

Chapter Sixteen

AS-SADAQA (GIVING IN CHARITY)

Definition

To give Sadaqa or charity is to confirm our faith in God and to share with others what Allah has provided for us. Sadaqa is derived from Sidq which means Truthfulness. In other words to give in charity is to be truthful in our worship of God. Giving in charity is not confined to money, but extends to our effort, knowledge and helping others in word and deed

We will discuss the following concepts

- 1- We are encouraged to give in charity because it is good for us and improves our faith and character, as we help those who need our help
- 2- Allah replaces what we give in charity and our money will not decrease
- 3- Money in Islam is meant to be circulated, not hoarded: we are rewarded for giving charity, and we are punished for hoarding our money
- 4- Charity should not be delayed
- 5- Charity starts at home
- 6- Charity involves our money, knowledge, effort and everything that we do in word and deed

Charity is good for us

The Qur'an tells us that giving charity is good for us, and serves several purposes:

- 1- Charity purifies our hearts and removes the greed in our souls
- 2- Charity allows our deeds to be multiplied as reward for our good deeds
- 3- Charity wipes out our sins
- 4- Charity allows us to enter Heaven
- 5- We help those who need our help

Purifying our souls and getting rid of the greed in our souls

The Qur'an ordered Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) to take charity from Muslims for it purifies their souls:

﴿ خذْ مِنْ أَمْوَالِهِمْ صَدَقَةً تُطَهِّرُهُمْ وَتُزَكِّيهِمْ بِهَا وَصَلِّ عَلَيْهِمْ إِنَّ صَلَاتَكَ سَكَنٌ لَهُمْ وَاللَّهُ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ ﴾ [التوبة: ١٠٣]

Of their goods take alms, that so thou mightest purify and sanctify them; and pray on their behalf, verily thy prayers are a source of security for them: and Allah is One Who heareth and knoweth.

At-Tawba 9 : 103

And :

﴿ فَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ مَا اسْتَطَعْتُمْ وَأَسْمِعُوا وَأَطِيعُوا وَأَنْفِقُوا خَيْرًا لِّأَنْفُسِكُمْ وَمَنْ يُوقِ شُحَّ نَفْسِهِ فَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ ﴾ [التغابن: ١٦]

So fear Allah as much as ye can; listen and obey; and spend in charity for the benefit of your own souls. And those saved from the covetousness of their own souls; they are the ones that achieve prosperity.

At-Taghabun 64 : 16

Those who give in charity do so with a good heart, for they realize that what they possess is a gift from God. Therefore, they are willing to share what God blessed them with. In contrast, however, are those who are not willing to give in charity because they are greedy and want to use their wealth only for

their own benefit. They fail to understand that the only thing we take with us is our deeds, good or bad. We cannot take our wealth or power with us to our graves. As Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

(Three things follow man to his grave: his money, and his family, and his deeds. Two return back, and one thing alone remains with him: his deeds)

Our good deeds are multiplied

Allah promised to multiply our good deeds and give us more out of His bounty:

﴿ إِن تَقْرَضُوا اللَّهَ قَرْضًا حَسَنًا يُّضْعِفْهُ لَكُمْ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ شَكُورٌ حَلِيمٌ ﴾ [التغابن: ١٧]

[التغابن: ١٧]

If ye loan to Allah a beautiful loan, He will double it to your (credit), and He will grant you Forgiveness: for Allah is Most Ready to appreciate (service), Most Forbearing,

At-Taghabun 64 : 17

And :

﴿ إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يَتْلُونَ كِتَابَ اللَّهِ وَأَقَامُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَأَنْفَقُوا مِمَّا رَزَقْنَاهُمْ سِرًّا وَعَلَانِيَةً يَرْجُونَ تِجْرَةً لَّن تَبُورَ ﴾ [فاطر: ٢٩]

Those who rehearse the Book of Allah, establish regular Prayer, and spend (in Charity) out of what We have provided for them, secretly and openly, hope for a Commerce that will never fail:

Fatir 35 : 29

﴿ لِيُؤْفِقَهُمْ أُجُورَهُمْ وَيَزِيدَهُم مِّن فَضْلِهِ إِنَّهُ غَفُورٌ شَكُورٌ ﴾ [فاطر: ٣٠]

For He will pay them their meed, nay. He will give them (even) more out of His Bounty; for He is Oft-Forgiving, Most Ready to appreciate (service).

