



BRIGHTER FUTURES
FOUNDATION



ZAKAT DISTRIBUTION AT A GLANCE

'22-'23

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Brighter Futures Foundation

brighterfuturesusa.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Explore our impact from 2022-2023

1 / MISSION AND VISION

2 / EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3 / ZAKAT FEATURES

4 / ZAKAT POLICY

5 / ZAKAT PROJECTS



OUR MISSION

At Brighter Futures, we work with local leadership to provide education and critical resources to marginalized Muslim communities across the globe.

From purchasing land to build schools to feeding students through our Student Sponsorship Program, Brighter Futures works with local leaders to make a sizeable impact for Muslim communities by delivering resources specific to that community's needs.

OUR VISION

We envision a world where everyone with a desire for an education – be it Islamic or secular – is able to attain one, regardless of their income or geographic location – a world where communities have the prerequisite resources needed to pursue educational opportunities such as food, shelter, and clean water.

MARCH 2022- MARCH 2023

SUMMARY

\$214,775 USD

TOTAL ZAKAT & SADAQAT
AL-FITR DISTRIBUTED

\$127,135

Togo

\$81,640

Malawi

\$6000

Turkiye





ZAKAT FEATURES

Take a look at how Brighter Futures is maximizing donors' Zakat through a range of high-impact endeavors in countries across the globe.

Our goal is to give Zakat in a way that adheres to the rules of the Sharia while helping impact the lives of some of the most marginalized and overlooked members of our ummah.



HAWAA IDRIS

Hawaa Idris, an elderly widow, receiving zakat aid. Our partners in Togo described her as a very pious and devout woman. Although many other women her age make due by begging on the street, she insists on not asking anyone.

She would go into the forest with an ax and chop firewood to sell. Your zakat helps ensure her needs are met.



MOOMUNI

Moomuni woke up one morning with sudden painful swelling in his leg. He sought treatment for four months but had no money to pay for it.

He happened upon the office of our partner organization in Togo one day and walked in to tell his story and seek help. Alhamdulillah, your zakat allowed him to get treatment for his leg.



JA'FAR

Ja'far is a muazzin in Togo. His foot was severely injured in a motorcycle accident.

Alhamdulillah, your zakat enabled him to seek treatment.

COMBATING FOOD INSECURITY



Brighter Futures Widow Support Program

Widows of Togo receiving aid from Brighter Futures. They depend on the organization for support.



A very happy man in Malawi receiving sadaqat al-fitr distribution in 2022

ZAKAT FEATURES

SUPPORTING CRITICAL NEEDS



ZAKAT FEATURES

Heavy rains destroyed the house of a very dedicated Quran teacher of the community, leaving him and his large family displaced. Your zakat allowed him to repair his house, letting his wife and children sleep comfortably once again.





Masood (on the right) was diagnosed with cancer. Your zakat allowed him to begin treatment. May Allah grant him shifa and 'afiyah.

2022-2023

ZAKAT POLICY

OUR ZAKAT POLICY IN A NUTSHELL

Zakāt is given for the purpose of providing for indigent Muslims who possess less than *niṣāb*, transferring to them full ownership of the wealth. *Niṣāb* is the minimum amount of wealth a Muslim must have to be eligible to accept Zakāt.

USE OF ZAKAT FUNDS

We ensure that tamlik (transfer of ownership) takes place in all our zakat distributions. Zakāt is not used for construction, digging wells, or any other infrastructural project. This is due to the fact that in such projects, the recipient(s) cannot take physical possession of the item and thus does not gain ownership of it.

Additionally, Zakāt is not used for any of the operational costs associated with our schools or makaatib. As such, Zakāt is not used to pay rent, electricity bills, water bills, purchase equipment, cover student tuitions, or any other operational costs. Furthermore, though students in our Togo school are zakat eligible, we do not use zakat funds for their daily meals, as tamlik does not take place when food is served to them.

We uphold the mainstream position of Muslim scholars that “fi sabil lillah” - those in the path of Allāh - cannot be taken to be all-inclusive. Zakāt must be given to indigent Muslims who meet the criterion of eligibility. Furthermore, they must be made owners of the wealth. Zakat money is not used for any other purpose under the pretense of “fi sabil lillah”.

