



Islam and Jubilee

Jubilee USA promotes debt, tax and trade policies to end poverty and solve financial crisis. Our efforts build an economy that serves, protects and promotes the participation of the vulnerable.

Islam encourages people to reflect upon their individual and global responsibilities, in hope that ethical behavior will result in ethical political and economic systems.

Islam & Usury

"They say: 'buying and selling is but a kind of usury' - while Allah (God) has made buying and selling lawful and usury unlawful." (Quran 2:275)

"Allah will deprive all usury of blessings, but will give increase for deeds of charity." (Quran 2:276)

"God condemns usury, and blesses charities...O you who believe, you shall observe God and refrain from all kinds of usury, if you are believers...If the debtor is unable to pay, wait for a better time. If you give up the loan as a charity, it would be better for you, if you only knew." (Quran 2:276-280)

Risk Sharing & Responsible Lending and Borrowing

"May Allah's mercy be on him who is lenient in his buying, selling, and in demanding back his money [or debts]." (Prophet Muhammad) [Bukhari & Tirmidhi]

"Whoever relieves his brother of a trial or a difficulty in this life, God will relieve him of a trial in the next life." (Prophet Muhammad)

"O you who believe, when you transact a loan for any period, you shall write it down. An impartial scribe shall do the writing. No scribe shall refuse to perform this service, according to GOD's teachings. He shall write, while the debtor dictates the terms. He shall observe GOD his Lord and never cheat. If the debtor is mentally incapable, or helpless, or cannot dictate, his guardian shall dictate equitably...Do not tire of writing the details, no matter how long, including the time of repayment. This is equitable in the sight of GOD, assures better witnessing, and eliminates any doubts you may have. Business transactions that you execute on the spot need not be recorded, but have them witnessed. No scribe or witness shall be harmed on account of his services. If you harm them, it would be wickedness on your part. You shall observe GOD, and GOD will teach you. GOD is Omniscient." (Quran 2:282)

Debt Cancellation

The Qur'an encourages debt cancellation whenever a debtor is unable, due to his particular circumstances, to repay the debt: "And if [the debtor] is in difficulty, then [there should be] postponement until [he is] at ease, but that you should give it as charity is [even] better for you, if you knew." (Quran 2:280)

Right Economic Relations

"Do not devour one another's property wrongfully, nor throw it before the judges in order to devour a portion of other's property sinfully and knowingly." (Quran 2:188)

"The seller and the buyer have the right to keep or return the goods as long as they have not parted or till they part; and if both the parties spoke the truth and described the defects and qualities [of the goods], then they would be blessed in their transaction, and if they told lies or hid something, then the blessings of their transaction would be lost." (Prophet Muhammad) [Bukhari]

Jubilee USA Network is an alliance of more than 75 US organizations and 550 faith communities working with 50 global partners. Jubilee's mission is to build an economy that serves, protects, and promotes the participation of the most vulnerable. Jubilee USA has won critical global financial reforms and more than \$130 billion in debt relief to benefit the world's poorest people.