Fatir 35 : 30

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

(Anyone who gives Sadaqa (charity), even a date, from lawful earning Allah will accept it and takes it with His right hand, and let it grow as you take care of your young horse or young camel till he grows, till it becomes like a mountain or even bigger)

Narrated by Bokhari & Muslim

We are reminded in this Hadeeth (saying of the prophet) that Allah accepts our charity when it is done with sincere intention and when our money is earned from a lawful way, and not through cheating others or deceit. The Qur'an assures us that Allah accepts our charitable deeds:

﴿ أَلَمْ يَعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ يَقْبَلُ التَّوْبَةَ عَنْ عِبَادِهِ وَيَأْخُذُ الصَّدَقَاتِ وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ

التَّوَّابُ الرَّحِيمُ ﴾ [التوبة: ١٠٤]

Know they not that Allah doth accept repentance from His votaries and receives their gifts of charity, and that Allah is verily He, the Oft-Returning, Most Merciful?

At-Tawba 9 : 104

Our sins are forgiven through charity

One of the ways to wipe out our sins is through giving charity. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) told us:

(Fasting is protection; and Sadaqa wipes out the sins such as water extinguishes the fire; and the prayer at night are all avenues of goodness)

Narrated by Termedhi, Ibn Majja & Nesa'ee

The Qur'an states:

﴿ الشَّيْطَانُ يَعِدُكُمُ الْفَقْرَ وَيَأْمُرُكُم بِالْفَحْشَاءِ وَاللَّهُ يَعِدُكُم مَّغْفِرَةً مِّنْهُ وَفَضْلًا ۗ

وَاللَّهُ وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ ﴾ [البقرة: ٢٦٨]

The Evil One threatens you with poverty and bids you to conduct unseemly. Allah promiseth you His forgiveness and bounties. And Allah careth for all and He knoweth all things.

Al-Baqara 2 : 268

And :

﴿ إِنْ تَقْرَضُوا اللَّهَ قَرْضًا حَسَنًا يُّضْعِفْهُ لَكُمْ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ شَكُورٌ حَلِيمٌ ﴾

[التغابن: ١٧]

If ye loan to Allah a beautiful loan, He will double it to your (credit), and He will grant you Forgiveness: for Allah is Most Ready to appreciate (service), Most Forbearing,
At-Taghabun 64 : 17

In this Qur'anic verse we promised four rewards for our charity:

- Our good deeds will be multiplied
- Our sins will be forgiven
- Allah will appreciate our service and good work
- Allah will be patient and tolerant with us

Charity allows us to enter paradise

Our charity wipes out our sins, and counts as good deeds in our favor. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) told us to protect ourselves from Hell fire even with half a date (narrated by Bokhari). He also told us of a special gate in heaven for those who give in charity.

Charity does not decrease our money

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) told us that charity never decreases our money:

(Charity never decreases the wealth of a person; and when a servant of Allah forgives another person who wronged him, Allah will elevate his status in honor; and anyone who humbles himself to Allah, Allah will increase him in dignity)

Narrated by Muslim.

The Qur'an emphasizes that charity does not decrease our money since Allah will replace whatever we spend:

﴿ قُلْ إِنَّ رَبِّي يَبْسُطُ الرِّزْقَ لِمَن يَشَاءُ مِنْ عِبَادِهِ وَيَقْدِرُ لَهُ ۖ وَمَا أَنْفَقْتُمْ مِنْ شَيْءٍ

فَهُوَ يُخْلِفُهُ ۗ وَهُوَ خَيْرُ الرَّازِقِينَ ﴾ [سبأ: ٣٩]

Say: "Verily my Lord enlarges and restricts the Sustenance to such of His servants as He pleases: and nothing do ye spend in the least (in His Cause) but He replaces it: for He is the Best of those who grant Sustenance.

SaBa' 34 : 39

And:

﴿ الشَّيْطَانُ يَعِدُكُمُ الْفَقْرَ وَيَأْمُرُكُمْ بِالْفَحْشَاءِ ۗ وَاللَّهُ يَعِدُكُم مَّغْفِرَةً مِّنْهُ وَفَضْلًا ۗ

وَاللَّهُ وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ ﴿ البقرة: ٢٦٨ ﴾

The Evil One threatens you with poverty and bids you to conduct unseemly. Allah promiseth you His forgiveness and bounties. And Allah careth for all and He knoweth all things.