Zakāt collected is exclusively given to Muslim recipients. We uphold the mainstream position that the zakat category “those whose hearts are brought close” refers exclusively to Muslims or is simply no longer applicable. It cannot be used as a premise to distribute zakat to non-Muslims.

CONT.

USE OF ZAKAT FUNDS

At Brighter Futures, we do not use any of the zakat funds to cover administrative costs. We hold that the Qur'ānic designation *والعاملين عليها* specifically refers to officially appointed Zakāt collectors operating under an Islāmic government, not mere agents who facilitate distribution of Zakāt.

Our administrative expenses are funded privately by donors who contribute specifically to our administrative expenses. No portion is taken out of charitable contributions for administrative costs.

Alḥamdulillāh, Brighter Futures upholds a 100% donation policy for all our donations (there is a third-party credit card processing fee with donations through the website. Online zakat donors are encouraged to cover the fee to ensure the full Zakāt amount reaches Brighter Futures.

Alternatively, donors can send Zakāt through Zelle to avoid the credit card processing fees).





A NOTE ON LOCAL DISTRIBUTION OF ZAKAT

We recognize that some scholars have encouraged that Zakāt be given locally, based on the hadith recorded in Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī and Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim:

تُؤَخَذُ مِنْ أَغْنِيَائِهِمْ فَتُرَدُّ فِي فُقَرَائِهِمْ

“Zakāt should be taken from their wealthy and given to their poor”

Therefore, we encourage Muslims to give their Zakāt wherever they feel comfortable, including discharging it locally if they would like.

However, considering the gaping inequalities within the current global economic system, we also recognize that if everyone were to dispense their Zakāt locally, wealthy countries would be over-compensated, and impoverished countries would be completely deprived.

For this reason, the opportunity to dispense one’s Zakāt internationally and thereby financially assist indigent Muslims in these impoverished regions remains an option for anyone who desires. '



INTEGRITY OF ZAKAT DISTRIBUTION

To ensure the integrity of our zakat program and assure its conformity to the guidelines stipulated by the Shari'a, we ensure that every step of the process is overseen by 'ulama. The collection of funds is overseen by Mawlānā Yousuf Ghouse in the United States and its distribution is overseen by 'ulama amongst Brighter Futures' organizational partners, Mawlānā Ibrahim Moufti in Togo, Mawlana Al-Amin Sulaiman in Chad, and Mawlānā Siraj Umar in Malawi.

Brighter Futures also requires receipts to be provided for the Zakāt funds transferred and Brighter Futures receives updates from its partners prior to and following Zakāt distributions.

2019-2022

ZAKAT GOALS

This year, we are focusing on targeted distribution in each of our recipient countries.

Many of our relief goals aim to provide food packs (contents listed below) as well as critical resources to victims of war and those affected by natural disasters.

*1 FOOD PACK

A food pack consists of:

- A bag of 25kg of rice
- 5 liters of vegetable oil
- A box of pasta
- A box of sugar
- A Box of milk
- A Box of Milo
- 3 Bowls of maize

