

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**THE ISSUES AND CHALLENGES OF
IMPLEMENTATION OF ZAKAT
DISTRIBUTION TO THE POOR AND
NEEDY BY LEMBAGA ZAKAT NEGERI
KEDAH (LZNK)**

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Academic Writing submitted in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of
Bachelor in Muamalat

Academy of Contemporary Islamic Studies

January 2025

ABSTRACT

This study investigates issues and challenges in the implementation of zakat distribution to the poor and needy by the Kedah State Zakat Board (LZNK). It aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the mechanism of zakat distribution, focusing on how funds are collected, managed and allocated to recipients. By examining the operational framework of LZNK, the researcher identified problem statement in practice in zakat management in Kedah as the inefficiency of the bureaucracy within the Kedah State Zakat Board (LZNK), which hinders the timely and effective distribution of zakat to the poor and needy. The researcher used qualitative methods, including interviews to gather perspectives from the Kedah State Zakat Board (LZNK). This method enables an in-depth study of the socio-economic factors that affect the distribution of zakat, as well as the specific challenges faced by amil (zakat managers). The results of this study revealed related to significant obstacles, such as bureaucratic inefficiency, lack of awareness among zakat recipients, and public perception issues that hinder effective zakat distribution. This study emphasizes the need to improve strategies to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of zakat distribution. Best practices include leveraging technology for better outreach, increasing transparency in fund management and fostering community engagement. By addressing these challenges, this research can contribute to the ongoing discourse on the role of zakat in poverty alleviation and social justice, and further increase its impact as a tool for social welfare in Kedah.

Keywords: Zakat distribution the poor and needy, Lembaga Zakat Negeri Kedah.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Praise for Allah s.w.t for granting strength and patience throughout the process of complete this research. I would like to extend my gratitude to Allah s.w.t for giving me the opportunity to embark on my thesis and for making the journey of this research has become successful. Special gratitude to my beloved mom, Khalijah binti Othman for her moral support, motivation and give some ideas to help me during I complete my final academic writing.

Next, I want to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisor, Dr. Norzuraida binti Hasan, for his invaluable advice, ideas, and support, all of which have significantly improved my capacity to become a better researcher. In fact, it assisted me at every stage of my research, and without her outstanding guidance, this thesis would not have been possible.

My following appreciation goes to all respondents who willingly took the time to answer my questionnaires and contributed greatly to achieving the research objectives. Without the cooperation of respondents willing to participate, this study would not have been completed successfully.

This project also dedicates to all my friends and colleagues for their support, encouragement and has been good listeners and suggested several ideas towards my thesis. I want to thank everyone who has helped me along the way, whether directly or indirectly, by offering moral support and assistance when I am struggling to finish this project. Thank you everyone from the bottom of my heart. Without your prayers and support, this journey would not have been accomplished.

Last but not least, I want to thank myself for believing in me, for working so hard, for never taking a day off, for never giving up, for always being a giver and trying to give more than I receive, for trying to do more right than wrong, and for always being myself.

TABLE OF CONTENT

CONFIRMATION BY PANEL OF EXAMINERS	i
AUTHOR'S DECLARATION	ii
ABSTRACT.....	iii
ABSTRAK	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	v
TABLE OF CONTENT.....	vi
LIST OF TABLES.....	ix
LIST OF FIGURES.....	x
CHAPTER 1.....	1
INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.0 Introduction.....	1
1.1 Background Of Study.....	3
1.2 Problem Statement	8
1.3 Research Question.....	10
1.4 Research Objective	10
1.5 Significances Of The Study	11
1.6 Research Scope	12
1.7 Research Limitation	12
1.8 Conclusion	13
CHAPTER 2.....	14
LITERATURE REVIEW.....	14
2.0 Introduction.....	14
2.1.1 Concept Of Zakat In Islam	15
2.1.1 Zakat's Assistance To The Ummah Goodness.....	17
2.2 Legal Evidence Of The Obligation Of Zakat In The Quran	18
2.3 Pillars Of Zakat.....	20
2.4 Conditions Of Zakat	25
2.4.1 Zakat Fitrah.....	25
2.4.2 Zakat Mal.....	26
2.5 Concept Of Asnaf Fakir And Asnaf Miskin	29
2.5.1 Asnaf Fakir	29
2.5.2 Asnaf Miskin.....	30
2.6 Types Of Zakat Distribution To Asnaf Fakir And Miskin.....	31

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Islamic law, which is derived from the Qur'an and Hadith, is perfect and all-encompassing since it takes into account every aspect of dealing with interactions with both Allah Ta'ala and other living things. It also covers other spiritual and materialistic topics in a variety of social, political, and economic situations. Zakat, one of the required acts of worship in Islam, is crucial to assisting Muslims in becoming individuals who wish to preserve the ummah's honor and please Allah swt. Zakat has a lengthy history dating back to Makkah's early Islamic days, although it was only practiced generally then. The types of property and the required quantity for zakat are not specified in great detail in the verses of the Qur'an that outline the obligatory responsibility to pay zakat.

Zakat was then distributed in accordance with the benevolence and inclinations of the Muslim populace. Only when the Prophet Muhammad SAW, peace be upon him, moved to Madinah and the Muslim community and the Islamic state were established in the second year of the Hijrah was zakat decreed in its entirety and in its proper form. The types of property, the amount of zakat that must be paid, the eligible groups that take it, and other important issues surrounding it have all been decided in detail. Paying zakat is even mentioned in the Qur'an as one of the characteristics of people who believe as Allah swt says:

وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتُ بَعْضُهُمْ أَوْلِيَاءُ بَعْضٍ ۚ يَأْتُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَيَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ وَيُقِيمُونَ الصَّلَاةَ وَيُؤْتُونَ

الزَّكَاةَ وَيُطِيعُونَ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ ۚ أُولَٰئِكَ سَيَرْحَمُهُمُ اللَّهُ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَزِيزٌ حَكِيمٌ