Al-Baqara 2 : 268

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) told us:

(Every morning two angels come down. One of them says: “O Allah give the person giving in charity a replacement“. The other angel says: “O Allah waste the money of the person who is not giving in charity and withholding his money“)

narrated by Bokhari & Muslim

Our charity helps those who are poor and needy

Allah encourages us to help those who are poor and needy and need our help. He told us that helping them is like giving a loan to Allah, in order that we may understand that such help is a noble act since Allah ascribed the loan to Himself. It also emphasizes that we will be repaid since we are loaning to Allah:

﴿ مَنْ ذَا الَّذِي يُقرِضُ اللَّهَ قَرْضًا حَسَنًا فَيُضْعِفُهُ لَهُ ۗ وَهُوَ أَجْرٌ كَرِيمٌ ﴿

[الحديد: ١١]

Who is he that will loan to Allah a beautiful loan? For (Allah) will increase it manifold to his credit, and he will have (besides) a liberal reward.

Al-Hadeed 57 : 11

Giving when the need is critical is rewarded much better than giving when the situation is less urgent:

﴿ وَمَا لَكُمْ أَلَّا تُنْفِقُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَلِلَّهِ مِيرَاثُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ ۗ لَا يَسْتَوِي مِنْكُمْ

مَنْ أَنْفَقَ مِنْ قَبْلِ الْفَتْحِ وَقَتْلِ أَوْلِيَّتِكِ أَعْظَمُ دَرَجَةً مِّنَ الَّذِينَ أَنْفَقُوا مِنْ بَعْدِ

وَقَتْلُوهَا ۗ وَكُلًّا وَعَدَّ اللَّهُ الْحَسَنَىٰ ۗ وَاللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ خَبِيرٌ ﴿ [الحديد: ١٠]

And what cause have ye why ye should not spend in the cause of Allah? For to Allah belongs the heritage of the heavens and the earth. Not equal among you are those who spent (freely) and fought, before the Victory, (with those who did so later). Those are higher in rank than those who spent (freely) and fought afterwards. But to all has Allah promised a goodly (reward). And Allah is well acquainted with all that ye do.

Al-Hadeed 57 : 10

This verse refers to the opening of Macca. Before it was opened Macca was hostile to the Muslims and its leaders fought against the Muslim state in Madina. The need to help and support the Muslims in Madina was critical. After Macca was opened and Arabia accepted Islam the need to spend was less urgent. The verse, however, is encompassing as it relates to the needs of each community at all times. When there is an urgent need to support a project of vital importance or to fill a certain deficiency then Muslims are urged to step up to the challenge and fulfill their obligations. Those who spend when times are difficult are true believers who understand their duty and obligations.

Money in Islam is meant to be circulated and not hoarded

When money is spent and charity is given the economy is stimulated, jobs are created and those who need help are helped. In contrast, when money is hoarded the economy stagnates, jobs are scarce and the poor and needy get no help. Therefore, Islam encourages us to spend in charity and warns us against hoarding our money and threatens grave punishment from Allah:

﴿ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا إِنَّ كَثِيرًا مِّنَ الْأَحْبَارِ وَالرُّهْبَانِ لَيَأْكُلُونَ أَمْوَالَ النَّاسِ بِالْبَاطِلِ وَيَصُدُّونَ عَن سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَالَّذِينَ يَكْتُمُونَ الذَّهَبَ وَالْفِضَّةَ وَلَا يُنْفِقُونَهَا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ فَبَشِّرْهُمْ بِعَذَابٍ أَلِيمٍ ﴾ [التوبة: ٣٤]

O ye who believe! There are indeed many among the priests and anchorites, who in falsehood devour the substance of men and hinder (them) from the Way of Allah. And there are those who bury gold and silver and spend it not in the Way of Allah: announce unto them a most grievous penalty.

At-Tawba 9 : 34

﴿ يَوْمَ تُحْمَىٰ عَلَيْهَا فِي نَارِ جَهَنَّمَ فَتُكْوَىٰ بِهَا جِبَاهُهُمْ وَجُنُوبُهُمْ وَظُهُورُهُمْ هَذَا مَا كَنَزْتُمْ لِأَنفُسِكُمْ فَذُوقُوا مَا كُنْتُمْ تَكْنِزُونَ ﴾ [التوبة: ٣٥]

On the Day when heat will be produced out of that (wealth) in the fire of Hell, and with it will be branded their foreheads, their flanks, and their backs, "This is the (treasure) which ye buried for yourselves: taste ye, then, the (treasures) ye buried!"

