

Introduction:

Islam is a deen which guides in every aspect of the life. It is way of living. Islam guides how to behave in individual life and how to live as a part of society. In this regard, Islam also tells how to spend your wealth. Islam emphasizes Sadqat and Zakat. Zakat is obligatory money specified from total wealth of a person to be given to those who are in need. whereas Sadqat are not obligatory but people spend their money out of their strong belief and their generosity. Sadqat and Zakat both have immense effects socially, morally, and spiritually.

System of Sadqat and Zakat in Islam:

Zakat is third pillar of Islam. The meaning of Zakat is "that purifies". Hence, Zakat purifies the wealth of a person. Zakat is a specified portion of a person's wealth which is to be given those who are in need. There is a particular threshold

above which zakat becomes obligatory. For example, zakat becomes obligatory on the possession of wealth and precious metals worth equivalent of 52.5 tola silver. In the same way threshold for ~~40~~ livestock is 40 Goats, 5 camels, 30 cows upon which 1 goat, 1 camel and 1 cow is given to the needy in order to pay Zakat.

People to whom zakat can be paid:

In the Quran, Allah has mentioned the people to whom zakat should be given. Following is the list of the people :-

- i the Needy
- ii The poor
- iii for salaries of people of collect and administer Zakat
- iv People who newly embraced Islam, to reconcile their hearts
- v to free slave
- vi to pay the debt on behalf of people who can not pay their debts
- vii to people who devote themselves to serve the God

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The Zakat is obligatory on the wealth that is in possession of a person for one year. It is 2.5% of the total wealth having minimum threshold. One kind of Zakat is called "Usher" which on agricultural produce. It is 10% on agricultural produce on every yield.

Emphasizes on Sadqat and Zakat in Islam:

Islam emphasizes on Sadqat and Zakat so much that in Quran, Allah mentioned 150 times about charity. In Surah Baqarah, Allah said:

واقموا الصلوة والقائ الزكاة
واركعوا مع الراكعین

"And be steadfast in your prayers; practice regular charity; and bow down your head with those who bow down (in worship)."

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This much emphasizes on charity is all due to its immense effects socially, morally and spiritually.

Social effects of Sadqat and Zakat:

Sadqat and Zakat prevent people from hoarding the wealth. Wealth is given to people who are in need. This way circulation of wealth leads to prosperity in the society. People use that money to meet their basic needs, contributing betterment in the society.

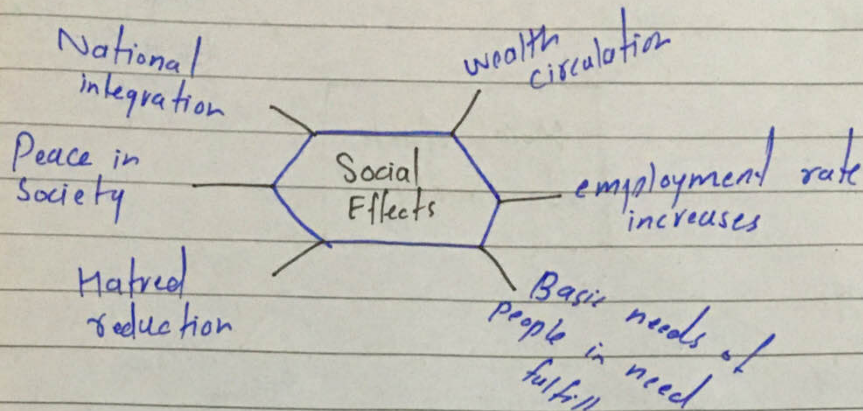
When people are not hungry and their basic needs are fulfilling, they do not attract towards crimes. In this way, crime rate in a society decreases and society becomes peaceful.

Zakat and Sadqat also reduces injustices regarding wealth distribution and the hatred that is present among have-nots and rich people also reduces. When hatred reduces, society automatically starts moving towards peace. Hence, social unity increases, leading to

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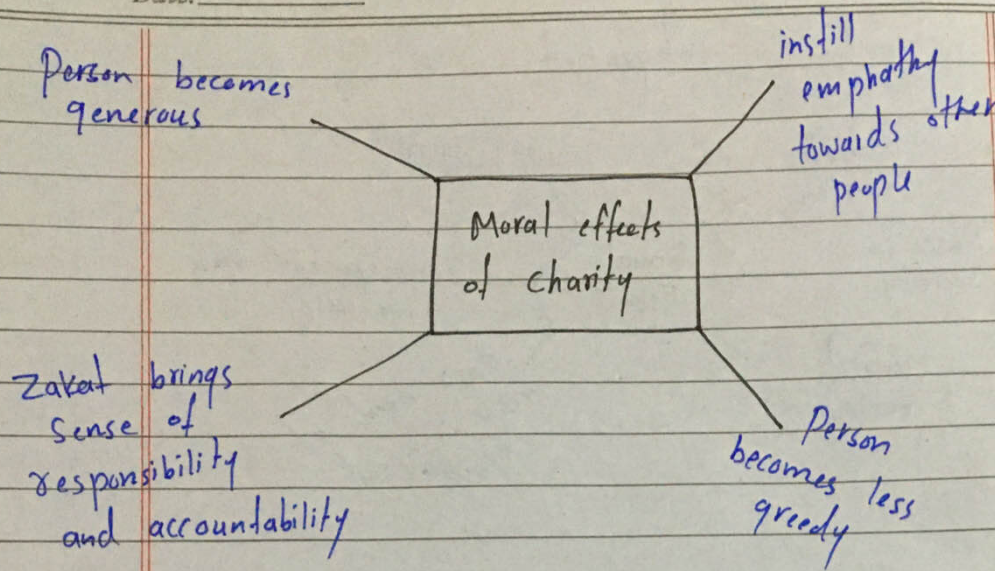
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Moral effects of Charity:

When a person gives charity, it gives him the sense of generousness. The person becomes generous. It also makes him responsible and accountable. He refrains from using illegal ways to accumulate wealth. He becomes more aware person. Charity makes a person less greedy. Moreover, ~~any~~ person gives charity due to empathy towards less privileged persons or persons who are unable to meet their basic needs. This sense of empathy increases by giving charity. Hence, Sadqat and Zakat make a person more generous, greed free and emphatic.



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Spiritual Effects of Sadqa and Zakat:

Sadqa and Zakat instill a sense of gratitude in individuals. The sense that Allah has given them His blessings, makes individuals to become gratified. They bow their heads before God for His countless blessings. Moreover, Sadqa and Zakat enhances faith of individuals on God that Allah will give them more if they will spend in the way of Allah as Allah promised to give 10 times more reward to individuals who spend in the way of Allah.

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Sadqat and Zakat enhance connection of individuals with God. Finally, when an individual spends his hard earned money in way of God, he receives a sense of fulfillment that Allah has made him capable of helping others. That is how zakat has huge effects on individuals as spiritual level too.

In Conclusion, ^{paying} a Sadqat and Zakat in Islam is a system that purifies one's wealth and has effects on individuals at moral and spiritual levels and contributes towards betterment of the society as a whole.