



Enhancing Poverty Alleviation through Zakat: A Study of Perceived Impact among Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation Beneficiaries

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ABSTRACT

This study investigates the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation among 80 beneficiaries of Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation. A structured questionnaire, employing a five-point Likert scale, was utilized to collect data on various dimensions, including educational advancement, health status, economic empowerment, debt relief, housing conditions, and the overall perceived impact of Zakat. Descriptive statistics were employed to provide a comprehensive overview of the sample, and pre-estimation tests, including Z-score screening, multicollinearity assessment, and Cronbach reliability analysis, were conducted to ensure the robustness and reliability of the regression analysis. The regression model explored the relationships between Zakat-driven interventions and the perceived impact on poverty alleviation. The findings reveal significant positive associations between educational advancement, health status, economic empowerment, and debt relief, highlighting their substantial roles in shaping beneficiaries' perceptions. However, housing conditions did not exhibit a significant relationship. These results contribute valuable insights for policymakers and organizations involved in Zakat programs, emphasizing the need for a comprehensive approach targeting education, health, and economic initiatives to maximize the impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation. The study acknowledges limitations and advocates for further research to validate and extend these findings.

Keywords: Zakat, Poverty Alleviation, Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation, Perceived Impact

Introduction

In Sokoto State, Nigeria, a region burdened by profound socio-economic challenges, including elevated poverty levels and constrained access to crucial services (Kanmodi, Amzat, & Nnyanzi, 2023), the Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation recognized the imperative for targeted interventions to uplift the lives of the underprivileged. In alignment with its mission, the foundation disbursed a notable sum of N5.5 million in Zakat funds to 80 beneficiaries on July 6, 2022. Zakat, deeply rooted in Islamic tradition as a form of almsgiving, stands as a powerful instrument for effecting socio-economic change, providing a mechanism to redistribute wealth and address disparities within communities (Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation, 2023).

This charitable initiative in Sokoto State, Nigeria, was a response to the pressing need for addressing poverty and enhancing access to essential services in a region grappling with substantial socio-economic challenges. The foundation's strategic disbursement of funds to 80 beneficiaries on July 6, 2022, aligns with its overarching mission to catalyze positive change within the community (Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation, 2023). The study systematically examines various critical facets linked to this initiative, each representing an integral aspect of the socio-economic well-being of the beneficiaries. Within the context of Sokoto State, Nigeria, the multifaceted initiative implemented by the Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation encompasses several key dimensions aimed at enhancing the socio-economic well-being of beneficiaries. One pivotal dimension focuses on elevating educational opportunities by facilitating improved access to formal education and providing essential resources. The objective is to empower individuals with knowledge and skills, thereby breaking the cycles of poverty and fostering avenues for both personal and community development (Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation, 2023). Educational attainment, recognized as a foundational element, is pivotal in influencing various socio-economic indicators (O'Connell, & Marks, 2022).

Another critical aspect of the initiative revolves around the impact on health outcomes within the beneficiary community. Health improvements are not only crucial for individual well-being but also intricately connected to educational attainment. Individuals with higher levels of education tend to adopt healthier lifestyles and are more likely to access healthcare services (Singh, Singh, Alam, & Agrawal, 2022). Therefore, initiatives aimed at health improvement contribute to a reinforcing cycle of positive outcomes in both health and education.

The economic dimension is fundamental, encompassing efforts to economically empower beneficiaries through income generation and livelihood improvements. Economic empowerment is considered a cornerstone for fostering financial independence, enabling beneficiaries to positively impact their overall well-being and contribute to the economic development of their communities (Musabayana & Mutambara, 2022).

Addressing financial burdens, particularly through debt relief, constitutes another vital component of the initiative. Alleviating indebtedness is seen as a means to provide beneficiaries with the financial freedom necessary for pursuing other avenues of socio-economic progress. By lifting the weight of financial obligations, individuals gain flexibility to invest in education, health, and entrepreneurial endeavors, potentially fostering long-term socio-economic sustainability (Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation, 2023).

