**Subject Islamic studies Instructor: Mr. Saad Haider Saib**

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Q NO1.What is the meaning of zakat?­and explain its objectives.

Zakat is one of the most important pillars of Islam. It is mandatory for every Muslim who is financially stable, to pay zakat to the poor and needy. Zakat is an act of worship that every Muslim should perform to help the underprivileged Muslims. In the Quran, zakat is discussed a number of times.

According to Islam, zakat is meant to be paid in order to purify the wealth. Therefore, those Muslims who have enough wealth have to give a little amount i.e. 2.5% of your wealth to the poor and needy. It is the duty of wealthy people to serve the deprived community by helping them in every possible way. Zakat is not a voluntary charity but an obligation. Muslims pay zakat every year in order to purify their wealth and to seek blessings from Allah. What Is The Meaning Of Zakat And What Is Zakat In Islam?

You should pay zakat on any surplus wealth under your possession. This includes:

* Gold, silver and other jewelry/ornaments
* Money you lend to others
* Shares and stocks
* Pension amount
* Cash saved in bank, home or given for committee
* Property which you buy for investment purpose

**The objective of Zakat**

The primary objective of Zakat is to elevate the spirit of human being above the material acquisition.Consequently, Islam does not view the zakat payer as a mere of sore of funds,but as a person who always needs purification and cleansing, both spiritually and materially. The prophet summaries this purpose in the ayat ,”sadaqa from hier wealth by which you might purify and cleanse them.

Zakat, when paid out of submission to the commad of Allah ,is a mean of purifying the soul of a Muslim from greed and miserliness.The vices of selfishness and greed must be controlled in order for human beings to elevate their spirits ,to succed in their social realtions in his life ,and gain admittance to paradise .Allah Almighty says, “Truly man is niggardly! (17:100) and “But people are prone to selfish greed.)Zakat is a purifier that trains Muslims to give and spend selflessly .It liberates their souls from the love of wealth and slavery to materials gains and acquisitions.

On top of that, zakat is a mean of training Muslims on virtues of generosity as much as it is a means of purificarion from greed .Being paid in repetitive pattern year after year ,regular zakat as well as zakat al-fitr train Muslims to give and spend for charitable purpose. The Qur’an describes believers as the righteous who have the virtue of spending for good reasons.The very second sura of the Qur’an begins, “Alif .Lam .Mim.That is the Book with no doubt .In it is guidance for the godfearing :those who believe in Unseen and establish the prayer and give of what we have provided for them.”This exhortation is reiterated many times in the Qur’an ,such as “Those who give away their wealth by night and by day ,secretly and openly ,”: “Those who give in times of both ease and hardship” and “The steadfast ,the truthful ,the obedient ,the givers ,and those who seek forgivness before dawn.”

Also ,once a person is trained to spend on public interests and to give to his brethren out of his own wealth, he is most likely to be freed from any urge to transgress on other people’s wealth and possessions.

Besides that, zakat trains people to acquire divine characteristic.If man purified of miserliness and greed and becomes accustomed to the habit of giving and spending, his soul is elevated abouve low human trait of covetousness, “Truly man is niggardly!” (17:100) and aspire to the height of Divine perfection, since one of the characteristic of Allah is absolute and unlimited mercy, powers, theoretical and practical .Allah obliges zakat in order to perfect human souls in graciousness to oher people ,as the prophet says, Train yourselves to attributes of Allah.This encouragement to spend throught zakat and voluntary charity resulted with time,u in the emergence of charitable trusts all over Muslim world,trusts devoted not only to helping the poor and needy but to all causes for human beings as well as animals.

In addition ,zakat is to shows expression of thankfulness to Allah .Gratitude and thankfulness are among the best characteristics of human beings.Zakat is an expression of thankfulness to Allah for the bouties .He gives on us .Allah, says al-Ghazali, has gives on human spiritual and materials bounties.Prayers and other acts of physical worship express gratitude for the blessing of creation, while zakat and other acts of donator worship express gratitude for the material blessings of Allah .The concept that zakat is thanks Allah for His bounties is s widespread and deeply rooted in the consciousness of Muslims that it is common to say that one must give zakat in thanks for the grace of sight ,hearing,health ,knowledge, etc.

