

ZAKAH GUIDE AND CALCULATION

ZAKATABLE ASSETS				
A1	Local Cash and Liquid investments			\$
A2	Value of Foreign Currencies			\$
A3	Gold Jewellery and Ornaments			\$ <i>Calculated on May 10th 2016</i>
	Carat Value	Weight in Grams	Per Gram	
	24 carat	×	\$268.00	
	22 carat	×	\$245.65	
	18 carat	×	\$200.94	
	14 carat	×	\$156.38	
	12 carat	×	\$134.00	
A4	Silver	×	\$ 3.65	\$
A5	Receivable Loans/Debts			\$
A6	Livestock/Poultry for Trade			\$
A7	Agricultural Products for Trade			\$
A8	Raw materials/ Goods in Production			\$
A9	Finished Goods/Inventory			\$
A10	Land/Properties for Trade			\$
A11	Other Articles for Trade			\$
A12	Shares			\$
A13	Retirement/Medical Fund			\$
A14	Receivable Incomes/Revenues			\$
	Total Assets			\$

LIABILITIES			
L1	Loans/Debts Owed		\$
L2	Due Utility Bills		\$
L3	Taxes		\$
L4	Salaries/Rentals		\$
L5	Unpaid Zakah		\$
	Total Liabilities		\$
	Net Assets (Total Assets - Total Liabilities)		\$
	Zakatable Amount (Net Assets × 0.025)		\$

Zakah would only be obligatory if your Net Assets (i.e. after subtracting Total Liabilities from Total Zakatable Assets) is equal to, or in excess of the Nisaab. The current monetary equivalent of the Nisaab in Trinidad and Tobago is \$2,239.TTD.

A1- This includes: bank deposits, monies at hand, cheques, travellers cheque, bonds, treasury bills etc. (principle amount invested).

NB- All types of interest bearing transactions and investment are strictly prohibited.

A2- The current market value at the end of your Zakatable year.

A3 & A4- Items in which the gold/silver content is 50% or more will be considered as gold/silver and hence subject to Zakah. However Zakah is calculated based on its carat value. Gold and silver are Zakatable regardless of whether it is owed for personal use or for trade, whether it is in the form of jewellery, ornaments, coins etc.

A5- This includes personal loans which you have given and monies owed to you through the sale of commodities. This is irrespective of whether payments are immediate and near or forwarded future payments.

A6- All domesticated animals, poultry and farmed fishes purchased and reared with the intent of re-sale, irrespective of its quantity will fall under articles of trade and would be Zakatable based on its value. However, if reared without the intent of trade it would not be Zakatable unless it is actually sold i.e. monies received from the sale will be subjected to Zakah. Wild animals purchased for re-sale is also subjected to Zakah.

NB- Zakatus Saa-imah (Domesticated Livestock that graze freely for most of the year and are kept for its milk and procreation, not for trade or meat etc.) was excluded from this form as it may not be applicable in Trinidad and Tobago.

A7- This includes fruits, vegetables, provisions etc. purchased with the intent of re-sale.

NB- This does not include your land produce (crops) which is subjected to zakat at every harvest at a rate of 5% if your land is irrigated manually or by man-engineered means, such as canals, reservoirs, sprinklers etc. If however your land is irrigated naturally by rain water only, each harvest will be subjected to zakat at the rate of 10%.

A8- Raw Materials are subject to Zakah, as they are purchased with the intent for resale, or utilized in making the final product. The current value of items/commodities in the production process at the completion of the Zakatable year is also subject to Zakah. This also includes unfinished buildings and projects.

NB- Machinery, tools and equipment (not for sale) are not subject to Zakah.

A9- This includes all finished goods whether manufactured by the company or purchased, whether stacked on shelves or stocked at warehouses. Your selling price is calculated.

A10- Properties, Land, Machineries, and Equipment purchased with the intent of re-sale.

A11 -All other items and commodities for trade that were not mentioned under- A6, A7, A8 and A9.

A12- If shares are purchased with the express intention for resale or capital gain, then the entire current market value of the shares is subject to Zakah. If however, shares are purchased not for re-sale but as an investment to generate dividends then only the current asset-ratio portion of the share will be Zakatable. If determining or calculating the current asset ratio is difficult then Zakah should be given on the entire share.

NB- Zakah is levied both on the value of the entire share or current asset-ratio as well as on dividends expected at the end of the Zakatable year.