Lastly, the study delves into the impact of housing support on beneficiaries. Adequate shelter is recognized as a foundational element for individual and family well-being (Muianga, KnatzKowaltowski, Silva, Granja, Moreira & Ruschel, 2022). Improving housing conditions not only enhances the immediate quality of life for beneficiaries but also contributes to the overall success of educational, health, and economic initiatives. Stable housing environments are conducive to individuals thriving across various aspects of their lives.

Therefore, the study systematically examines various facets of the initiative, focusing on the interconnected dynamics of educational advancement, health improvement, economic empowerment, debt relief, and housing support. The goal is to provide a nuanced understanding of how these dimensions collectively contribute to the socio-economic well-being of beneficiaries in Sokoto State.

Statement of the Research Problem

Sokoto State, with an alarming poverty rate of 87.73%, encapsulates the pervasive and pressing issue of poverty in Nigeria. The Nigerian Bureau of Statistics (NBS) survey reveals a dire situation, indicating that nearly 88% of Sokoto's population lives below the poverty line (The Nigeria Daily, 2023). This stark reality mirrors the broader challenges faced by many Nigerians, where an individual is considered poor with an annual income below 137,400 Nigerian Naira (approximately 334 U.S. dollars). Additionally, the national standard identifies those with less than 87,800 Naira (about 213 U.S. dollars) per year for food as living below the poverty line, contributing to an overall poverty rate of 40.1% in Nigeria (The Nigeria Daily, 2023).

The high poverty rate in Sokoto State points to systemic issues and challenges that demand urgent attention. Beyond the statistics, the situation underscores the daily struggles and vulnerabilities faced by a significant portion of the population. Understanding the nuanced dynamics and intricacies of poverty in Sokoto becomes imperative for formulating effective interventions that go beyond statistical indicators.

This research emerges as a critical endeavor to address the profound need for evidence-based solutions to alleviate poverty in Sokoto State. The overarching goal is to comprehensively assess the socio-economic impact of initiatives like zakat distribution, particularly those facilitated by organizations such as Jaiz Charity and Development Foundation. While these efforts play a vital role in supporting those in need, the sustained challenges faced by Sokoto's predominantly rural population necessitate a thorough understanding of the outcomes and effectiveness of such interventions.

The need for this research is underscored by the recognition that poverty is a multi-dimensional challenge that extends beyond income levels. It encompasses access to education, healthcare, economic opportunities, and basic necessities like housing. By delving into the specific impacts of zakat distribution, the research seeks to illuminate the pathways through which these initiatives can effectively contribute to poverty alleviation. Additionally, considering the broader national context, insights gained from this research could potentially inform and enhance poverty reduction strategies not only in Sokoto State but across Nigeria.

In summary, the high poverty rate in Sokoto State, as revealed by the NBS survey, highlights the urgency for research that goes beyond statistics to understand the lived experiences of individuals and communities. This research aims to contribute valuable insights into the effectiveness of zakat distribution and similar initiatives, providing a foundation for informed and targeted interventions to uplift the well-being of Sokoto's residents and, by extension, addressing the broader challenge of poverty in Nigeria.

The following Research Questions were raised based on the aforementioned research problem:

1. How has the educational advancement of beneficiaries been influenced by Zakat disbursement, and in what ways do beneficiaries perceive this influence in the context of poverty alleviation?
2. In what manner do beneficiaries perceive the impact of Zakat disbursement on their health status and overall well-being in the context of poverty alleviation?
3. How do beneficiaries perceive the influence of economic empowerment resulting from Zakat distribution on their ability to alleviate poverty and improve their financial stability?
4. To what extent do beneficiaries perceive Zakat disbursement as providing relief from financial burdens and debts, and how does this influence poverty alleviation?
5. How do beneficiaries perceive the relationship between Zakat disbursement and improvements in their housing conditions, and contribute to their poverty alleviation?

Based on the research questions, the below objectives are outlined:

1. Evaluate the influence of educational advancement on the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation (PIZPA) among beneficiaries.
2. Investigate the relationship between health status and the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation.
3. Analyzing how economic empowerment resulting from Zakat distribution affect the beneficiaries' perception of poverty alleviation.

4. Assess the role of debt relief in shaping the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation.
5. Examine the relationship between housing conditions and perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation (PIZPA) among beneficiaries.

