

Arab Republic of Egypt

Ministry of Awqaf

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Rights Relating to One's Wealth

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all worlds, Who says in His Ever Glorious Book to His Prophet, **“Those who give, out of their own possessions, by night and by day, in private and in public, will have their reward with their Lord: no fear for them, nor will they grieve.”** I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, and that Muhammad is His Servant and Messenger. May Allah’s Peace and Blessings be upon him, his Household, Companions and upon those who follow their path to the Day of Judgment.

Money is the basis of life, upon which people’s livelihood depends and with it their lives can go on normally. In fact, all people’s wealth belongs to Allah, the Almighty, alone, and it is He Who blesses people with it as a trust at their hands to test the sincerity and certainty of their faith. The Almighty Allah said, **“Believe in Allah and His Messenger, and give out of what He has made pass down to you.”** The Prophet (PBUH) said, **“The world is sweet and green (alluring); and verily, Allah is making you to**

succeed each other, generations after generations in it in order to see how you act.”

A true believer is fully aware that the Almighty Allah has prescribed certain rights due on the money one have, and these rights must be fulfilled, as the Almighty Allah says describing the pious people that they are, **“who give a due share of their wealth; to beggars and the deprived.”** Also, the Prophet (PBUH) described the people of high regarding their faith, saying: “There is one whom Allah has granted wealth and knowledge, so he fears his Lord in them, upholds family ties, and fulfills the rights of Allah over him. He will be in the best position.”

Among the rights due upon having money is the payment of Zakat, which is a great pillar of Islam, as the Almighty Allah says, **“Take from their wealth [O Prophet] charity to purify and bless them, and pray for them –surely your prayer is a source of comfort for them. And Allah is All-Hearing, All-Knowing.”** When our Prophet (PBUH) sent Mu’az ibn Jabal as governor of Yemen, he told him, “Tell them that Allah has made the payment of Zakat obligatory upon them. It should be collected from their rich and distributed among their poor.”

It is out of the great position of Zakah in Islam that it is always mentioned in connection to Prayer. This signifies that performing the Prayer without the payment of due Zakah shall not be acceptable. Ibn Abbas, may Allah be pleased with him, said, “Three verses were revealed in connection with three others. One will not be accepted without its

counterpart. First, the verse, '**Establish prayer and give charity,**' (Qur'an 2: 43). Whoever prays and does not give charity, his prayer is not accepted. Second, the saying of the Almighty, '**Be grateful to me and your parents,**' (Qur'an 31: 14). Whoever is grateful to Allah and is not grateful to his parents, it will not be accepted from him. Third, the saying of the Almighty, "**Obey Allah and obey the messenger,**" (Qur'an 3: 32). Whoever obeys Allah and does not obey the messenger, it will not be accepted from him."

However, the rights of the poor and the needy in the rich's wealth are not limited to the obligatory Zakat, but these rights extend to include voluntary charity. This is why the Prophet (PBUH) said, "Every one of you will speak to his Lord [on the Day of Judgement] without an interpreter between them. He will look to his right side and will see only the deeds he had previously done; he will look to his left and will see only the deeds he had previously done, and he will look in front of him and will see nothing but Fire (of Hell) before his face. So protect yourselves from Fire (of Hell), even by giving half a date-fruit (in charity)." The Prophet (PBUH) also said, "Indeed charity extinguishes the Lord's anger and it protects against the evil death."

The Almighty Allah has promised a great reward for those who spend much for the sake of goodness, as the Almighty Allah said, "**Those who spend their wealth in Allah's cause are like grains of corn that produce seven ears, each bearing a hundred grains. Allah gives multiple increase**

to whoever He wishes: He is limitless and all knowing." The Prophet (PBUH) said, "Two angels descend every morning, and one says: 'O Allah, give him who spends something, in place of what he spends.' The other one says: 'O Allah, give destruction to him who withholds.'"

All praise is due to Allah, Lord of the Worlds; may Allah's Peace and Blessings be upon Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), his companions and followers:

There is no doubt that spending for the sake of goodness is the right of society upon people's wealth, which strengthens the spirit of solidarity, compassion and cooperation in society, as our Prophet (PBUH) said: "Allah (Glory be to Him) said: Spend (charity), O son of Adam, and I shall spend on you."

One of the most important aspects of spending for the sake of Allah is the Sunnah of animal sacrifice to appease one's family and relieve the poor and the needy. Sacrificing animals may be performed by the person himself, or by proxy through the project of sacrificial *sukuk*, as this project is a kind of delegation or proxy which has many benefits.

O Allah, accept our good deeds!

We ask Allah to protect Egypt and raise its flag high among all countries
of the world!