Also, zakat stimulates personality growth in those who pay it .Through helping others overcome their financial difficulties , zakat payers are enriched by feelings of self-worth and fufilment . Zakat also helps offer the payer’s self to others and grow throught helping them and gives the payer a noble sense of victory over his base desires and material drives-over his owns shaytan.

QNO2.Write prime categories of prayers and what is the difference between nafl and wajib prayer?

Being a Muslim we all should know the 4 types of prayers in Islam. There are 4 distinct types of prayers, each holding a different weight in Islam.

1. The First and most important is **Fardh Prayer**. Fardh Salat is obligatory and missing the prayer is grave sin.
2. **Wajib Salat** is also obligatory and missing it also constitutes a major sin, but not as great as missing a Fardh Salat.
3. The next is**Sunnah** which is the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) practice.  Now, there are two kinds of Sunnah Salat which are Muakkadah and the other is Ghair Muakkadah. The first was practiced regularly and missing it also constitutes a sin, not as great as the first or second. Ghair Muakkadah is prayers that Rasulullah (pbuh) practiced occasionally but you may or may not pray it.
4. **Nafl** is the last of the four types and is voluntary. It is often prayed for extra virtue but missing it does not constitute a sin

We make a note here, Imam Abu Hanifah differentiates between Fardh and Wajib. All other schools consider Wajib a part of either Fardh or Sunnah Muakkadah salats.

**Difference between nafl and wajib prayer:**

In Islam, a nafl prayer or supererogatory prayer is a type of optional Muslim [salah](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salah) (formal worship). As with [sunnah prayer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sunnah_prayer), they are not considered obligatory but are thought to confer extra benefit on the person performing them. An example is the offering of 4 "nafl" (optional but beneficial) rakats before the compulsory [dhuhr](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zuhr_prayer) prayers. According to the following [hadith](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hadith), nafl not only draws one closer to Allah but also helps one attain the better success in the [afterworld](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Afterlife) i.e. Jannah (Paradise):

According to the [Hanafi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hanafi) [Fiqh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fiqh), witr prayer is [wajib](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wajib). The status of wajib is very close to that of [fard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fard). Witr has an odd number of [raka'at](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raka%27ah) prayed in pairs, with the final raka'ah prayed separately. Therefore, as little as one raka'ah can be prayed, and eleven at most.

According to [Abdullah ibn Umar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdullah_ibn_Umar), [Muhammad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muhammad) said, "The night prayer is offered as two raka'at followed by two raka'at and so on and if anyone is afraid of the approaching dawn (fajr prayer), he should pray one raka'ah and this will be a witr for all the raka'at which he has prayed before."

In a [hadith](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hadith) transmitted by [Abu Darda](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abu_Darda), he states that Muhammad enjoined to him three things: to fast three days every month, to offer the witr salat before sleep, and to offer two raka'at sunnah for fajr.

But there are many aḥādīth that show the best time for the witr salat to be at night. If someone fears that he would not be able to awake, or may die in their sleep, then the prayer should be performed before sleeping.

Therefore, he or she who performs [tahajjud](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tahajjud) (night prayer) regularly should perform witr after tahajjud.

It is recorded that [Ali bin Abu Talib](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ali_bin_Abu_Talib) said, "The witr prayer is not required like your obligatory prayers but the Prophet would perform the witr prayer and say, 'O you people of the [Quran](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quran), perform the witr prayer, for [Allah](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allah) is One and He loves the witr.'"

The literal meaning of witr is "chord of a circle". Considering the whole day as a circle along which all the prayers are located, the maghrib salat is offered at the sunset (beginning of the night). It has an un-paired (odd) number of raka'at. By offering the odd raka'at of witr as the last prayer of the night, a chord is created by pairing these two un-paired raka'ats of each of the maghrib's and witr's.

QNO3.Write any five signs of before the day of judgememnt.

**Signs Of The Day Of Judgement In Islam:**

From an early age, we are taught about the doomsday that it will occur one day and when asked when will it happen? We are presented with Quranic verses and sayings of Prophet to prove its authenticity. Narrated by Hudhayfah bin Usayd: Allah’s Apostle came to us all of a sudden when we busy in a discussion. He asked: ‘What do you discuss about?’ The companions replied: ‘We are discussing the Last Hour.