At-Tawba 9 : 35

And :

﴿ وَلَا تَحْسَبَنَّ الَّذِينَ يَبْخُلُونَ بِمَا ءَاتَاهُمُ اللَّهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ هُوَ خَيْرًا لَّهُمْ بَلْ هُوَ شَرٌّ لَّهُمْ سَيُطَوَّقُونَ مَا بَخَلُوا بِهِ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ ۗ وَاللَّهُ مِيرَاثُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ ۗ وَاللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ خَبِيرٌ ﴾ [آل عمران: ١٨٠]

And let not those who covetously withhold of the gifts which Allah hath given them of His Grace, think that it is good for them: nay, it will be the worse for them; soon shall the things which they covetously withheld be tied to their necks like a twisted collar, on the Day of Judgment. To Allah belongs the heritage of the heavens and the earth; and Allah is well-acquainted with all that ye do.

Al-Imran 3 : 180

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

(The owner of gold and silver who does not give its dues, on the Day of Judgment it will appear to him as sheets of fire. It will be heated in Hell Fire, then used to burn his sides, forehead and his back. Every time it cools off it will be reheated and used again, on a day that will last for fifty thousand years, till Allah judges between His servants. Then he will be led either to paradise or to Hell)

Narrated by Ahmad, Abou Dawood & Nesa'ee

Charity is more than giving money

Since not every person is rich and can afford to give money as Sadaqa, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) explained how each person can give Sadaqa and get reward from Allah. He told us that our effort in helping others is

considered a charity for us. The sound advice and guidance we provide is also a form of charity. The least we can do is not harming others and abstaining from wrong-doing, and this is considered as charity as well:

(Every Muslim should give Sadaqa). He was asked: suppose he does not have money to give? He said: (He should work, thus he benefits himself and is able to give Sadaqa). He was asked: Suppose he cannot work? He said : (He should help the person who is in dire need of his effort). He was asked: suppose he does not do that? He said: (He should guide to what is right and good). He was asked: suppose he does not do that? He said: (He should do no harm, for it will be written as a Sadaqa for him)

Narrated by Ahmad, Bokhari, Muslim & Nesa'ee.

In another Hadeeth, the Prophet (PBUH) told us that feeding our families is rewarded as a Sadaqa by Allah if our intention is to seek Allah's reward. He also told us that seeking intimate contact with our wives is considered a Sadaqa if our intention is to avoid adultery.

These sayings of the prophet under score that each one of us was given something special by Allah. We should learn to appreciate God's blessings and use it to help ourselves and help those who need our help. This blessing may be a knowledge that Allah imparts to us, or our ability to guide others and show them the truth. Or it may be the kindness we show other people or may be our prayer to God on their behalf.

We should not delay our Sadaqa

Since we do not know what is in store for us we should not delay any good deed that we intend to do, including our Sadaqa. We do not know when we are going to die, or if we will be able to afford giving Sadaqa tomorrow. We should not hesitate, but confirm our faith and hasten in doing good. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was asked when should we give Sadaqa? He said: (You should give Sadaqa when you are healthy, yet unwilling to give for you are hoping your money will make your life easy, and you are afraid that giving Sadaqa will make you poor. You should not wait till you are about to die, then say: "This belongs to this person, and this belongs to this person" because it is already theirs, even if you dislike it)

Narrated by Ibn Majja. Its origin is in Bokhari & Muslim

The Qur'an tells us that giving Sadaqa should be done before it is too late. At that time regrets will not be accepted and a second chance will not be granted:

﴿ وَأَنْفِقُوا مِنْ مَا رَزَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ قَبْلِ أَنْ يَأْتِيَ أَحَدَكُمُ الْمَوْتُ فَيَقُولَ رَبِّ لَوْلَا أَخَّرْتَنِي إِلَىٰ أَجَلٍ قَرِيبٍ فَأَصَّدَّقَ وَأَكُن مِنَ الصَّالِحِينَ ﴾ [المنافقون: ١٠]

And spend something (in charity) out of the substance which We have bestowed on you, before Death should come to any of you and he should say, "O my Lord! Why didst Thou not give me respite for a little while? I should then have given (largely) in charity, and I should have been one of the doers of good."

