

Research Paper Outline

1. Introduction

- a. **Background information about the Alm's Ritual:** Zakat or "Alms giving" is one of the Five Pillars of Islam, which is the giving 2.5% of one's possessions to charity or to the poor in need. Zakat is a religious duty for all Muslims who meet necessary criteria of wealth. The meaning of Zakat is "to purify" and to "cause to grow." This is the amount of money that every adult male or female make that must pay to support specific categories of people. This is an act of worship.
- b. **Belonging of which Religion of ritual:** Zakat or Alms is a main religion in all Muslim culture. It belongs to the Five Pillars and the Zakat is the fourth pillar and this is to give back to alms the poor. This is a mandatory contribution to all Muslim groups. The practice of Zakat was short-lived in Medina but during the reign of Umar Bin Abdul Aziz in 717-720 D.C. was reported that in Medina no wanted needed Zakat.
- c. **Purpose of Ritual:** Zakat is to help those in need in their culture. The poor are granted the opportunity to get money or anything they need by those who work and are from wealthy families.
- d. **Mythology based on the ritual:** Zakat is considered to act of piety through which one expresses concern for the well-being of fellow Muslims as well as preserving social harmony between the wealthy and the poor. It will bring good to those who give to those in need.
- e. **Ritual performed:** Zakat does not have a specific routine families help the poor