

Paying Zakaat-ul-Fitr in money

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Article taken and slightly adapted from: mtws.posthaven.com

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

Question: The questioner says: Oh noble Shaykh, I know that it is not permissible to pay Zakaat-ul-Fitr with money, and I said this to my father but he did not accept this from me. He said he does not reject the hadeeth of the Messenger of Allaah, (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)¹, but this country is paying Zakaat-ul-Fitr in money therefore it is upon us to do what some of the people are doing and pay it with money. But I gave the Zakaat for myself without intending to, will this be accepted from me?

Shaykh ibn Baaz (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)²: It is obligatory to pay it using food. This is what the consensus of the Scholars are upon. A Saa' from the staple food of the country; dates, barely, rice; food from the staple food of the country. One Saa'. This what is obligatory upon every person, upon the male, the female, the young and the old.

A group of Scholars said: It is permissible to pay it in money, but this statement is weak. What is correct it that it is obligatory to pay it in food according to the consensus of the Scholars, most of the Scholars. As this has come in the narrations from the Messenger of Allaah, (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ).

And if you advised your father and he did not do it, then you pay Zakaat for yourself even if he is not aware of it. Pay it in food even if you father does not like it.

¹ (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

² (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him