

About the Foundation

The Imam Al-Khoei Benevolent Foundation is an international, religious, educational institution established by the late Ayatullah Al Udhma Seyyid Abulqasim Al-Khoei since 1981. The New York Center is one of the branches of the Foundation across the globe in America, Canada, Great Britain, France, India, Pakistan and Thailand .

The present building of the Center was opened on 15th Shabaan 1409 A.H. (March 23, 1989) in response to the increasing demand for services and activities in various languages: Arabic, Urdu, Persian and of course , English.

The Center, since its inception, has been providing religious and educational services to the community of believers by way of congregational prayers, observance of joyous and sorrowful occasions associated with the Prophet and his Ahlul-Bait and guidance in matter of religious beliefs and practices .

The Center has a well-stocked reference library, a conference room, a main prayer hall and small prayer halls and a funeral bath facility.

A monument to the great visionary, the late Al-Khoei (R.A.), and his martyred sons, Seyyid Muhammad Taqi Al-Khoei and Sayyid Abdul Majid Al-Khoei, is the fully accredited Al-Iman School which began with four students in 1991, and now has 150 students in the Elementary, Junior High, and High School.

The Center's role of religious education and guidance is also being fulfilled by the Al-Iman Saturday School the annual Al-Iman Summer School as well as Thursday evening and Friday prayer sessions and different language gatherings weekly on Fridays, Saturdays and Sunday evenings .



وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ
لِلزَّكَاةِ فَاعِلُونَ
صدق الله العلي العظيم

من الواجبات المفروضة في الإسلام دفع زكاة الفطرة . والتي يجب تشخيصها وعزلها ليلة عيد الفطر . ودفعها إلى الفقراء المسلمين صبيحة يوم العيد . وفي الروايات عن الإمام الصادق عليه السلام مافحواه (مَنْ لَمْ يُؤَدِّ الزَّكَاةَ فَلَا صَوْمَ لَهُ إِذَا تَرَكَهَا مُتَعَمِّدًا) . ومقدارها ثلاث كيلو غرامات تقريباً من الطعام أو مايعادل ثمنها نقداً عن كل فرد من أفراد العائلة . صغيراً كان أو كبيراً ذكراً أو أنثى . وهنا نود أن نلفت انتباهكم إلى الوضع المأساوي الذي يعيشه إخوانكم في كثير من البلدان الإسلامية . والذي يحتاج إلى تكاتف الجهود ومساهماتكم . ودفعكم للزكاة جزء من الحل . ومع أن بضعة دولارات لاخل المشكلة إلا أن قليل العطاء خير من الحرمان . وما عند الله تعالى خير وأفضل إذ يقول في محكم كتابه العزيز: (مَثَلُ الَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ كَمَثَلِ حَبَّةٍ أَتَتْ سَبْعَ سَنَابِلَ فِي كُلِّ سَنَابِلَةٍ مِئَةٌ حَبَّةٍ وَاللَّهُ يُضَاعِفُ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَاللَّهُ وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ) .

بإمكانكم دفع زكاة الفطرة إلى فقراء المسلمين مباشرة . كما يمكنكم دفعها لمؤسسة الإمام الخوئي الخيرية وستتولى المؤسسة دفعها لمستحقيها .

نسأل الله تعالى
أن يتقبل أعمالكم ويوفقكم
لما فيه خير الدنيا والآخرة
إنه سميع مجيب

Zakatul Fitr

الْفِطْرَةُ

“One who purifies himself, glorifies his Lord and prays, he has certainly achieved well-being”

(Holy Quran)



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Zakat in Islam

Zakat means purification physical, spiritual and of one's wealth. Therefore, Zakat is both external and internal purification as well as maintaining an economic balance between the fortunate and the less fortunate. There are two types of Zakat: Zakatul Mal and Zakatul Fitr.



What is Zakatul Fitr ?

Zakat Ul Fitr is the purification (cleansing) of one's self and returning to the purity of nature of one's being. "Fitr" is derived from the same root as "Iftar" at the end of a fast. Through fasting one purifies himself, physically by controlling his senses and basic instincts, and spiritually by achieving a heightened sense of nearness to The Creator by way of absolute obedience. But, just as the pangs of hunger and thirst create awareness of the plight of the less fortunate fellow human being, these feelings must be translated into action to alleviate their plight. Therefore, the Day of Eid which is enjoyed by those blessed with wealth can be a day of misery for the less fortunate. Hence, Islam enjoins giving alms on that day so that every brethren in faith can rejoice and thus enhance the ideals of a just society that minds the plight of its less fortunate members.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
وَمَا تُنْفِقُوا مِنْ شَيْءٍ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ
يُوفَّ إِلَيْكُمْ وَأَنْتُمْ لَا تُظْلَمُونَ
صَدَقَ اللَّهُ الْعَلِيُّ الْعَظِيمُ



When to pay Zakatul Fitr ?

It becomes obligatory at the time of sunset on the last day of the Month of Ramadhan, but it is payable between dawn and the start of Eid prayers. In case one does not wish to offer Eid prayers, he can postpone giving fitra till midday. However, if he/she sets apart a portion of his property with the intention of fitra, and does not give it away by midday of Eid day, he should make intention of fitra as and when he gives it.



How Much ?

It is about three kilos of wheat or barley or dates, raisins, rice or millet, etc. It is also permissible to pay the cash value of such items. It is an obligatory precaution (ihtiyat wajib) to give fitra from that which is the staple in his place. This would amount to a minimum of at least \$10.00 per head. One could also have an option of paying the cost of dates or raisins, which in New York is about \$15.00 per head.



Who Should Pay it ?

It is obligatory on the person who fulfills certain requirements to pay Zakat Ul Fitr. Imam Ja'far Sadiq (A.S.) said: "One who fasts and intentionally doesn't pay Zakatul Fitr is like one who has not fasted." If, at the time of sunset on the eve of Eid Ul Fitr, a person is adult and sane, he should pay Zakat Ul Fitr for himself as well as his dependants. It does not matter if the dependants are young or old, Muslims or non-Muslims, or whether they are in his own town or in some other town. It is also obligatory for a person to pay the fitra of a guest who comes to his house before sunset on the eve of Eid Ul Fitr.



Whom to Pay ?

If you wish, you may give your fitra to the needy people yourself. Please note that a poor sayyid cannot take fitra from a non-sayyid. However, if for any reason you do not have access to a real needy person, you may send it in the form of check or money order payable to "Imam Al Khoei Foundation". For the last few years we have been dispatching these funds to real needy people. We make sure that it reaches poor people, be it here in the U.S. or any other place in the world. If you are coming to perform Eid prayers in the Center, you may bring the fitra with you to pay it before the prayers. We pray to Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala to accept our prayers and fasting in this holy month. We also wish you a happy and blessed Eid. Was-Salaamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuhu.

والله يضاعف لمن يشاء