

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

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

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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.

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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 ۖ يَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَيَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ وَيُقِيمُونَ الصَّلَاةَ وَيُؤْتُونَ
الزَّكَاةَ وَيُطِيعُونَ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ ۚ أُولَٰئِكَ سَيَرْحَمُهُمُ اللَّهُ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَزِيزٌ حَكِيمٌ