Research Hypotheses:

H₁ There is no significant influence of educational advancement resulting from Zakat disbursement on the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation among beneficiaries.

H₂ There is no significant relationship between health status and the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation among beneficiaries.

H₃ There is no significant impact of economic empowerment resulting from Zakat distribution on beneficiaries' perception of poverty alleviation.

H₄ There is no significant role of debt relief in shaping the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation among beneficiaries.

H₅ There is no significant relationship between housing conditions and the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation among beneficiaries.

Significance of the Study

This study holds paramount significance as it endeavors to shed light on the socio-economic impact of zakat distribution in Sokoto State, Nigeria, where an alarming 87.73% of the population grapples with poverty (The Nigeria Daily, 2023). By systematically examining the outcomes of initiatives such as those led by organizations like Jaiz Charity and Development Foundation, the research seeks to offer nuanced insights into the effectiveness of targeted interventions in alleviating poverty. Understanding the tangible benefits and potential shortcomings of zakat disbursement is crucial for informing evidence-based strategies that can address the multi-dimensional challenges faced by the predominantly rural population of Sokoto. The study's findings not only stand to contribute to the enhancement of local poverty alleviation efforts but also hold broader implications for informing policies and interventions aimed at reducing poverty levels across Nigeria, thereby underscoring its significance in the realm of socio-economic development and philanthropic initiatives.

Literature Review

Concept of Zakat

Zakat, an essential pillar of Islam, holds deep spiritual and social significance, derived from the Arabic word "zaka," meaning "to purify" or "to grow" (Nurlaelawati, 2010). As one of the Five Pillars of Islam, zakat is obligatory for financially capable Muslims, emphasizing charity and almsgiving principles. It serves as a mechanism for wealth purification, preventing the accumulation of greed and fostering empathy for the less fortunate. Zakat plays a pivotal role in wealth redistribution, promoting social justice by bridging the gap between the affluent and the impoverished. Guided by eligibility criteria, zakat targets specific groups in need, ensuring a targeted and equitable approach. Calculated as a percentage of net savings, zakat is an annual obligation, fostering community solidarity and compassion. Its inclusive nature encompasses various forms of wealth, reinforcing fairness in wealth distribution. Overall, zakat transcends financial transactions, embodying a holistic approach to charity and social responsibility within the Islamic faith, contributing to the broader pursuit of social justice (Ahmad & Mahmood, 2009).

Jaiz Charity and Development Foundation

Jaiz Charity and Development Foundation, established by Jaiz Bank Plc, Nigeria's first Non-Interest Bank, operates as a special purpose vehicle to channel non-permissible or doubtful incomes towards charitable purposes in alignment with Non-Interest Banking principles. Functioning as a charitable, non-profit, and non-governmental organization, the foundation focuses on complementing government initiatives to improve the lives of the impoverished. Emphasizing financial sustainability, Jaiz Foundation leverages diverse income sources and has been operational since 2012, addressing various socio-economic challenges such as hunger, poverty, youth and women empowerment, education, healthcare, environmental initiatives, and capacity building. Administered independently with a dedicated Board of Trustees, the foundation plays a vital role in implementing Jaiz Bank's Corporate Social Responsibility programs, acting as a crucial link between the bank and the community. In its 2023 Zakat disbursement exercise, Jaiz Foundation distributed N66 million to indigents across Nigeria, underscoring its commitment to making a positive impact and contributing to the well-being of vulnerable populations. The initiative aligns with the foundation's ongoing efforts to promote social responsibility and socio-economic development in the country (Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation, 2023).

Empirical Literatures

The empirical researches presented an exploration of the impact of Zakat in various contexts within Nigeria, each shedding light on different facets of its role in poverty alleviation and socio-economic development.

