

Sadaqah — giving beyond zakat

Zakat has a rate and a date. Sadaqah has neither — no ceiling, no minimum, and half a date is enough to start.



★ One seed, seven ears

كَثَلُ حَبَّةٍ أَنْبَتَتْ سَبْعَ سَنَابِلَ فِي كُلِّ سَنَبَلَةٍ مِائَةُ حَبَّةٍ

Spending in the way of Allah is “like a seed of grain which grows seven spikes; in each spike a hundred grains” — and He multiplies for whom He wills.

Qur'an 2:261

★ Half a date

اتَّقُوا النَّارَ وَلَوْ بِشِقِّ تَمْرَةٍ

“Shield yourselves from the Fire, even with half a date.” ‘Adi b. Hatim heard it from him ﷺ directly.

Sahih al-Bukhari 1417

★ Taken in His right hand

A date's worth from honest earning — and He accepts only the honest — is taken in His right hand and raised for its giver until it is the size of a mountain.

Sahih al-Bukhari 1410

★ Quietly is better

وَأِنْ تُخْفَوْهَا وَتُؤْتَوْهَا الْفُقَرَاءَ فَهُوَ خَيْرٌ لَكُمْ

“If you disclose your charities, that is good; but if you conceal them and give them to the poor, it is better for you.”

Qur'an 2:271

★ Do not spoil it afterwards

لَا تُبْطِلُوا صَدَقَتِكُمْ بِالْمَنِّ وَالْأَذَى

“Do not invalidate your charities with reminders of them, or injury.” A gift can be undone by how it is mentioned later.

Qur'an 2:264

★ Which giving is best

Asked which charity earns most, he ﷺ said: the one given while you are healthy and tight-fisted and afraid of poverty — not the one dictated when death is at the door.

Sahih al-Bukhari 1419

★ Wider than money

“Every act of goodness is sadaqah.” Two words that take the whole subject past the wallet.

Sahih Muslim, Kitab az-Zakat

★ The one that keeps running

“When a man dies his deeds stop, except three: an ongoing charity, knowledge people benefit from, and a righteous child who prays for him.”

Sahih Muslim, Kitab al-Masiyyah

★ Two angels, every day

Each day one asks Allah to replace what the spender gave away, and the other asks Him to ruin what the withholder kept back.

Sahih al-Bukhari 1442