

WOMEN OF FAITH – KOBIETY WIARY

ZAKAT POLICY

1. OUR MISSION

Women of Faith is non-for-profit organisation that joins hearts of the believing women to please God together and individually through joint learning, action and friendship. It promotes strengthening of faith through knowledge, self-development, participation, voice and faith inspired integration of individuals and groups.

2. OUR VISION

Women of Faith is actively committed to building an active and supportive global and local communities of women interested in Islam by empowering women who drive changes in their communities.

3. THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1. To create awareness among Muslim women and people of other faiths about Islam.
- 3.2. To undertake education and training programs, especially those concerning Arabic and the Holy Qur'an.
- 3.3. To organise socio-cultural, sport and religious activities in order to better woman well-being and strengthen the community.
- 3.4. To foster and encourage an assistance network for Muslim woman and their families who are in distress and misfortune.
- 3.5. To empower Muslim women in the community by promoting her rights and developing spirit of entrepreneurship.
- 3.6. To co-operate with other organisations in the furtherance of its objectives.
- 3.7. To build inter-cultural dialogue among our interfaith communities by promoting cultural understanding and developing social relations.

4. WOMEN OF FAITH'S POLICY ON ZAKAT

4.1. We will collect Zakat and distribute Zakat to those who have the right over us. We will support the needy guided by the following verses of the Qur'an:

"Sadaqat are only for the poor who do not beg and the poor who beg and those employed to collect them, and for attracting the hearts (of those who have been inclined towards Islam), and to free the captives and for those in debt and for Allah's Cause, and for the wayfarer a due imposed by Allah. And Allah is All-Knower, All-Wise." [9:60]

"They ask you as to what they should spend. Say: Whatever wealth you spend, it is for the parents and the near of kin and the orphans and the needy and the wayfarer, and whatever good you do, Allah surely knows it." [Al-Quran 2:215]

"(Alms are) for the poor who are confined in the way of Allah-- they cannot go about in the land; the ignorant man thinks them to be rich on account of (their) abstaining (from begging); you can recognize them by their mark; they do not beg from men importunately; and whatever good thing you spend, surely Allah knows it." [Al-Quran 2:273]

"And give to the near of kin his due and (to) the needy and the wayfarer, and do not squander wastefully." [Al-Quran 17:26]

4.2. Following the above mentioned guidance we will distribute Zakat to the needy who;

- 4.2.1. Live in extreme poverty and possess no wealth
- 4.2.2. Who meet basic necessities but are below the value of Nisab (gold £2223.27, silver £222.6 as of 8th June 2014, <http://www.e-nisab.com/>)
- 4.2.3. Are in need of financial support in result of a decision to accept Islam or interest in Islam
- 4.2.4. Are migrants workers, victims of forced labour, victims of human trafficking or victims of modern day slavery.
- 4.2.5. Refugees and travellers in need of financial assistance.
- 4.2.6. Are in debt and this exceeds their assets and their net assets are below Nisab level, under the condition that debts were not created for sinful purposes.

4.3. The Zakat Commission will assess the eligibility of all applicants on individual and ongoing basis, based on the application form received at info@kobietywiary.org/kobiety.wiary@gmail.com and verbal interview. The application form shall be available online on www.kobietywiary.org.

- 4.3.1. The Zakat Commission will be elected on annual basis from members of Women of Faith.
- 4.3.2. The Zakat Commission will take decisions and respond to Zakat applicants within 1 month from the date the application was received.
- 4.3.3. In urgent cases the Zakat Commission will convene emergency physical or teleconference meetings to take urgent decisions.
- 4.3.4. The Zakat Commission will not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, age, gender etc.

4.4. Male applicants will not be rejected and will be considered on individual basis. The Zakat Commission may seek external consultation on individual applicants, e.g. mosque and community leaders.

4.5. We reserve the right to refuse Zakat to applicants who are currently receiving state benefits so other applicants, who are not entitled to the state welfare, can easily access Zakat funding.

4.6. While collecting the Zakat we will take no fee for our work since the association works on voluntary basis.

4.7. As the organisation grows in the strength we may consider in the future a percentage of Zakat fee for those involved in collecting, recording, guarding, dividing and distributing the Zakat as prescribed in Quran, verse 9:60.

4.8. All Zakat funds and distribution will be diligently recorded and reported to the public in annual report.

5. The role of Women of Faith, Kobiety Wiary, in Zakat collection and distribution.

5.1. Women of Faith, Kobiety Wiary, is uniquely placed in collecting and distributing Zakat having the relative cultural and geographical proximity to the needy sisters, often new Muslims. Kobiety Wiary is run by Polish sisters and is the only organization that targets integration of Polish sisters, Central & Eastern European and sisters of other nationalities to support each other in embracing Islam, acquiring knowledge and elevating our faith. We are a network of around 300 sisters from around the world who want to support each other and grow together in Islam.

5.2. Women of Faith, Kobiety Wiary, is well acquainted with the current socio-economic challenges that women and girls face, be in the UK, Poland or in other countries. We are a strong network of believing women who can easily access different communities and acquire information on needs and economic situation of the applicants.