Al-Munafeqoun 63 : 10

﴿ وَلَنْ يُؤَخَّرَ اللَّهُ نَفْسًا إِذَا جَاءَ أَجْلُهَا وَاللَّهُ خَبِيرٌ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ ﴾ [المنافقون: ١١]

But to no soul will Allah grant respite when the time appointed (for it) has come; and Allah is well-acquainted with (all) that ye do.

Al-Munafeqoun 63 : 11

Sadaqa should start at home

We are responsible to support our families. We should not give for another cause if our families are poor and in dire need. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

(The best Sadaqa is that given when you are capable; and start with those whom you support)

Narrated by Bokhari, Abou Dawood & Nesa'ee.

In a similar narration, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

(The best Sadaqa is that which leaves you still capable; the upper hand (that gives) is better than the lower hand (that receives) and start with those whom you support)

Narrated by Tabarani.

We learn from the prophet's sayings:

- We should give Sadaqa when we are able to do so. If we are poor we are not supposed to give that which we do not have or in need of
- We should not give a lot that we become poor and in need of Sadaqa ourselves
- Those whom we support deserve our Sadaqa more than anyone else. Therefore, we should start with our families and near relatives before we give to strangers
- The person giving in charity is better than the person receiving the charity, because the first is benefiting others, while the latter only benefits himself

Manners of giving Sadaqa

- 1- Not offending the feelings of those receiving our charity
- 2- Giving charity in secret is better than declaring our charitable deeds
- 3- Giving of the best of what we have
- 4- Giving Sadaqa to please Allah, not to show off

Not offending the feelings of those receiving our charity

The Qur'an explains that offending the feelings of those receiving our charity is to be avoided, for it wipes out our good deeds. Kind words are better than charity followed by reminders of our generosity:

﴿ قَوْلٌ مَّعْرُوفٌ وَمَغْفِرَةٌ خَيْرٌ مِّنْ صَدَقَةٍ يَتَّبِعُهَا أَذًى ۗ وَاللَّهُ عَنِّي حَلِيمٌ ﴾

[البقرة: ٢٦٣]

Kind words and the covering of faults are better than charity followed by injury. Allah is Free of all wants, and He is Most Forbearing.

Al-Baqara 2 : 263

﴿ يَتَأْتِيهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا لَا تَبْطُلُوا صَدَقَتِكُمْ بِالْمَنِّ وَالْأَذَى كَالَّذِي يُنْفِقُ مَالَهُ رِئَاءَ
النَّاسِ وَلَا يُؤْمِنُ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ فَمَثَلُهُ كَمَثَلِ صَفْوَانٍ عَلَيْهِ تُرَابٌ فَأَصَابَهُ وَابِلٌ
فَتَرَكَهُ صَلْدًا ۖ لَا يَقْدِرُونَ عَلَى شَيْءٍ مِّمَّا كَسَبُوا ۗ وَاللَّهُ لَا يَهْدِي الْقَوْمَ
الْكَافِرِينَ ﴿٢٦٤﴾ [البقرة: ٢٦٤]

O ye who believe! Cancel not your charity by reminders of your generosity or by injury, like those who spend their substance to be seen of men, but believe neither in Allah nor in the Last Day. They are in Parable like a hard barren rock, on which is a little soil; on it falls heavy rain, which leaves it (just) a bare stone. They will be able to do nothing with aught they have earned. And Allah guideth not those who reject Faith.

Al-Baqara 2 : 264

The whole idea of giving charity is to help those who are poor and needy and need our help. How can we help them if our help entails reminders of our generosity and harming their feelings and making them feel bad or unwilling to accept our charity?

Charity should be given in secret

The Qur'an explains that giving charity in secret is better than declaring our charitable deeds. Again the main concern is not harming the feelings or sensitivities of those receiving our charity.

﴿ إِن تَبَدُّوا الصَّدَقَاتِ فَنِعِمَّا هِيَ ۗ وَإِن تُخْفُوهَا وَتُؤْتُوهَا الْفُقَرَاءَ فَهِيَ خَيْرٌ لَّكُمْ
وَيُكَفِّرُ عَنْكُمْ مِّن سَيِّئَاتِكُمْ ۗ وَاللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ خَبِيرٌ ﴿٢٧١﴾ [البقرة: ٢٧١]

If ye disclose (acts of) charity, even so it is well, but if ye conceal them, and make them reach those (really) in need, that is best for you: it will remove from you some of your (stains of) evil. And Allah is well acquainted with what ye do.

