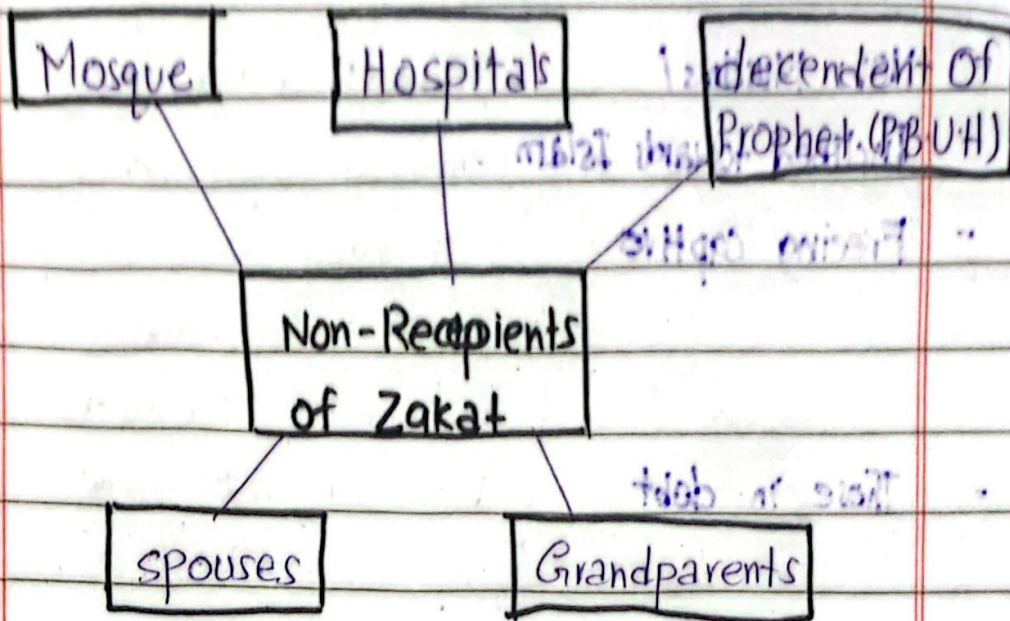
- The cause of Allah

Those who are
fighting for religious
cause.

- Stranded travelers
in need

Ibn al-Sabeel, Wayfarers
who are travelling with
worthy goals but
cannot reach their
destination.

(9) Non-Recipients of Zakat



Zakat can't be given to Mosque, Hospitals, Prophet (P.B.U.H) and the decendent of Prophet (P.B.U.H). Spouses and Grandparents.

10- Impacts of Zakat.

Zakat has many types of impacts depending upon the situation.

a) Spiritual Impacts

These are

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further divided into the following

i) Purification of Soul:

Zakat

purifies the soul of the human. As Allah has said in Quran

"He shall be saved from Hell fire who is God fearing and who joins riches to other for the purification of his soul" .. (al-Lail 92:17-18)

ii) Remove Love of Materialism:

The real enemy of man which keeps him away from religion is the love of wealth and world. Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W) said that,

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"The greatest evil of my Ummah is wealth"

iii) Zakat: Bring man closer to God:

Zakat brings a man closer to Allah. As Allah have said in Quran.

"The example of those who spend their wealth in the way of Allah is like a seed which grows seven spikes: in each spike is a hundred grains and Allah multiply from whom he wills and Allah is all-Encompassing and knowing. 2:261

(b) Moral Impacts

(i). Prevents Social Crimes:

The majority of the society is poor and can't meet their basic necessities of life. As Allah has said

In Qur'an:

"If you disclose your charitable expenditures, they are good; but if you conceal them and give them to the poor, it is better for you, and He will remove you from some ^{mis}deeds."

(ii). Humanitarian Spirit:

Zakat is an effective weapon against

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"Verify Allah has ordered the payment of Zakat on them. It will be taken from the rich and returned to their poor (Muslims)"

(ii) Circulation of wealth

It helps free distribution of wealth. It prevents the accumulation of wealth in few hands. It aims at equal distribution of wealth. Allah said in Quran.

"And it should not be that wealth is accumulated in few rich hands."

(iii) Welfare State:

Zakat infuses

ins. man. the spirit of social welfare and the man who keeps his money to himself due to selfishness and narrow mindedness. "Asyidul Allah" is narrated in Quran.

"Allah has blighted usury and made qim giving fruitful : (2:276)

ii) Conclusion

Zakat in Islam stands as the pillar of Faith, embodying principles of generosity, social justice and responsibility. Zakat fosters a more equitable society and cultivates a spirit of generosity, promoting individual purification and communal solidarity.