



Faith in Action to End Slavery



Muslims Against Slavery

Islam has a long history of commitment to social justice and charitable work dating back to the Prophet Muhammad himself. Today's most pressing human rights abuses include modern forms of slavery and human trafficking. Here are ways you can join the movement to end slavery.

Muslim Leaders Taking Action

Chakoria Imam Association: This group of imams in Bangladesh has mobilized their communities against human trafficking by discussing the issues and preventative measures during their Friday prayer recitations and by organizing community watchdog groups. Learn more about their work here:

<https://geneva.usmission.gov/2009/12/03/imams-fight-human-trafficking/>

For Study Groups and *Halaqa* Groups

The Quran on Slavery: It is important to call attention to what the Quran is saying about slavery; how the Quran not only recognized the immorality of slavery, but how it also sought to end it. Throughout the Quran, there is a demonstrated commitment to freeing people from slavery and bondage. Choose certain passages that directly relate to freeing slaves and have discussions about them and how they relate to the modern-day movement against human trafficking. For example, your group could focus on some of the following passages:

- It is not righteousness that ye turn your faces towards East or West; but it is righteousness - to spend of your substance...for the ransom of slaves... (2:177)
- Allah will not call you into account for what is futile in your oaths, but He will call you to account for your deliberate oaths: for expiation, feed ten indigent persons... or give a slave his freedom... (5:89)
- Verily We have created man into toil and struggle... And what will explain to thee the path that is steep? - (It is:) freeing the bondman; Or the giving of food in a day of privation... (90:4-14).

(Source: Yusuf Ali Translation)

Take Action

Community Dinner: Host a dinner at the mosque, someone's home or a local restaurant that is willing to sponsor the event and provide the food free of charge. This event could be dedicated to the millions of people around the world who are living in slavery, and will inform the attendees about the mission of Free the Slaves and the root causes of slavery and how each and every person can make a difference. This event can either sell admission tickets, or ask for a donation in lieu of paying for the meal. Remember to reinforce that this donation contributes to someone's freedom. During Ramadan, hold an *iftar* to raise awareness about human trafficking - serve fair-trade foods and keep table cards with information about slavery to encourage discussion.

Communities for Communities: Free the Slaves supports more than 1,000 community groups to achieve and sustain freedom in slavery hot spot countries. Slavery is such a widespread injustice that it can often seem like too big a problem to tackle, but breaking it up into smaller areas can make it seem more manageable. We would invite your small group to support a village through the power of prayer. Guided by sections of Quranic text such as *Surat At-Tawbah* (The Repentance), lead your group in praying specifically for one of the communities that Free the Slaves works in. Email info@freetheslaves.net for details about how you can support a front-line community. Your financial support can make the difference needed to protect those that are vulnerable to modern-day slavery.

Fund an Abolitionist: Free the Slaves works on the ground to help rescue and reintegrate those in slavery, and to cut off slavery at the source. Organize a

fundraiser or donate to help us pay the salary of a liberator who risks his or her life to go on the frontlines and rescue slaves. Learn more about our partner abolitionists and their innovative programs on our website here: <http://www.freetheslaves.net/where-we-work/>.

Join or Start a Small Group Focused on the Study of Modern Slavery: Check out your mosque's website to find out if there is a small group dedicated to the topic of modern-day slavery or social justice. Join an existing group, or find out how you can start and lead a project within your community.

Charity Work: Is your mosque actively involved in partnering with organizations to help end social injustice around the world? It may seem like a small action, but presenting Free the Slaves to your mosque's missions/outreach team can help lead to tangible change. We want to spread the word about our effective model for eradicating slavery, but we can't do it without you! The Muslim community has an important role to play.

Donate

Consider making a gift to Free the Slaves in commemoration of Muslim holidays like *Eid al-Fitr*. Stand alongside modern-day abolitionists who are on the front lines fighting for freedom of people around the world. Visit <http://www.freetheslaves.net/donate>.

Learn More

Here are links to downloadable resources that you can use:

Slavery Today, Slavery in History, Survivor Stories, Frequently Asked Questions: <http://www.freetheslaves.net/about-slavery/>

Videos and books about modern slavery and innovative solutions to ending slavery worldwide: www.freetheslaves.net/building-awareness/

Stay up-to-date with political actions to prevent slavery and care for victims and survivors by following Free the Slaves on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), and participate by signing petitions or calling senators and representatives.