TOGO

\$50,000

Zakat to provide food packs* to 1000 families

MALAWI

\$50,000

Distributing food packs* and aid packs to the cyclone victims

CHAD

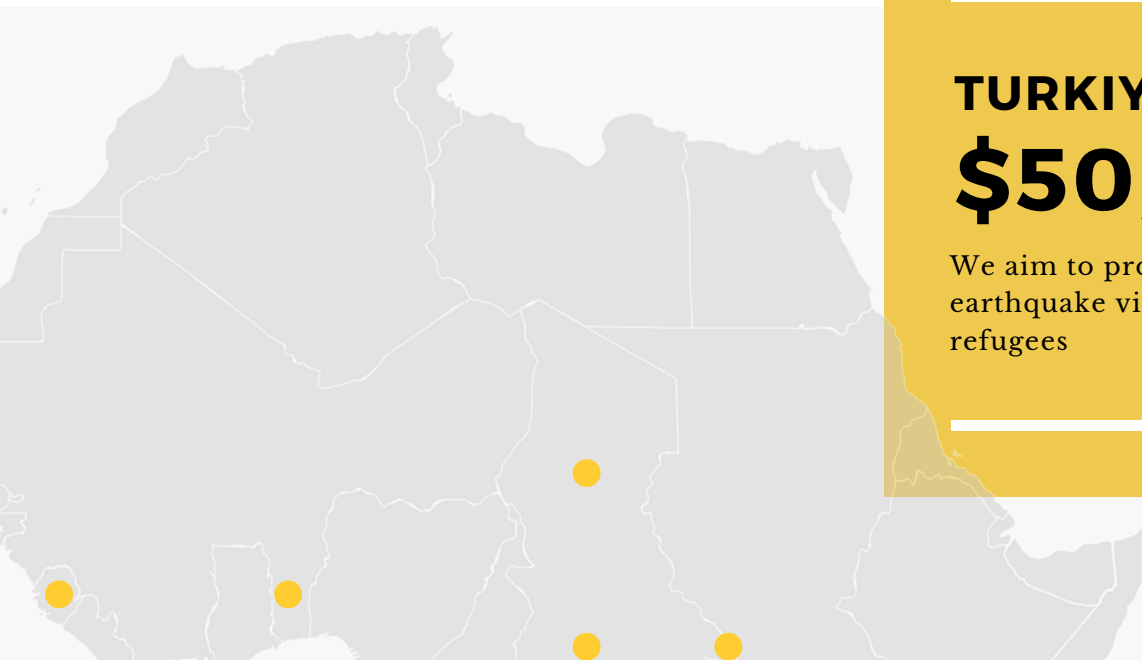
\$20,000

We aim to provide \$100 food packs* to 200 families

TURKIYE/SYRIA

\$50,000

We aim to provide aid to earthquake victims and refugees



ZAKAT PROJECTS

SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

INCOME GENERATION

This year, we are launching a pilot program to promote income generation to a limited number of select zakat recipients, inshaAllah. We hope to allow these individuals to begin earning for themselves and outgrow dependency on zakat.



MOTORCYCLE RICKSHAW
COST: \$2500



SEWING MACHINE
COST: \$400



BARBER SHOP
COST: \$1500



SALES CONTAINER
COST: \$1000

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

With several of our projects nearing completion and even more just getting started, there is no better time to support Brighter Futures as we continue to make an impact across the globe.

DONATE YOUR ZAKAT THROUGH OUR 100% DONATION POLICY

100% of our donations go straight into the programs we support. We do not use any of our program donations for the staff or administrative costs.

ZELLE

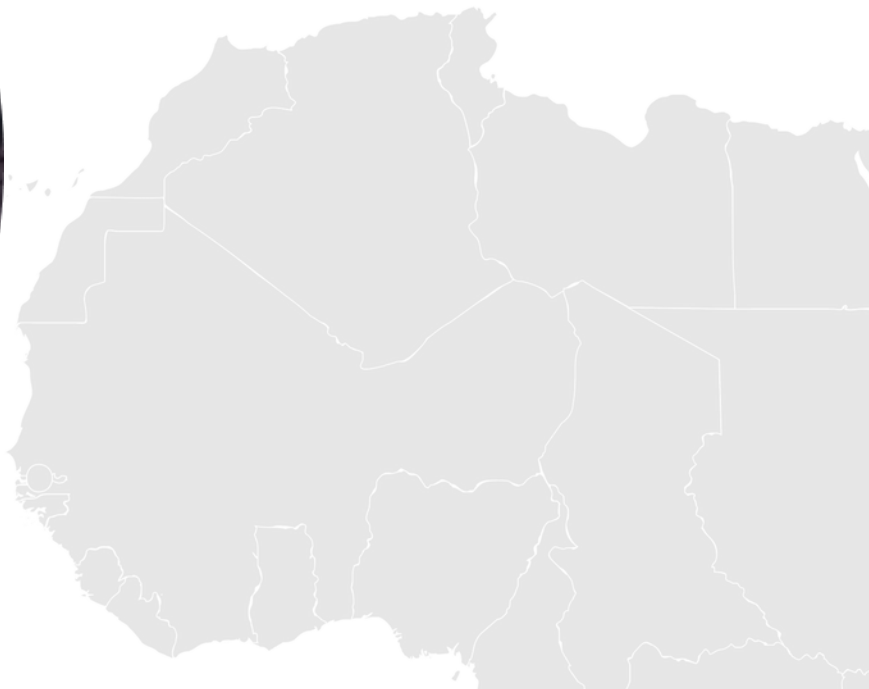
info @ brighterfuturesusa.org

OR

DONATE ONLINE



brighterfuturesusa.org/donate





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