

TEST-1 ISLAMIC STUDIES

Q: Elaborate the importance of Zakāi and how it can alleviate poverty.

Ans:

INTRODUCTION

Zakāi is one of the pillar of Islam on which the structure of Islam is based. Zakāi is a way of giving charity described in the Holy Quran which literally means to purify and to grow. The concept of Zakāi - giving charity - is to avoid the accumulation of wealth on one hand and let the money circulate in the society which also eliminates poverty from the society. Allah S.W.T and His last Prophet - Muhammad S.A.W - has always ordered the followers to pay Zakāi and distribute among the needy.

ZAKAI - OBLIGATORY CHARITY

Terminologically, Zakāi is the amount of charity which is to be taken out by a Muslim from his wealth every year, according to the amount prescribed in Islam, i.e; 2.5% of the wealth or wealth equivalent to 52.5 tola of gold or silver.

A muslim cannot deny from paying Zakāi and Allah has commanded in the Holy Quran;

"And perform the prayer, and give Zakāi"

- Al Quran.

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Zakāi does not mean to reduce ones wealth by but to increase it and purify it by giving away. One who pays Zakāi benefits himself and not the others. Zakāi is designated by Allah for the poor, hence Zakāi is taken from the rich and given to the poor.

DISTRIBUTION OF ZAKAT:

Allah has mentioned in the Holy Quran, about how Zakāi is to given and who is eligible to fall in the category of getting Zakāi.

Zakāi is to distributed among the following people;

- ① Fuqrah → People with low wealth.
- ② Masakeen → Extremely poor
- ③ wal-Amileen → Appointed to collection of Zakāi.
- ④ Muallafat-ul-Duloob → Newly converts to Islam
- ⑤ Ar-Riqab → Slaves with agreements
- ⑥ Al-Gharimeen → People in debt.
- ⑦ Fi Sabil Lillah → Need to give in the path of Allah.
- ⑧ Ibn-us-Sabil → Travelers, who may be well at home but not during travelling.

Allah has identified these people as the ones who can be given Zakāi and denied to give Zakāi to non-muslims and

as remuneration for services.

IMPORTANCE OF ZAKAT

Zakāt has been mentioned numerous times in the Holy Quran as it has its economic and social benefits.

Zakāt is said to be the "Backbone of Economic System" of Islam. The major aim of Zakāt is to establish a self-supporting society which gives everyone a chance to fulfill their basic necessities and avoid begging.

POVERTY ELEVATION:

The liquidity of wealth via Zakāt-giving charity - helps elevate ~~poor~~ poverty from the society. Shah Waliullah - a muslim scholar said;

"Wealth purification denotes the mobilization of assets for the purpose of financial growth and justified distribution".

Zakāt, helps the needy to fulfill their needs and elevates poverty from the society. It is in the Holy Quran, those who give charity will always be rewarded double by Allah (s.w.t)

REMOVES LUST AND GREED OF MATERIALISM:

The person who gives charity every year is given special rewards by Allah and Allah

also removes the greed of materialism. Hence a person gives more charity which further reduces the accumulation of wealth and the wealth liquidates in the society, reducing poverty.

Holy Prophet (S.A.W) said;

"O Allah! Give him more than he spends".

HELPING AR-RAGIB:

Among the eight eligibles, Ar-Ragib are the slaves work for & remuneration and have signed an agreement with their master to purchase their freedom on payment of fixed amount.

Helping them out and giving charity to them can let them free their selves and end the slavery. Zakat purifies the heart of the one who give it and satisfies the needs of the ones who receive it. Hence, paying out charity to Ar-Ragib will let them free and work to earn for themselves and their family.

BALANCING SOCIETY:

Charity on yearly basis by all the wealthy households of the society will help reduce the gap between the rich and poor. Allah has ordered to give regular charity in the Holy Quran;

"And establish regular prayer and give regular charity".

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As it helps the poor - with no means of income - to not beg to anyone for their basic needs and alleviate the state of extreme poverty and avoid asking for help from every person passing by.