Thereupon he said: ‘It will not come until you see ten signs before and he made a mention of the smoke, the Anti-Christ, the beast, the rising of the sun from the west, the descent of Jesus, the Gog and Magog, and landslides in three places, one in the east, one in the west and one in Arabia at the end of which fire would burn forth from Yemen, and would drive people to the place of their assembly’. (Muslim)

**Some Major Signs Of The Day Of Judgement In Islam**

* 1) The Arrival of Imam Mehdi. ...
* 2) Dajjal Will Come. ...
* 3) The Descent Of Jesus. ...
* 4) The Emergence Of Yajooj And Majooj. ...
* 5) The Smoke Will Appear. ...
* 6) The Emergence Of Beast. ...
* 7) The Sun Will Rise From The West. ...
* 8) Landslides.

**1) The Arrival of Imam Mehdi**

About the arrival of Imam Mehdi, the Prophet (Saww) said the following lines ‘One of my descendants created by Allah will come prior to the end of the world. His name will be the same as mine and his father’s name will be the same as my father’s name’. The world will be full of oppression and tyranny before his visit, but in his time will be fairness. The angel from the cloud from the above his head will say ‘This is Mehdi, listen to what he says’.

He will fight against different enemies of Islam and develop the system of Justice around the world. Before his arrival, there will be so much injustice, bad-doings, killings of Muslims and overall the system of good actions will be destroyed by the evil-doers.

**2) Dajjal Will Come**

The most obvious and common signs that most people are told is the arrival of Dajjal. When he will arrive, he will proclaim himself as God. Anyone who trusts him will be an infidel. The question arises why would people trust him when they are being guided about him? Here the Fitnah of Dajjal works where the mindsets of the population are set in a way that would automatically accept the fact that he is God (God forbid). Dajjal will have powers that he could order the clouds to rain and the earth to grow vegetation, these powers will make people believe he is God, which in reality would be false signals.

**3) The Emergence Of Yajooj And Majooj**

There are many references to the emergence of Yajooj and Majooj. They are locked inside a wall. There is a story related to their existence that at the time of Hazrat Ibrahim (a.s), there was a just king named Zulqarnain. He would travel around the globe and conquer many countries, on his visit to the North, people told him about two hostile tribes Gog and Magog and requested him to protect them from these tribes. So, Zulqarnain built up an iron wall that they couldn’t penetrate until the doomsday.
So, on doomsday, they will be able to break the wall and come after the people. Hazrat Issa will appear on the Earth and save people from their wrath and danger.

**4) The Sun Will Rise From The West**

One of the major signs of Qayamah is the rising of the Sun from the West, which is its setting place. Narrated by Abu Hurayrah, the Prophet (saww) said: ‘The Hour will not come until the Sun has risen from the West, and when it rises and people see it, they will all believe, but that will be when it will do a person no good to believe, if he believed not before, nor earned good (by performing deeds of righteousness) through his faith’.  (Reported by Al-Bukhari, 11/352, and Muslim, 2/194)

There are different interpretations of the hadith and the sign of the time. Some believe how a can something happen which Allah has already mentioned cannot be changed. While others, the rising of the Sun from the West represents the upside-down order of the World.

**5) The Kaabah Will Be Destroyed**

Narrated by Abdullah Ibn ‘Amr, the Prophet (Saww) said: ‘Dhu’l-Suwayqatayn from Abyssinia will destroy the Ka’ba and steal its treasure and kiswah. It is as if I could see him now; he is bald-headed and has a distortion in his wrists. He will strike the Ka’ba with his spade and pich-axe’. Allah will take away the Quran from the Earth as well as the good people to protect them from the last Hour.

Though, the frequent [prayers and supplications hold great importance](https://blog.salamplanet.com/the-importance-of-dua-in-islam/) and can protect one from the deeds that could at the end prove to be disastrous for them. There are a lot of lesser or minor signs of the day of judgement in Islam which along with these major signs are an indication of the Last Age and many theories based on those signs are made to cross-check their authenticity.

QNO4.What is hajj and explain benefits of hajj.

The Hajj  "[pilgrimage](https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/pilgrimage)" is an annual [Islamic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islam) [pilgrimage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pilgrimage) to [Mecca](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mecca), [Saudi Arabia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saudi_Arabia), the [holiest city](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holiest_sites_in_Islam) for [Muslims](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muslims). The pilgrimage, which lasts approximately 5 to 6 days depending on the lunar [Islamic calendar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islamic_calendar), is a [mandatory religious duty](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fard) for Muslims that must be carried out at least once in their lifetime by all adult Muslims who are physically and financially capable of undertaking the journey, and can support their family during their absence.