A13- Zakah is applicable on all voluntary contributions you have made towards the pension/medical scheme. However, Zakah is not levied on compulsory deductions (as is the case with most salary schemes). Zakah on these will only come into effect when you get access to these funds.

NB- All investments schemes which are based on conventional insurance are prohibited in Islam.

A14- All expected incomes, dividends, pension, grants, rental incomes, salaries due at the end of your Zakatable Year.

L 1- Includes all personal and business loans/debts. However, only short-term based loans will be deducted from the total value of the Zakatable assets.

NB- Only short-term loans would be deducted from ones Zakatable assets. Contemporary Scholars have regarded short-term loans as being up to one year. Therefore at the end of one's Zakatable year only one year's worth of debt repayment should be deducted and not the entire amount.

Contemporary scholars have ruled only short-term loans i.e. one year's worth of debt repayment should be deducted from Zakatable assets, not the entire amount.

L 2, L 3 & L 4- Utility bills, taxes, fines, fees, rentals, workers' wages and any other dues.

L-5-Unpaid Zakah is a debt and must be paid. Any unpaid Zakah for previous years would be deducted.

THE FIQH OF ZAKAH

Nisaab is the minimum amount of wealth upon which Zakah is payable. Wealth may be in the form of gold, silver, cash, other liquid assets and commodities for trade. The Nisaab for Gold is 85 grams (\$22,780TTD) and for Silver is 612 grams (\$2,239TTD). Therefore, if the value of ones Total Zakatable Assets exceeds the value of the Nisaab for **silver**, he is obligated to pay Zakah at the rate of 2½ %. **NB-The above value for Nisaab was calculated on May 10th 2016:** www.fatwa-tt.com should be referred to for an updated Nisaab.

Zakah is obligatory upon whom

Zakah is compulsory on an individual who possesses wealth equal to or in surplus of the Nisaab after deducting all Liabilities on the completion of one lunar year. It is sufficient that one owns this wealth in the beginning and at the end of the lunar year, even though during the year the wealth may decrease below that of the Nisaab. Zakah is not obligatory on the wealth of a minor or an insane person.

NB-Zakah is not levied upon companies and organisations rather upon individuals.

Recipients of Zakah

Recipients of Zakah are those whom the Shariah considers to be poor and destitute. They are those whose net Zakatable assets is less than the value of the Nisaab.

A person who is not liable to pay Zakah does not necessarily mean that he is eligible to receive Zakah. A person may possess the Nisaab, making him illegible to receive Zakah, and at the same time not liable to pay Zakah as a year has not passed over his wealth or after deducting liabilities his wealth is less than the Nisaab.

NB- If a person does not possess the Nisaab, however he has in his possession items which are **not** considered necessary, equivalent to or in excess of the Nisaab, then such a person is not eligible to receive Zakah.

Zakah can be given to trustworthy and reliable Islamic organisations who will act as your agent in dispersing your Zakah to those deserving. Zakah can be given to one's brother, sister, uncle, aunt if they are **poor**.

Who cannot receive your Zakah

1. Your parents and their parents (however high in the hierarchy)
2. Your children and their children (however low in the hierarchy).
3. Your spouse.
4. Non-Muslims, even if they are poor.
5. Zakah cannot be used for building, repairing or maintaining Masjid, Madrasa nor can it be used for buying books and equipment for religious institutions.
6. Paying the debts and funeral expenses of a poor deceased person.

When Is Zakah Given

Zakah becomes obligatory on the completion of ones Zakatable Year (12 lunar months).

NB- If ones Zakatable year ended before Ramadhan, it is disliked that he delay that Zakah until the month of Ramadhan. However, if ones Zakatable year ends after Ramadhan, then it will be permissible to pay Zakah in the month of Ramadhan. Necessary adjustments will have to be made if net assets increases at the end of his scheduled Zakatable year.

NB- If a person cannot remember the date he first became the owner of Nisaab, then he should try to estimate that date. If a reasonable estimate of the date cannot be made, then any date should be fixed at random. The beginning of an individual's Zakah year may be fixed in Ramadan.

NB- One must have intention at the time of discharging his Zakah. However it is not necessary that a legit recipient knows that he is being given Zakah.

Zakah on Debts

Debts are of two types i.e. Long-term and Short-term. The former does not affect Zakah i.e. it is not deducted from the Zakatable assets. Short-term loans, which is a one year period are however deducted entirely (i.e. annual instalments)

Zakah on unlawful Earnings

Haram income is not subject to Zakah, rather the entire amount must be given in charity.

For further clarification and inquiries please contact:

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