

## Transfer of Zakaat from country or region to another

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

**Question:** What is the ruling concerning the transferring of Zakaat from a Wilayah (state) to another?

**Answer:** All praise is due to Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds. Peace and blessing be upon whom Allaah sent as a mercy to the Worlds, upon his Family, his Companions and his Brothers till the Day of Resurrection.

The basic principle is that Zakaat has to be paid to the eight categories if they are available; otherwise, it has to be paid to the available among them in the same country, according to the hadeeth of Mu'aadh رضي الله عنه that the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said: "**Inform them that Allaah has enjoined them to give charity (Zakaat) -from their money-. It is taken from their wealthy people and given to their poor people**"<sup>1</sup>.

However, when people are not in need of Zakaat in the country where it has to be paid whereas others are in great need of Zakaat, or the categories that merit Zakaat are not available; there is no objection to give the Zakaat wherever they are. In the same way, it is permissible to transfer the Zakaat for an interest approved religiously.

In spite of this, if one transfers Zakaat without the aforementioned reasons his would be valid, but he would have contradicted what has priority and is preferable. Ibn Qudaama said: "If he does the opposite and transfers it (Zakaat), it would be valid according to the statement of the majority of the scholars..., but if people in the country wherein Zakaat is to be paid are not in need of Zakaat, in this case it is permissible to transfer it"<sup>2</sup>. [i.e. according to those who prohibit it]

The perfect knowledge belongs to Allaah عَزَّ وَجَلَّ; and our last prayer is all the praises and thanks are to Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds, and prayers of Allaah are to Muhammad and his Family, Companions and Brothers until the Day of Resurrection.

Algiers on Dhu Al-Qa'da the 25th, 1427 H. Corresponding to December the 16th, 2006 G.

<sup>1</sup> Reported by Al-Bukhaaree (1395) and by Muslim (19) on the authority of Ibn 'Abbaas رضي الله عنهما

<sup>2</sup> See: "Al-Mughnee" of Ibn Qudaama (2/ 672-673).