**Benefits of hajj.**

Importance Of Hajj, Among the 5 pillars of Islam, the most divine is the ritual of Hajj. Hajj means to intend the Holy Ka’aba to perform the Islamic rites. It is obligatory to every Muslim in this world to perform this journey once in a lifetime if their physical and financial condition allows.

Hajj became mandatory to all Muslims who can afford. It is performed annually in the month of Dhul-Hijjah from 8th to 12th by accomplishing the religious rituals accordingly to the conditions and methods of Islam.

“Hajj shall be observed in the specified months. Whoever sets out to observe Hajj shall refrain from sexual intercourse, misconduct and arguments throughout Hajj; whatever good you do, God is fully aware thereof. As you prepare your provisions for the journey, the best provision is righteousness. You shall observe Me, O you who possess intelligence.” (Quran 2:197)

**Importance of Hajj**

Importance of Hajj, Hajj plays an important role in emerging the Muslims of all kinds, colors, and nationalities. It enhances the quality of being equal among mankind; Arab equal to non-Arab, white equal to black and rich equal to poor people.

Hajj despite being an obligatory religious ritual, it is seen as spiritual merit that provides the opportunity of self-renewal to Muslims. Hajj provides a feeling of patience and fear of the day of Judgement.

**Hajj expires the sins**

It was narrated that Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) said: I heard the Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) say: “Whoever performs Hajj for the sake of Allah and does not utter any obscene speech or do any evil deed, will go back (free of sin) as his mother bore him.”

**The reward for Hajj is Jannah**

It is, however, promised by Almighty Allah that who perform Hajj with purest of heart will get the reward of paradise.

“From one ‘Umrah to another is the expiation for what is between them and Hajj Mabrûr has no reward except Paradise.” (Bukhari and Muslim)

**Hajj brings the reward of jihad to women**

In Islam, a jihad is a struggle to fight against the enemies of Allah. When it comes to previous Islamic wars where our Prophets took part, there said to be a quote by Hazrat Aisha R.A for Muslim women that “O Allah’s Apostle! We consider jihad as the best deed.” The Prophet said, “The best jihad (for women) is hajj Mabrur.” (Bukari; Haj; 595)

**Hajj is the soul purifier**

Hajj helps to educate the believer to do good deeds, and have better moral senses. It polishes the consciences of a firm believer that every deed we do produces immense social benefits as well as encourage positive vibe among Muslim individual and society.

**Hajj as character building**

A pilgrim during his journey to the Holy city of Mecca might faces difficulties and hardships to settle in the new environment. The rituals of the Hajj are not easy but this makes the pilgrim build up his patience throughout. The submission to please Allah teaches him to stay calm and compose.

ILink Tours congratulates all the aspiring pilgrims for Hajj this year, let ILink help you grab all these spiritual and individual benefits of hajj –check out our famous Hajj packages for a serene and soulful.

QNO5. What is tawhid and prophethood in islam?

Tawhid ,meaning "unification or oneness of [God](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/God_in_Islam)"; is the indivisible oneness concept of [monotheism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monotheism) in [Islam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islam). Tawhid is the religion's central and single most important concept, upon which a Muslim's entire faith rests. It unequivocally holds that [God](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/God) is One (Al-ʾAḥad) and Single (Al-Wāḥid).

Tawhid constitutes the foremost article of the Muslim [profession of faith](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Profession_%28religious%29). The first part of the [shahada](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shahada) (the Islamic [declaration of faith](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Declaration_of_faith)) is the declaration of belief in the oneness of God. To attribute divinity to anything or anyone else, is [shirk](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shirk_%28Islam%29) – an unpardonable sin according to the [Qur'an](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Qur%27an), if repentance is not sought afterwards. Muslims believe that the entirety of the Islamic teaching rests on the principle of Tawhid.

From an Islamic standpoint, there is an uncompromising [monotheism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monotheism) at the heart of the Islamic beliefs ([aqidah](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aqidah)) which is seen as distinguishing Islam from other [major religions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_religion). Moreover, Tawhid requires Muslims not only to avoid worshiping multiple gods, but also to relinquish striving for money, social status or egoism.