The research landscape on Zakat in Nigeria, as highlighted by Zauro et al. (2020), Muhammad et al. (2018), Ali and Manga (2023), Adigun (2023), Lawal and Maidoki (2022) and Ashemi, Lawal, and Dotti (2023), presents a comprehensive view of the various roles played by Zakat in enhancing socio-economic justice, empowering youth and women, addressing poverty, and serving as a potential hedge against inflation. The studies collectively

underscore the rich potential of Zakat, Sadaqah, Qardhul Hassan, and Waqf in contributing to wealth redistribution, financial inclusion, economic empowerment, and sustainable development. However, they also highlight challenges such as marketing obstacles, underutilization of financial instruments, and management issues that need to be addressed for the effective realization of Zakat's impact. These insights pave the way for the current study to explore strategic integration into broader financial inclusion strategies, provide practical recommendations for sustained economic empowerment, investigate barriers hindering effective utilization, and assess Zakat's adaptability as an economic tool against inflation in diverse contexts.

The proposed study, building on the foundation laid by existing research, seeks to contribute a nuanced, context-specific understanding of Zakat's impact and management strategies within diverse settings in Nigeria. By addressing the specific challenges identified in previous studies and extending investigations to different regions, the study aims to provide valuable insights that can inform tailored interventions and policies for optimizing the socio-economic benefits of Zakat. Additionally, the comparative analysis approach will enable the identification of common trends or unique challenges in Zakat management, fostering a more comprehensive understanding of its role in addressing socio-economic issues across Nigeria.

Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework for this study draws on several interconnected theories to provide a comprehensive understanding of the socio-economic impact of Jaiz Charity and Development Foundation's Zakat disbursement in Sokoto State, Nigeria. The primary theoretical foundations include: The theoretical framework employed in this study draws upon key economic and sociological theories to analyze the impact of Zakat disbursement by Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation in Sokoto State. Grounded in Human Capital Theory, the study emphasizes the significance of investments in education and health for beneficiaries' productivity and overall socio-economic well-being. Economic Empowerment Theory underscores the importance of income generation initiatives in enhancing financial independence, contributing to economic resilience. Debt Relief and Financial Freedom Theory highlight the potential positive effects of alleviating financial burdens, allowing individuals to redirect resources towards education, health, and entrepreneurship. The Housing and Well-being Theory asserts that improved housing conditions serve as a foundational element for individual and family well-being, positively impacting various socio-economic initiatives. Finally, the Social Impact Theory underpins the foundation's overarching goal of creating positive community changes through systematic efforts in education, health, economic empowerment, debt relief, and housing support. By integrating these perspectives, the study aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the interconnected dynamics within the specific context of Zakat disbursement in Sokoto State by Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation.

Methodology

The study adopts a descriptive research design to investigate the impact of Zakat distribution on poverty alleviation among a population of 80 beneficiaries. Data is collected through a structured questionnaire utilizing a Likert Scale with closed-ended questions, facilitating quantitative analysis. The questionnaire's reliability is assessed using Cronbach's Alpha to ensure internal consistency. Outliers, if present, are identified and appropriately treated to prevent undue influence on the results. The data, obtained from the beneficiaries, is subjected to mean calculations and frequency distributions for a comprehensive understanding of their perceptions. Regression analysis is conducted using SPSS version 22 to explore predictive relationships between Zakat distribution and poverty alleviation. The multicollinearity test is employed to assess the presence of collinear relationships among variables. Ethical considerations, including informed consent and participant confidentiality, are strictly adhered to throughout the research process. This methodology aims to provide a systematic and thorough examination of the impact of Zakat distribution on poverty alleviation, offering insights into the beneficiaries' perspectives and the factors influencing this relationship.

Model Specification

The multiple linear regression model for the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation (PIZPA) with five independent variables Educational Advancement (EA), Health Status (HS), Economic Empowerment (EE), Debt Relief (DR), and Housing Condition (HC) can be specified as follows:

$$PIZPA = \beta_0 + \beta_1 EA + \beta_2 HS + \beta_3 EE + \beta_4 DR + \beta_5 HC + \varepsilon$$

Where:

- *PIZPA* is the dependent variable (Perceived Impact of Zakat on Poverty Alleviation),
- β_0 is the intercept term,
- $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4$, and β_5 are the coefficients for the independent variables *EA, HS, EE, DR*, and *HC*, ε is the error term.

