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Islam - What is Islam?



In our first week, you learned about the Five Pillars of Islam. Today we are going to look at the third Pillar of Islam. **Zakat** - It is the compulsory giving of a set proportion of your wealth/wages to charity. **Zakat** does not refer to charitable gifts given out of kindness or generosity, but to the systematic giving of 2.5% of your wealth/wages each year to benefit the poor.



Look at these images, use three words to describe how you feel when you see images like these. **What are the causes of images like these?**
Who has a responsibility to deal with these situations?

Every Muslim who is able to provide for his or her family's needs must pay 2.5% from their annual earnings to help those in need. It is not regarded as choice, but as a religious duty (compulsory giving). Zakat literally means 'to cleanse' and 'purify'. Muslims believe everything they own is Allah's anyway, what they are doing is distributing his wealth.

The prophet Muhammad (pbuh) encouraged giving:
'He who eats and drinks while his brother goes hungry is not one of us.'

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Islam teaches that all wealth is God's and should be spent in a way in which God would approve.

What sort of things would and would not be right for Muslims to spend money on?

Would you be willing to give 2.5% of your wealth away?

Where do you think charity money should go to?



Who do you think needs the money most out of the pictures above?

Who do you think needs the money the least?

'Everyone in the world should adopt the system of zakat in order to make the world a better place'.

Do you agree or disagree?

Answer the question, explaining your reasons.

Which charity would you like to donate money to and why?