

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

نَحْمَدُهُ وَنُصَلِّي عَلَى رَسُولِهِ الْكَرِيمِ

Shariah approval for paying zakat to The Patients' Behbud Society for Aga Khan University Hospital (PBS)

Introduction:

The Patients' Behbud Society for Aga Khan University Hospital (PBS) is registered as an independent, charitable Society engaged in collecting and disbursing zakat, in order to help *mustahiq* patients receive high quality medical treatment at the Aga Khan University Hospital (AKUH), its clinics and medical centers, under its management and supervision, primarily from zakat funds.

Since inception in 2001, PBS has provided financial support to thousands of *mustahiq* patients, who are the most underprivileged members of society, without any discrimination or compromise in the quality of care. A meticulous financial need assessment process is being followed to identify the most deserving patients who are eligible as *mustahiq* for zakat. Men, women and children are provided primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare. PBS ensures that the Hospital's cutting edge research and technology is accessible to the most vulnerable patients, particularly against life-threatening illnesses.

System of utilization of zakat:

PBS collects zakat from individuals, companies, trusts and foundations in Pakistan and from abroad, and deposit zakat money in Shariah compliant Islamic bank accounts. The money collected is then utilized for the treatment of zakat *mustahiq* patients at AKUH. The process starts with Welfare Office at AKUH conducting a financial need assessment of patients to determine their zakat eligibility in accordance with Shariah principles and directions. If a person is determined to be eligible for zakat, only then Welfare Office gets the authorization from such zakat *mustahiq* patients to collect zakat on their behalf and spend it directly on their treatment or on treatment of other zakat *mustahiq* patients at AKUH.

To ensure that the whole system and process is Shariah compliant, both in letter and spirit, the undersigned have been appointed as independent Shariah Advisors to review all zakat related documents, systems and procedures.

Shariah Ruling:

Having carried out the above review, we confirm that the Patients' Behbud Society for AKUH collects and disburses zakat funds in accordance with our rulings and guidance as Shariah Advisors pursuant to the principles and directions of Shariah. It is also confirmed that whosoever donates zakat to the Society; their zakat stands discharged as per Shariah's principles and directions.

May Allah SWT grant management of the Patients' Behbud Society for AKUH best reward for their services and give in their mission more blessings and sincerity. *Aameen*



Mufti Ibrahim Essa
Shariah Advisor, PBS



Mufti Ahmad Afnan
Shariah Advisor, PBS