

Bate #HLSD08 0001444

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Al Mojtaba'a Edicts

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Paying Zakat to the parties working to instill God's Sharia

Question: Is it permissible to pay Zakat to an Islamic party, group or organizations which exist in countries that do not uphold God's Sharia, keeping in mind that the goal of these parties, groups or organizations is to uphold the rule of Islamic Sharia and to call for Islam, through democratic ways, and that in order to reach their goals they have a lot of expenses for advertising, lectures, booklets for elections purposes, all of which require large sums of money. So, is it permissible to pay Zakat to them for that purpose?

Answer: God, may he be exalted and glorified, explained the kinds that deserve Zakat, and, the great and the Almighty, limited them in eight kinds, and are listed in His Great and Almighty saying, "Alms are for the poor and the needy, and those employed to administer the (funds); for those whose hearts been (recently) reconciled (to Truth); for those in bondage and in debt; in the path of God and for the wayfarer: (Thus it is) ordained by God, and God is full of knowledge and wisdom". In explaining the Almighty's saying, "in the path of God", numerous jurists said that what is meant by it is Jihad and invasion in the path of God, and others said that the path of God includes all the ways that leads to pleasing God the Almighty.

We lean towards the latter meaning which is an expansion of the meaning "in the path of God" within the limits of victory and spreading Islamic calling and the declaration of the word of God, and that is supported by strong evidence, because the wording "in the path of God" are general and include Jihad with weapons to fight the enemies which is more specialized and more important than others. It also includes all that is pleasing to God the Almighty, for the words are general and no evidence was brought to limit it to Jihad alone. Therefore, it remains general to include the welfare of all Muslims, particularly what brings their victory and the spreading of the Islamic all. The Jihad that scholars meant in the past was under the umbrella of Islamic State and a Muslim Caliphate State, whereby Zakat is paid to the most special and important venues which is strengthening the army of the State, spreading of the call and Jihad till the Day of Judgement.

It is permissible to pay Zakat to these Islamic parties, groups and organizations which seek to resume the Islamic life, remove infidel systems and replace them with the God's Sharia in their place. It is sufficient to believe that they are able to make an impact towards that even partially while its impact grow over time. Zakat then would be paid for every action which becomes a means to achieve the mentioned goal because means receive opinion as the means and what precludes a duty is a duty. Therefore, whatever duty needs to be accomplished with is a duty provided that means are legal. Therefore, if those overseeing these parties, groups and organizations are people of trust, if their work is



organized and they followed the legal means without squandering, then giving Zakat to them is approved, whether their means are educational, cultural, informative, electoral or political advertising. Their support should be ensured especially if the governments don't support and strengthen them, or if the enemy of Islam is supporting others and hindering their progress.

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62 Al Mojtama'a, issue #1143 - 27 Shawal, 1415 H - 3/28/1995 A.D.