POVERTY ALLEVIATION = CRIME ALLEVIATION

The major reason of crime in all the societies is minimal sources of income and no means of sustenance which leads a person to commit crime. Edwin Sutherland in his Social Learning Theory of crime, states that a person commits crime ~~due~~ according to the lessons learnt from the society. Hence, people commit crime when they other with numerous ways of income and adequate resources they commit crime - theft - to attain what other ~~do~~ have. Giving out charity to those people will alleviate poverty and so the crime rate, from society.

CONCLUSION

"Who believe in The Unseen are steadfast in the prayer and spend of what we have provided for them." (Al-Duran)

The verse of the Holy Quran, written above highlights importance of spending, what is provided by Allah - giving charity. Hence, it is

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important for every Muslim to pay Zakat according to the amount mentioned in the Holy Quran. As it is given the same importance as of Salah.

Q: write note on the following:

- i) Tactics of war of Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W)
- ii) Importance of Pacts of Madina.

Ans:

i) **TACTICS OF WAR OF PROPHET (S.A.W):**

INTRODUCTION:

Holy Prophet (S.A.W), is a role model for every Muslim in every aspect of life. You name and Holy Prophet (S.A.W) is a great example to show the right. Similarly, Holy Prophet (S.A.W) was a also a great military strategist, who always used his unique tactics during wars to fight the enemy. Holy Prophet (S.A.W) always planned the moves keeping in the view the number of army of Him and His enemy and also the place of war.

CONCEPTS OF WAR:

Holy Prophet (S.A.W), introduced two new concepts

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war named;

① Jihād Fi Sabeel Lillah;
 This meant to give all his strength - a man has - for the sake of Islam

② Win in battle field is only by the Grace of Allah:

Holy Prophet (S.A.W), emphasized on the fact that one can only win in the battle field if Allah wails them to win.

STRATEGIES OF HOLY PROPHET (S.A.W):

Holy Prophet (S.A.W) is a role model for the tactics of war. As he was the best military strategist who always use different ways to counter the enemy, which was never thought

Make headings

by them. Some of the strategies or the war tactics of the Holy Prophet (S.A.W) are;

- ① Always consulted His companions.
- ② Selected the most suitable site for deployment.
- ③ Used code words for the recognition of friend and foe.
- ④ Espionage and Intelligence activities → He acted as a spy before Battle of Badr.
- ⑤ Maintained secrecy and never described his routes to anyone except the closest of his companions.
- ⑥ Maintained meritocracy → Always appointed those who had military expertise.

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① Taught the manners of war to his companions.

② Acknowledged that trickery can be used in war.

CONCLUSION:

These tactics of Holy Prophet (S.A.W), make him the role model for humanity and his tactics are still followed by many in the military trainings and wars.



ii) IMPORTANCE OF PACT OF MADINA:

INTRODUCTION:

Pact of Madinah - also known as the Constitution of Madinah - is a significant document as it was the first written constitution in Islam. This pact laid the foundation for the first Islamic state in Madinah under the leadership of Holy Prophet (S.A.W). The principles of this pact were of coexistence, justice and collective responsibilities, which make it the most important document for governance and an example for the Islamic states. It gives the guide to Muslim states on how to establish the constitution and the laws of the country.

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IMPORTANCE OF PACT OF MADINAH:

Some key important facts of the Pact of Madinah are:

① Establishing Multi-Religious Society:

Pact granted religious freedom to everyone and allowed the diversity to practice faith without interference.

② Justice and Rule of Law:

Pact ensured equality, accountability and justice for all and no one would be above the law.

③ Protection of Rights and Responsibilities:

Every single person has his rights and responsibilities including the minorities.

④ Framework for Governance:

This was the first written constitution in history which outlined the roles and responsibilities for governance and conflict resolution.

⑤ Peace Establishment:

Pact of Madinah promoted peace and discouraged alliances with external enemies. It provided the ruling for settlement of disputes through dialogues.

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CONCLUSION:

The paū of Madinah is often cited as an example of a model for establishment of governance system according to the principles of Islam. The paū demonstrates that Islam orders the maintenance of harmonious relations among the diverse communities of society based on mutual respect and shared responsibilities.