The Qur'an asserts the existence of a single and absolute truth that transcends the world; a unique, independent and indivisible being, who is independent of the entire creation. God, according to Islam, is a [universal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Universalism) God, rather than a local, tribal, or parochial one-God is an absolute, who integrates all affirmative values and brooks no evil.

Islamic intellectual history can be understood as a gradual unfolding of the manner in which successive generations of believers have understood the meaning and implications of professing God's Unity. Islamic scholars have different approaches toward understanding it. [Islamic theology](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalam), [jurisprudence](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fiqh), [philosophy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islamic_philosophy), [Sufism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sufism), even to some degree the Islamic understanding of [natural sciences](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islamic_science), all seek to explain at some level the principle of tawhid.

**Prophethood**

Prophethood is a key belief in Islam. It is based around the fact that Allah has sent a series of messengers to give humankind guidance on how to follow the straight path.

**Risalah (prophethood)**

Risalah, meaning prophethood or the belief in prophets, is a basic article of faith for Muslims.

Prophets are messengers sent from God, or Allah, to help Muslims follow the straight path. Although the names of many prophets are recorded in both the Bible and the Qur'an, the Qur'an records the names of twenty-five prophets.

**Prophethood in Islam**

Man has been placed on this earth by God in order that his obedience to his Maker may be put to the test. For this purpose he has been given complete freedom to tread the paths of both good and evil. He has his choice. But to follow the path desired for him by God, man is in need of guiding principles. The true source of guidance, according to Islam, is to be found in prophethood. Throughout human history, God in His infinite Mercy, has selected certain individuals to communicate His message to mankind, so that all human beings might be enabled to follow the right path. These chosen people were called prophets or messengers. They received God’s message through His angel and then conveyed it to their people.

All the prophets, according to Islam, brought the same basic truth: that there is only one God and that all human beings are accountable to God for their actions: when Doomsday finally comes, they will be judged by Him according to their good and bad deeds. Those who believe in God and His Prophet shall be rewarded by God in the next world. While those who disbelieve shall be punished by God in the next world according to the deeds they have performed on earth.

*“****God chooses to Himself whom He will, and guides to Himself those that repent.”*** *(42:13)*

God’s messengers came in every age and to every region. According to a hadith, starting with Adam and ending with the Prophet Muahmmad 1,24,000 messengers were sent to guide the people to the right path. The prophets mentioned by name in the Qur'an are two dozen in number. The five major prophets who came before Muhammad were Adam, Nuh, (Noah) Ibrahim, (Abraham) Musa (Moses) and Isa (Jesus). **The Prophet Muhammad, the last in this long line of prophets, was known as the ‘seal of the Prophet.’**

In the past the need for new prophets had arisen because God’s religion was no longer in its pristine form, having been distorted in a number of different ways. New prophets had to come to the world periodically in order to revive the true spirit of religion, and thus restore it to its original form. After the Prophet Muhammad, there was no need for another prophet, for the Book-the Qur'an-which he gave to the world has been preserved intact, in its original form.

The Islamic concept of prophethood is different from that of other religions. Some religions would have it that even God Himself becomes incarnate in human shape, and that his prophets are in some way superhuman or other-worldly. But a prophet in the Islamic sense is no different from any other human being. His uniqueness lies simply in his being the chosen messenger of God.

God’s Apostles were born into this world just like any other human beings. They led their lives just as others did, thus demonstrating to their people how God’s servants should, in practice, conduct themselves on earth and showing them clearly what path they must tread in order to avert God’s displeasure and be worthy of His blessings.

The prophets who brought books were called rasul, while those who did not were called nabi.

Of the holy books, four find mention in the Qur'an: the Sahifa, scrolls given to Ibrahim; the Tawrat, the revelations to Musa; the Zabur, the psalms given to Dawud (David); the Injil, the teachings given to Isa (Jesus). Each of these was originally a complete revelation, but unfortunately, these books and teachings were not properly preserved. Some, like the Sahifa, were lost completely. Others were changed in various ways by human intervention. Thus these previous scriptures are no longer in their original form. They could best be described as edited versions of divine revelations, which have been altered from time to time by editors and commentators. Since these holy scriptures are no longer in their original form.