

Sufra NW London

Zakat Policy

Introduction

Sufra NW London provides a Zakat and Fidyah distribution service for local Muslim donors who are keen to support poverty alleviation in their own community. Zakat is a pillar of the Islamic faith and a form of charitable giving that is obligatory on believing Muslims.

Types of Zakat

Zakat takes two main forms:

- Zakat al-Mal—an annual financial donation of 2.5% of liquid and fixed assets (assessed at a fixed point during the year) for distribution to the poor and destitute. This form of zakat can be paid at any time of the year but is traditionally donated during the Muslim month of Ramadan.
- Zakat al-Fitr—an in-kind donation of approximately 3kg of food that coincides with the festival of Eid al-Fitr at the end of Ramadan. Most Muslims will make a financial donation in lieu which is distributed as food by the collecting charity. The approximate value of Zakat al-Fitr is £5.

Fidyah

Fidyah, is a compulsory charitable donation which must be made if you are unable to fast for a valid health-related reason during Ramadan. It is used to feed a needy person and is typically £5 per day where a fast has been missed. This equates to a maximum Fidyah charity donation of £150 for the entire month of Ramadan.

Kaffarah

If you deliberately miss or break a fast without a valid reason you must either fast for 60 consecutive days or feed 60 needy people for a day which is valued at £300 per a missed fast.

Method of Distribution

Sufra NW London distributes Zakat al-Mal as part of our Samaritan Fund that provides small financial grants for individuals and families to cover the cost of essential living costs. Zakat al-Fitr, Fidyah and Kaffarah is used to provide in-kind donations of food to similar beneficiaries.

Although zakat funds originate from the charity's Muslim donors, they are distributed to the needy, regardless of their faith or cultural background.

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