

## ZAKAT-UL-FITR (Fitrana)



I often wonder why the value of Sadaqat-ul-Fitr (fitrana) varies so much between our local masaajid, some are double the rate of others, even though they all follow the Hanafi fiqh and are located within less than a mile of each other. The rate of Sadaqat-ul-Fitr is also the amount one pays (fidya) for missed fasts when they is no hope of making them up. So knowing the actual true value is important.

### How do you Calculate Sadaqat-ul-Fitr (Fitrana)?

#### What is Sadaqatul Fitr? (Zakât ul fitr)

Ibn Abbâs RA has narrated that Rasûlullâh SAW prescribed Sadaqat-ul-Fitr as an obligatory duty in order to purify those who fast from useless and obscene activities and to provide food for the poor. (AbûDawûd) Sadaqat-ul-Fitr has been stipulated by Rasûlullâh SAW in authentic ahâdîth. The Sahâbah RA and later the jurists adapted the stipulations according to the needs of the time. Abdullah Ibn Umar RA is reported to have said; Rasûlullâh SAW instructed us to give Sadaqat-ul-Fitr; 1 sa' (a measure used at the time of Rasûlullâh SAW) of dates or 1 sa' of barley. Abdullâh Ibn Umar RA mentions that the Sahabâh RA later gave 2 mud ( $\frac{1}{2}$  aa') of wheat in place of dates and barley. (Bukhari 1511 and Muslim 7232)

#### How much Sadaqat-ul-Fitr should one give?

According to the aforementioned hadîth it is clear that a person should give either 1 sa' of dates, 1 sa' of barley or  $\frac{1}{2}$  sa' of wheat. Ibn Al-Humâm says that for everything besides wheat one should give 1 sa' and for wheat he should give  $\frac{1}{2}$  sa'. He further states that this view is shared by Mu'âwiyah, Tâ'us, Sa'îd Ibn Musayyab, Ibn Zubair, Sa'îd Ibn Jubair and all the Sahabâh and Tabi'în (RHA). (Fath-ul-Qadîr Volume 2, Page 228)

Today it is not always convenient to give wheat, barley or dates so most people in U.K. give money of equivalent value.

In fatâwa Shâmi it is mentioned that if one intends to give cash then according to Imam Muhammed Ibn Hasan As-Shaybânî only the value of wheat should be considered (not the value of barley or dates). (Shâmi volume 2, page 366). So how much is  $\frac{1}{2}$  sa' ?

Mufti Shafi' has mentioned in his book Auzân Shar'iyyah that the most cautious approach equates  $\frac{1}{2}$  sa' to 1.75 ser (1.63296 Kg). Ta'mîr Hayât mentions that ( $\frac{1}{2}$  sa') equals 1.648 Kg. Maulana Abrâr-ul-Haq (Hardoi) rounds up the above figure to 1.7Kg of wheat or its value in cash.

#### Calculating Sadaqat-ul-Fitr according to Hanafi fiqh

Sadaqat-ul-Fitr has been stipulated by Rasûlullâh SAW and nobody should over or undervalue this amount. In the same way that we don't ever stipulate that the Zakât is more than 2.5%, we should not change this amount too. The value of Sadaqat-ul-Fitr can be calculated thus:

Price of cleansed wheat per Kg x 1.648 kg ( $\frac{1}{2}$  sa') = rate of Sadaqat-ul-Fitr according to Hanafi fiqh  
Current wheat prices are available at:

[www.dovesfarm.co.uk/sack-flour/sacked-grains/](http://www.dovesfarm.co.uk/sack-flour/sacked-grains/) or [www.buywholefoodsonline.co.uk/wheat-grains](http://www.buywholefoodsonline.co.uk/wheat-grains)

#### What is the rate of according to the other fiqh

The value of the aa' varies slightly amongst the four Islâmîc schools of jurisprudence (fiqh), all are based on authentic narrations. According to the Hanafi Fiqh, Sadaqat-ul-Fitr of wheat is  $\frac{1}{2}$  sa'. According to the other Sunni fiqh Sadaqat-ul-Fitr of wheat will be 1 sa'. There is also a slight difference with regards to the calculation of a sa'. According to the Hanafi Fiqh, a sa' is equivalent to approximately 3.2 Kg. According to the other fiqh, a sa' is equivalent to 2.175 Kg.

#### Can you use the value of dates rather than wheat to calculate sadaqat-ul-fitr?

Yes, you can use the value of of dates (and barley) according to Imâm Abû Hanîfa and Imâm Abû Yûsuf, but the calculated value based on date prices will be several times more than using wheat as the basis of calculation.