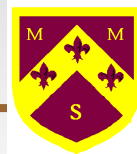




Knowledge Organiser RE

Upper Key Stage 2

What is best for our world? Does religion help people to decide?



Key Vocabulary

Zakat

Almsgiving

Tithe tithing

Nisab

Charity

The pillars of Islam

The Widow's mite

Oxfam

Christian Aid

The Red Crescent

Ramadan

Key Questions

Why is it important to help others? Do people have to be religious to want to do these things?
Is it only religious people who are prepared to sacrifice themselves for others?
Do people make a difference to the world in supporting charities? Is it a positive difference?
Do you think they should have to do that or is belief a private matter?
If there were no charities, what would the world be like? Does the world need charities?

Key Content

Zakat - **almsgiving or charity** - is one of the **5 Pillars of Islam**.

Traditionally it is collected by the Mosque at the end of **Ramadan** and distributed to the poor and needy. Some Mosques will still observe this tradition, but some will give to other charities instead.

There is a level called the **Nisab** above which **Zakat** becomes compulsory. There are websites that help Muslims calculate how much they should give based on how much they earn and the savings they have.

Islam teaches that people should acquire wealth with the intention of spending it on their own needs and the needs of others.

The whole concept of wealth is considered in Islam as a gift from God. The Qur'an emphasizes feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, helping those who are in need, and the more one helps, the more God helps the person, and the more one gives, the more God gives the person.

Christian giving has its roots in the Old Testament - not harvesting crops to the edge of the fields, caring for the orphans and widows, bringing the **tithe** into the barn.

There are many passages in the Bible about giving. The story of the **widow's mite** is one example. Many churches take a weekly collection, but this is voluntary. Many Christians also follow the examples of Jesus and the disciples - helping those who are sick, or suffering in some ways. Many charities have been founded by Christians such as **Oxfam and Christian Aid**. **The Red Crescent** is an example of an Islamic charity.