

Section 2.7: The Islamic Dimension: Calculations of Inheritance and Zakat

Q: What are the sections in Berggren titled “Islamic Dimensions” about?

The First Problem of Inheritance: A woman dies, leaving her husband, one son, and two daughters. Following the laws of Islamic inheritance, compute the fraction of her estate each heir will receive.

(Law in this case: Husband receives $\frac{1}{4}$ of the estate, and a son receives twice as much as a daughter.)

The Second Problem of Inheritance: A woman dies, leaving her husband, one son, and two daughters. She bequeaths to a stranger $\frac{1}{4}$ of her estate. Following the laws of Islamic inheritance, compute the fraction of her estate each heir will receive.

(Additional requirements: (i) Legacy cannot exceed $\frac{1}{3}$ unless the natural heirs agree to it, (ii) Legacy must be paid before the other shares are calculated.)

On the Calculation of Zakat: Zakat is one of the pillars of Islam. What are the others?

Calculate the amount that is left after paying zakat on 7586 dirhams for 1 year, according to Abu Mansur al-Baghdadi in *The Supplement of Arithmetic*. Then repeat for second and third years.