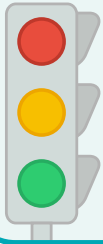


Zakah: A Purification



Learning Objectives

In this lesson, I will:



- Describe the importance of zakah
- Explain the secrets of zakah
- Practise calculating zakah



Key Words

Distinction
Annually
Nisab - نَصَابٌ

T Thinking Starter

What if there was no zakah? How would the world be?



IT'S STORY TIME!

The Brave Decision of Abu Bakr رضي الله عنه

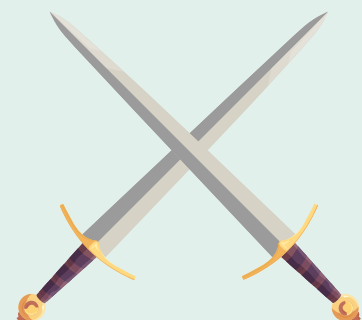
After the death of our beloved Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم, the Arabs were thrown into chaos. As the people cried and mourned his death صلى الله عليه وسلم, Abu Bakr رضي الله عنه was naturally selected as the leader of the Muslims.

When the news of the Prophet's صلى الله عليه وسلم death reached some Muslim tribes, their chiefs started to go back to their old ways of ignorance. They refused to pay zakah, saying that it only had to be paid to the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم, who had passed away.

The rebellion of these Arab tribes had reached the ear of the leader of the Muslims. Abu Bakr رضي الله عنه sat with the Companions رضي الله عنهم, discussing his plans. After a while, he announced that he would take the Muslim army and march to each tribe, one-by-one, and fight them until they started paying zakah again.

'Umar رضي الله عنه was worried. "O Abu Bakr," he asked, "How can you fight these tribes when the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم promised to protect the blood and wealth of anyone who says "La ilaha illa Allah"?"

"By Allah," Abu Bakr replied confidently, "I will certainly fight anyone who makes a **distinction** between salah and zakah! **Zakah is the right of wealth.** By Allah, even if they refuse to give a small goat they used to give to the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم, I will stand up to fight against them!"



'Umar رضي الله عنه looked in awe at his closest friend, the strong Muslim leader. He realised that Allah سبحانه وتعالى had guided Abu Bakr to the truth!

The Muslim armies marched to each tribe, fighting multiple battles and defeating the rebellious leaders. Soon, Abu Bakr رضي الله عنه had restored peace and the tribes were paying zakah again.



Task 1

Number the following events in order of when they occurred.

- Some Arab tribes refused to pay zakah.
- Abu Bakr رضي الله عنه gathered the Companions to devise a strategy.
- Abu Bakr رضي الله عنه was chosen as the leader of the Muslims.
- The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم passed away.
- Abu Bakr رضي الله عنه sent the Muslim armies to command each tribe to pay zakah.

Zakah Is a Purification

Zakah is the third pillar of Islam and a great act of worship. Like salah, zakah has secrets. It is more than just giving money to the poor. Zakah cleanses our **wealth** and **hearts**. It purifies our hearts from **greed** and **arrogance**. It reminds us that our wealth is a gift from Allah, and that we should spend it on halal and pure things.

Allah سبحانه وتعالى commands the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم:

خُذْ مِنْ أَمْوَالِهِمْ صَدَقَةً تُطَهِّرُهُمْ وَتُزَكِّيهِمْ بِهَا

“Take charity (zakah) from their wealth to cleanse and purify them...”

(Surah at-Tawbah:103)



Imagine you had a fruit that looked perfect on the outside, but inside, a worm was quietly eating away at it. Slowly, it eats the fruit until it becomes rotten. In the same way, when a person does not pay zakah, greed and selfishness eat away at their **blessings**. Their wealth and heart become 'rotten' and impure, no matter how good it looks from the outside.

By paying zakah, we show our 'ubudiyyah (servitude) to Allah, recognising that **we love Allah سبحانه و تعالى more than our money!**



I polish my heart...

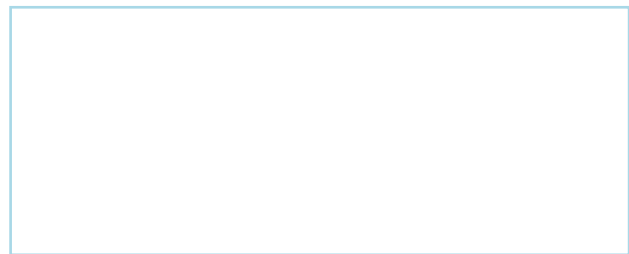
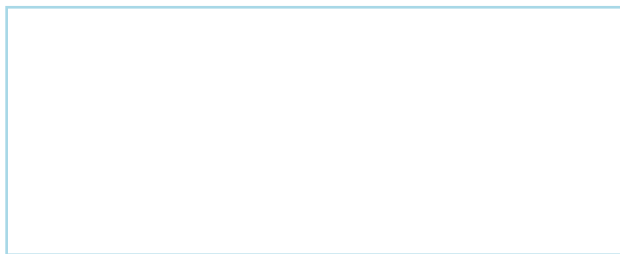
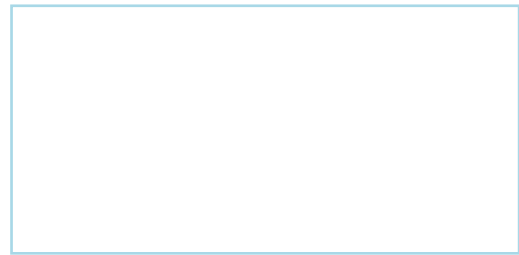


...by giving zakah.



Task 2

Finish off the comic strip.



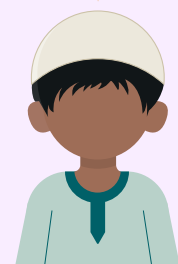
Calculating Zakah

Zakah is a compulsory payment that is given **annually** to Muslims in need. Once you have more money than the **nisab**, you must pay 2.5% of your money as zakah. If you have less than the nisab, then you do not need to pay any zakah!

Money is a trust from Allah and I will use it to please Him.

Nisab (نِصَابُ): the minimum amount of money or wealth a Muslim must have before they have to pay **zakah**.

Annually: something that happens once every (Islamic) year.





Task 3

Maryam and Musa’s favourite cousin Khalid is training to become a journalist. He has a total of **£1,000** in his bank account. He has to pay only **£25** in zakah.


Next door, their super-kind neighbour **Aunty Jamilah** runs a home bakery that everyone in the neighbourhood loves. She’s made **£10,000** from her delicious cakes and cookies!

Can you work out how much zakah Aunty Jamilah needs to pay?



Hamzah sells his artwork online. He paints pictures of masjids across the world. He saves all his profits in a jar marked “Allah’s Blessings”. It now holds **£50,000**.

Can you help Hamzah calculate how much zakah he has to pay?

 After paying zakah, what percentage are you left with?

I Act On What I Learn

I will give charity to cleanse my wealth and purify my heart!

P Progress Check



1. What did Abu Bakr رضي الله عنه say about zakah?

2. List two secrets of zakah.

3. What does nisab mean?