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Efforts of Charities in Call to Islam in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

(Descriptive evaluative study of Call efforts in the World Assembly of Muslim Youth and Al-Haramain Foundation)

A Thesis submitted in fulfillment of the requirements for the PhD. Degree in Department of Da'wa & Ihtisab

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Thesis Abstract

Efforts of Charities in Call to Islam in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (*Descriptive evaluative study of Call efforts in the World Assembly of Muslim Youth and Al-Haramain Foundation*)

Amongst the most prominent of those who address call to God, in its different channels and methods in this era, are the charities in Saudi Arabia. These charities make a lot of and great effort in the dissemination of the right doctrine and delivery of Islamic teachings, through: the establishment of mosques, Islamic centers, schools and institutes; holding of Holy Quran Memorization sessions; printing of useful books and thesis in multiple languages; establishment of various legal, educational, and scientific lessons' courses; preparation of preachers, imams, and teachers and sponsoring them. In addition they set up educational camps and seasonal activities for which it sets suitable call programs; organizing meetings, conferences and symposiums to discuss call issues and the conditions and causes of Muslims. In addition, they are also keen to provide health care for needy persons through the establishment of health centers; the establishment of medical camps in affected areas. They also contribute to relief of the affected areas by some acts of relief, such as: drilling wells, poor feeding, Ramadan breakfast, Eid clothes, and sacrifices.

The viewer of such call and charitable efforts senses the importance of the role that such institutions play on the ground, which reflects the development witnessed by charitable work in this era.

This study, with the help of God, seeks to demonstrate some aspects of these varied charitable efforts exerted by these charities in the Kingdom, which reflect the excellence of this blessed country by its governors and governed, and its known roles as a pioneer in the service of religion and call in various parts of the world, praise and thanks to God.

This study seeks to answer a number of questions relating to its subject matter, the most important of them are:

What the Islamic concept of charitable works associated with the call to God in Islam?

The importance of institutional charitable work that is associated with the call to God?

What are the objectives of the Islamic charity work associated with the call to God?

What are the characteristics of the Islamic charity work associated with the call to God?

What are the objectives of charities in Saudi Arabia?

What programs and plans of charities in Saudi Arabia?

What general characteristics of the workers in the charitable institutions in the Kingdom?

How important is the call to God through charitable institutions?

What is the nature of the relationship between workers of charities and the beneficiaries of their efforts?

What obstacles facing callers to God in charitable institutions? And how can they be addressed?

What are the major topics of call to God for charities in Saudi Arabia?

What are the fields of call for the charities in Saudi Arabia?

What call means and methods for charities in Saudi Arabia?

To what extent do charities in the Kingdom employ charitable work in the the call to God?

What is the degree of satisfaction of workers in these institutions of its employment of charitable work in the call to God?

What are the aspects of cooperation and coordination in the missionary and charitable efforts among charities in Saudi Arabia?

Study Methodology:

This research is descriptive and is based on two approaches:

The first is the documentary approach, and the second is the survey method, or survey through sampling.

Study Sample:

First: The study population and its size: Due to the large number of charities in the Kingdom, the study is confined to a selected and good sample that represents this community, and this sample consists of:

A- The World Assembly of Muslim Youth: the study includes the headquarters in Riyadh and the main internal branches: In Al-Madinal Al-Munawwara, Dammam, Jeddah and Abha.

B- Al-Haramain Foundation: This study covers workers in the headquarters in Riyadh.

Second: study: the length of time taken by the field study is the academic year 1422-1423 AH.

Third: Study Tools:

A- direct access and in-depth reading of a large number of reports, records and official publications from charities in the Kingdom.

B- partial participant observation.

C- design of two questionnaires; one to solicit information from the workers and collaborators of charitable institutions (sample of the study), and the other to solicit information from specialists and persons of experience and expertise in Sharia (Islamic law), social work, public relations, media, and others.

D- interview; The researcher interviewed a number of officials and workers in these institutions.

Fourth: Findings of the study:

The study reached a large number of important findings, notably:

- It became clear that the concept of charitable work, which is urged by the religion of Islam, is very wide. There is a type that is limited to its doer; the other is transitive which is better than the first because its impact reaches others. Our religion has marked out great rewards for conducting such work
- It appeared that if charitable work is accompanied by a pursuit to call to God, it would be better than charity work solely; while both are good.
- It appears that the effects of charity work are many, including: some that benefits the community in general; some that benefits the beneficiaries of its diverse programs and works; some that remarkably benefits those in charge of it; all these accentuate the virtues and importance of charitable work.
- The importance of institutional philanthropy due to its favourable impacts in the dissemination of goodness, charity and benefit of others. It also plays an important role in conveying the religion of Islam and its dissemination, which underlines the need to invest and employ some components of its programs to serve the call to God.
- The campaign that has been directed, and still present, against the charities in the Kingdom has and will urge these charities to adhere to their principles and major objectives, which emphasize the benefit of others and seek to spread the religion and serve its followers, away from terrorism and extremism claimed by the enemies and opponents.
- Charities in the Kingdom seek, through their various programs and efforts, to achieve a number of goals that benefit the call and dissemination of Islam, provide support to Muslims, and such other general and specific objectives of these institutions, which

are all aiming at achieving the interests and do good to the interest of people in general and Muslims in particular.

Major Findings of the Field Study:

- Most of the workers and collaborators in the charitable institutions in the Kingdom have good qualifications.
- These institutions are required to work on the establishment of an independent committee or department in each organization to cater for the Call efforts.
- The preachers whom are sponsored by charities in Saudi Arabia do generally perform their duties well.
- Charities in the Kingdom, praise e to God, are keen to focus in their call issues on teaching Islamic faith and instilled in the hearts of the called people, giving it the first rank among the various call issues which they strive to communicate to people.
- The study has also shown that workers in the charitable institutions in the Kingdom are well satisfied with efforts of their institutions in employment of charitable work in the areas of call to God.
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The main recommendations of this study:

- each of the charities in the Kingdom shall seek to establish a competent department or commission is to evaluate the charitable and call efforts of these institutions and follow-up their implementation, and to consider the effectiveness of these programs to the benefit of the called people and the beneficiaries, and how they receive them, and alike matters which contributes to the improvement of the performance of the work of charities and their efficiency
- These institutions must strive, collectively or individually, to develop long-term or transitional (e.g 5 or 7 years) strategic plans for call to God in various countries in which focus be laid on the pillars of the task that contribute to maintaining continuous advocacy.
- It is also hoped that these institutions strive to publish their call media in the best technical form so that to support their receipt by beneficiaries and their positive impact on them especially that some misguided groups strive to publish their various media in luxurious and distinctive form.