

Fidya

Compensation for Missed Fasts During Ramadan

What is Fidya?

Fidya is a charitable compensation which is to be given by adult Muslims who are too ill or weak to fast in the holy month of Ramadan.

Why Should One Give Fidya?

It is a command in the Qur'an for Muslims to fast, make up fasts that they miss, or if they can't fast, to give Fidya for each missed day of fasting in Ramadan.

Allah (SWT) says in Al-Qur'an: "[Observing Saum (fasts)] for a fixed number of days, but if any of you is ill or on a journey, the same number (should be made up) from other days. And as for those who can fast with difficulty, (e.g. an old man, etc.), they have (a choice either to fast or) to feed a Miskin (poor person) (for every day). But whoever does good of his own accord, it is better for him. And that you fast, it is better for you if only you know." [Al-Baqarah 2:184]

Who Should Give Fidya?

For those who are unable to fast (elderly, terminally ill, pregnant, breastfeeding etc.), a compensation must be given by feeding a poor person for every day of fasting not observed in Ramadan.

Elderly, sick and other individuals who live in poverty and can't afford to pay the fidya are not required to do so.

Young and healthy individuals who miss fasts due to travel or sickness should make up the fast once their travels are over or they recover from sickness - and no fidya is required for those cases.

How Should Fidya be Given?

There are different ways of fulfilling ones fidya by feeding the poor - as Allah (SWT) has left the commandment to be general when he said "And as for those who can fast with difficulty, they have to feed a poor person."

It is better for an individual to fulfill his/her Fidya by giving dry ration or cooked food directly to deserving people. If however, that is difficult for them, then they may assign the responsibility to a trustworthy individual or organization.

The Fidya price can be calculated based on the local price of 1/2 Saa (approx. 1.5 kg) of whole wheat, rice, or whatever the staple crop is in the place the paying person resides, which they eat themselves.

Currently, the suggested cost for Fidya in the U.S.A. based on the approximate price of 1.5 kg of whole wheat or rice is approx. **\$3.50 for each day of missed fasts.**



Dry Ration Packages Being Weighed and Prepared for Fidya Distribution

How Does Hidaya Foundation Distribute Fidya?

Hidaya distributes Fidya in the form of dry ration food among some of the poorest people in the world who are also qualified to receive Zakat.

To find out more about Fidya, including more in-depth explanation about it and how Hidaya distributes it - please visit www.hidaya.org or call us at **866.2.HIDAYA**.

Fidya donations can be made on our secure website using electronic check or credit card, or they can be sent by mail to Hidaya Foundation, PO Box 5481, Santa Clara, CA 95056.



Hidaya Foundation

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