Al-Baqara 2 : 271

Sometimes it is alright to declare our charity if the goal is to serve as an example and encourage others to follow suit.

We should give the best of what we have

We should not give what we do not want, or will not accept ourselves if it is offered to us. Rather, when we give in charity, we should give the best of what we have:

﴿ يَتَأْتِيهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا أَنْفِقُوا مِنْ طَيِّبَاتِ مَا كَسَبْتُمْ وَمِمَّا أَخْرَجْنَا لَكُمْ مِنَ الْأَرْضِ وَلَا تَيَمَّمُوا الْخَبِيثَ مِنْهُ تُنْفِقُونَ وَلَسْتُمْ بِآخِذِيهِ إِلَّا أَنْ تُغْمِضُوا فِيهِ ؕ وَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ غَنِيٌّ حَمِيدٌ ﴿٢٦٧﴾ [البقرة: ٢٦٧]

O ye who believe! Give of the good things which ye have (honourably) earned, and of the fruits of the earth which We have produced for you, and do not even aim at getting anything which is bad, in order that out of it ye may give away something, when ye yourselves would not receive it except with closed eyes. And know that Allah is free of all wants, and worthy of all praise.

Al-Baqara 2 : 267

The Qur'an also tells us that we should give the things that we love and cherish and worked hard to achieve. In doing so we confirm our faith and we show that we are willing to share God's blessings with others. It is not easy to give the things that we love most. The ability to do so is achieved only by those who have strong faith and are righteous:

﴿ لَنْ تَنَالُوا الْبِرَّ حَتَّى تُنْفِقُوا مِمَّا تُحِبُّونَ ؕ وَمَا تُنْفِقُوا مِنْ شَيْءٍ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ بِهِ عَلِيمٌ ﴿٩٢﴾

[آل عمران: ٩٢]

By no means shall ye attain righteousness unless ye give (freely) of that which ye love; and whatever ye give, of a truth Allah knoweth it well.

Al-Imran 3 : 92

We should give charity seeking Allah's pleasure, not to show of our generosity

﴿ لَيْسَ عَلَيْكَ هُدَاهُمْ وَلَٰكِنَّ اللَّهَ يَهْدِي مَن يَشَاءُ ۗ وَمَا تُنْفِقُوا مِن خَيْرٍ فَلِأَنفُسِكُمْ ۗ وَمَا تُنْفِقُونَ إِلَّا ابْتِغَاءَ وَجْهِ اللَّهِ ۗ وَمَا تُنْفِقُوا مِن خَيْرٍ يُؤَفَّ إِلَيْكُمْ وَأَنتُمْ لَا تُظَلَمُونَ ﴾ [البقرة: ٢٧٢]

It is not required of thee (O Messenger), to set them on the right path, but Allah sets on the right path whom He pleaseth. Whatever of good ye give benefits your own souls, and ye shall only do so seeking the "Face" of Allah. Whatever good ye give, shall be rendered back to you, and ye shall not be dealt with unjustly.

Al-Baqara 2 : 272

We learn from this Qur'anic verse:

- Whatever we give in charity we benefit ourselves first, before we benefit others
- Our goal in giving charity is to help those souls in need of our help and that we seek the pleasure of Allah. If our goal is vanity and to show off our wealth and generosity, then our deed is not accepted or written in our favor
- Whatever good we do in giving charity Allah promised to reward us for it. Such reward may be forgiveness of our sins or gaining Allah's pleasure and being admitted to Heaven. One thing is sure: no one will be wronged in the least, for Allah is just and He appreciates any good deed

The benefits of giving Sadaqa

- 1- Our sins are forgiven
- 2- We gain Allah's pleasure and enter His paradise
- 3- Our good deeds are multiplied
- 4- Allah is patient and tolerant with us as He appreciates our service
- 5- We get rid of the greed in our hearts
- 6- We help those who are poor and needy or need our help and guidance
- 7- Sadaqa means that we are true and faithful to our covenant with Allah and understand our responsibility and our accountability
- 8- By giving in charity and not hoarding our money we avoid punishment or dwelling in Hell Fire
- 9- By giving Sadaqa jobs are created and the economy improves and worthy projects are supported

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