

A Man who Never Used to Pay Zakaat but who Then Repents and Wants to Pay It

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

Questioner: A man who was disobeying Allaah, very rich, then some years later he repents to Allaah, does he have to pay the Zakaat of the previous years?

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)¹: He must.

(Al-Hudaa wan-Noor, 23.)

Questioner: Okay, regarding Zakaat, maybe the answer will become clear with this question, a man never gave Zakaat for many years, then he repented and turned back to Allaah and wanted to give Zakaat, so naturally, it is waajib for him to give the Zakaat [for those years]?

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ): He must.

Questioner: But he had agricultural land, and he doesn't know how much it yielded, he's forgotten, so how much Zakaat is he to give?

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ): According to the best estimate [he can make], as is the case with all matters that are unclear like this, he makes the best estimate he can, he calculates an amount, he strives, ya'ni, [to come to the best estimate he can], there is no specific amount that has been set.

(Al-Hudaa wan-Noor, no. 31.)

Questioner: A man stayed seven years, his wife has a lot of valuable gold, this ornamental gold, he doesn't know what the ruling is, for seven years he didn't pay the Zakaat?

Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ): He pays the Zakaat for those seven years even if [in the process] he were to lose all his house.

(Al-Hudaa wan-Noor, no. 41.)

¹ (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him