
A Review on the Importance of Charity (ZAKAT) in Islamic Society

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ABSTRACT

Zakat is one of the most important pillars of Islam and plays a significant role in promoting social justice and economic balance in society. It is a compulsory charitable contribution that Muslims must give annually to help the poor and needy. This review article examines the concept, significance, and social impact of Zakat in Islamic society based on existing literature and scholarly research. The study highlights how Zakat contributes to poverty reduction, wealth redistribution, and social welfare. The findings suggest that proper implementation of Zakat can help create a balanced and compassionate society where wealth is distributed fairly and the needs of disadvantaged groups are addressed.

Keywords

Zakat, Islamic Charity, Social Justice, Poverty Reduction, Wealth Distribution, Islamic Society, Social Welfare

INTRODUCTION

Islam emphasizes compassion, generosity, and social responsibility. Among the five pillars of Islam, Zakat holds a special position as a mandatory form of charity that supports the welfare of society. Zakat is not only a religious obligation but also a social and economic system designed to reduce poverty and promote equality.

The word Zakat means purification and growth. By giving Zakat, Muslims purify their wealth and contribute to the welfare of the community. Islamic teachings emphasize helping the poor and supporting those in need.

Zakat ensures that wealth circulates among all members of society rather than remaining concentrated in the hands of a few individuals.

AREAS COVERED

- Concept and principles of Zakat in Islam
- Importance of charity in Islamic teachings
- Role of Zakat in poverty alleviation
- Social and economic impact of Zakat
- Scholarly perspectives on Zakat and social welfare

EXPERT OPINION

Islamic scholars highlight the importance of Zakat in achieving social justice and economic stability. Yusuf al-Qaradawi explained that Zakat ensures redistribution of wealth and supports disadvantaged groups in society. Similarly, M. Umer Chapra emphasized that Zakat contributes to economic equality and reduces financial disparities in communities.

BODY OF THE REVIEW

Concept of Zakat: Zakat is an obligatory charitable contribution that Muslims must give when their wealth exceeds a specific threshold known as Nisab. Generally, 2.5% of an individual's savings and assets are given as Zakat each year.

Social Importance of Zakat: Zakat strengthens social relationships and promotes compassion within communities.

Economic Impact of Zakat: Zakat contributes to economic stability by redistributing wealth and supporting disadvantaged groups, helping reduce poverty and improve social welfare.

CONCLUSION

Zakat is one of the most important principles in Islam and serves as a powerful system for promoting social justice and economic equality. Proper awareness and effective implementation of Zakat can help build a balanced and compassionate society.

ARTICLE HIGHLIGHTS

- Zakat is a fundamental pillar of Islam.
- It promotes social justice and economic equality.
- Zakat helps reduce poverty and supports disadvantaged groups.
- Effective management of Zakat funds contributes to community development.

REFERENCES

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