



**Helping Poor People,
Emigrants & Refugees
from Islamic
Perspective
Muhammad Vandestra**

This is a work of fiction. Similarities to real people, places, or events are entirely coincidental.

HELPING POOR PEOPLE, EMIGRANTS & REFUGEES FROM
ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVE

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Table of Contents

[Title Page](#)

[Copyright Page](#)

[Prolog](#)

[Helping Emigrants & Refugees In Islam](#)

[Charity \(Zakat\) for Helping Poor People In Islam](#)

[4 Benefits of Giving Charity You Can Never Imagine In Earth & Hereafter](#)

[The Forgiveness of Sins in Islam](#)

[About Author](#)

Helping Emigrants & Refugees In Islam

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

The world is experiencing an unprecedented refugee crisis as millions of people are forced from their homes and involuntarily displaced due to conflict, war, and poverty. In particular, there are an estimated four million refugees from Syria due to the civil war. Many of these people do not have sufficient food, clothing, or shelter, and they are not receiving enough assistance from neighboring countries due to a lack of resources.

Every human being, regardless of their faith, has a natural right in Islam to food, clothing, and shelter.

Uthman ibn Affan reported: The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said:

لَيْسَ لِابْنِ آدَمَ حَقٌّ فِي سِوَى هَذِهِ الْخِصَالِ بَيْتٌ يَسْكُنُهُ وَثَوْبٌ يُوَارِي عَوْرَتَهُ وَجِلْفُ الْخُبْزِ وَالْمَاءِ

There is no right for the son of Adam except in these things: a house in which he lives, a garment to cover his nakedness, a piece of bread and water.

Source: Sunan At-Tirmidhi 2341, Grade: *Sahih*

It is our duty in Islam to help these refugees and asylum seekers to the extent of our capability, just as we would wish someone would help us if we were in their place.

The story of Islam is one of the triumph of faith and brotherhood in the face of persecution. When the Muslims of Mecca, known as the *Muhajirun* (the emigrants), were being tortured and killed for their faith, the Muslims of Medina, known as the *Ansar* (the supporters), brought them into their homes and cared for them as if they were members of their own family.

Allah said:

يُحِبُّونَ مَنْ هَاجَرَ إِلَيْهِمْ وَلَا يَجِدُونَ فِي صُدُورِهِمْ حَاجَةً مِّمَّا أُوتُوا وَيُؤْتُونَ عَلَىٰ أَنفُسِهِمْ وَلَوْ كَانَ بِهِمْ خَصَاصَةٌ ۗ وَمَنْ يُوقِ شُحَّ نَفْسِهِ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ

They love those who emigrated to them and find not any desire in their hearts of what the emigrants were given, but rather give them preference over themselves, even though they are in privation. Whoever is protected from the greediness of his own soul, then those will be successful.

Surat Al-Hashr 59:9

The righteous companions did not consider the emigrants to be a nuisance, but rather they accepted them with open arms and loved them, even giving these refugees preference over their own selves although they were in poverty.

The parable of the believers in support of each other is that of the bricks of a building. Each brick is held up by the others bricks and all of them require each other's support to remain standing.

Abu Musa reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said:

إِنَّ الْمُؤْمِنَ لِلْمُؤْمِنِ كَالْبُنْيَانِ يَشُدُّ بَعْضُهُ بَعْضًا

Verily, the believers are like a structure, each one strengthening the other.

Source: Sahih Bukhari 467, Grade: *Muttafaqun Alayhi*

And the parable of the believers in their compassion for one another is that of a body. If one part of the body becomes ill or injured, the entire body responds to heal it.

An-Nu'man ibn Basheer reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said:

مَثَلُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ فِي تَوَادُّهِمْ وَتَرَاحُمِهِمْ وَتَعَاطُفِهِمْ مَثَلُ الْجَسَدِ إِذَا اشْتَكَى مِنْهُ عُضْوٌ تَدَاعَىٰ لَهُ سَائِرُ الْجَسَدِ بِالسَّهْرِ وَالْحُمَىٰ

The example of the believers in their affection, mercy, and compassion for each other is that of a body. When any limb aches, the whole body reacts with sleeplessness and fever.

Source: Sahih Bukhari 5665, Grade: *Muttafaqun Alayhi*

We need to realize that our brothers and sisters in Islam are suffering and they need us just as we need them. We should feel pain and anguish when we hear stories of their suffering and this should motivate us to perform constructive action in the form of charity donated through trustworthy and authentic relief organizations.

Allah and His Messenger have promised that whoever helps a person in need in this world will have his need taken care of in the Hereafter. There can be no better reward than for the Day of Resurrection to be made easy for us.

Abu Huraira reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said:

مَنْ نَفَسَ عَنْ مُؤْمِنٍ كُرْبَةً مِنْ كُرْبِ الدُّنْيَا نَفَسَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ كُرْبَةً مِنْ كُرْبِ يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ وَمَنْ يَسِّرَ عَلَى مُعْسِرٍ يَسِّرَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ فِي الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ

Whoever relieves the hardship of a believer in this world, Allah will relieve his hardship on the Day of Resurrection. Whoever helps ease someone in difficulty, Allah will make it easy for him in this world and in the Hereafter.

Source: Sahih Muslim 2699, Grade: *Sahih*

In another narration, the Prophet said:

مَنْ أَنْظَرَ مُعْسِرًا أَوْ وَضَعَ لَهُ أَظْلَهُ اللَّهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ تَحْتَ ظِلِّ عَرْشِهِ يَوْمَ لَا ظِلَّ إِلَّا ظِلُّهُ

Whoever grants respite to someone in difficulty or alleviates him, Allah will shade him on the Day of Resurrection when there is no shade but his.

Source: Sunan At-Tirmidhi 1306, Grade: *Sahih*

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