

Q: 97 – Title: We have some questions regarding zakat, Please help us in the light of sharia for the following questions....

Question

1) Can zakat be used for the purpose of secular studies. if the students or parents of the students r eligible for zakat?

2) Can we give zakat to an educational trust who help muslim childrens with their educational (secular education) needs?

3) Can we help needy muslims (eligible for zakat) to build their houses with the zakat money?

4) Can we give our zakat to the trust who help muslims (poor, needy) to build their houses?

Answer

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Assalaamu `alaykum waRahmatullahi Wabarakatuh

It is necessary to give *zakat* into the ownership of the recipient. It is not allowed to spend it on them, nor spend it on their behalf. The recipient must be the owner of the wealth and have the option to spend it as he/she wishes.

Therefore, *zakah* should be given to the needy or institutions/trusts that will hand it over the needy. When the *zakah* is received by the recipients, they may spend it as they wish, whether it be on secular studies or building houses. However, it is not valid for you or the institution/trust to spend the *zakah* on them, as this would be contradictory to making the recipients full owners of the *zakah* money.

والله اعلم بالصواب (43)

(2/216 :)

(2/39 :)

And Allah knows best

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Wassalaamu `alaykum

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