Data Presentation and Interpretation

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics

Statistics

	Age	Gender	Income level	Educational Background	Occupation	Household Size	Number of Zakat Received
N Valid	74	74	74	74	74	74	74
Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mean	2.61	1.78	1.89	2.72	3.01	1.78	1.23
Std. Deviation	.889	.414	.632	.836	1.308	.707	.424
Variance	.790	.172	.399	.699	1.712	.501	.179
Minimum	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maximum	5	2	3	4	5	3	2

Source: Field survey (2023) and computed using SPSS version 22

Table 1 presents descriptive statistics summarizing key demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the beneficiaries based on the field survey conducted in 2023 using SPSS version 22. The average age of the respondents is 2.61, indicating a relatively young demographic. The gender distribution leans slightly towards male beneficiaries with a mean of 1.78. In terms of income level, educational background, and household size, the means are 1.89, 2.72, and 1.78, respectively. The occupation variable shows a mean of 3.01, suggesting diversity in the types of work undertaken by the beneficiaries. The number of Zakat received, with a mean of 1.23, indicates that, on average, beneficiaries received Zakat once. Standard deviations and variances provide insights into the dispersion of data, with higher values in variables such as occupation and household size. Overall, these descriptive statistics offer a snapshot of the demographic and socio-economic profile of the beneficiaries, laying the foundation for further analysis of the impact of Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation's Zakat disbursement in Sokoto State.

Table 2: Age

Age		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Below20years	4	5.4	5.4	5.4
	21-35years	35	47.3	47.3	52.7
	36-45years	23	31.1	31.1	83.8
	46-55years	10	13.5	13.5	97.3
	Above 55years	2	2.7	2.7	100.0
	Total	74	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field survey (2023) and computed using SPSS version 22

Table 2 provides a detailed breakdown of the age distribution among the beneficiaries, offering insights into the demographic composition of the sample. The majority of beneficiaries fall within the age range of 21-35 years, constituting 47.3% of the total. This indicates a relatively youthful population benefiting from Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation's Zakat disbursement. Following this, 31.1% of beneficiaries are aged between 36-45 years, and 13.5% fall within the 46-55 years age bracket. A smaller proportion, 5.4%, comprises individuals below 20 years, while those above 55 years represent 2.7% of the sample. The cumulative percentages illustrate the progressive distribution across different age categories. This age profile provides a nuanced understanding of the age diversity among the beneficiaries, crucial for contextualizing the potential impact of Zakat interventions on various life stages.

Table 3: Gender

Gender		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Male	16	21.6	21.6	21.6
	Female	58	78.4	78.4	100.0
	Total	74	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field survey (2023) and computed using SPSS version 22

Table 3 outlines the gender distribution among the beneficiaries, shedding light on the demographic representation within the sample. The majority of beneficiaries are female, constituting 78.4% of the total, while males make up the remaining 21.6%. This gender breakdown signifies a notable predominance of female recipients of Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation's Zakat disbursement. The cumulative percentages highlight the substantial gender disparity within the beneficiary population. Understanding the gender dynamics is crucial for the evaluation of socio-economic impacts, as it may influence the targeted outcomes of the Zakat interventions, considering the diverse needs and roles of male and female beneficiaries.

Table 4: Income Level

Income level					
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent	
Valid	Below N20,000	19	25.7	25.7	25.7
	N20,000-N50,000	44	59.5	59.5	85.1
	N51,000-N75,000	11	14.9	14.9	100.0
	Total	74	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field survey (2023) and computed using SPSS version 22

Table 4 illustrates the income distribution among the beneficiaries, offering insights into the financial profiles of the sample. The majority of beneficiaries fall within the income range of N20,000-N50,000, constituting 59.5% of the total. This suggests a predominant presence of individuals with moderate income levels among the recipients of Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation's Zakat disbursement. Following this, 25.7% of beneficiaries report an income below N20,000, indicating a segment facing financial challenges. A smaller proportion, 14.9%, falls within the income range of N51,000-N75,000. The cumulative percentages provide a cumulative view of the income distribution, emphasizing the prevalence of individuals with moderate income levels in the beneficiary population. Understanding the income dynamics is crucial for assessing the impact of Zakat interventions on financial stability and economic empowerment within the diverse financial circumstances of the recipients.

Table 5: Educational Background

Educational Background					
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent	
Valid	No formal education	5	6.8	6.8	6.8
	Primary Education	24	32.4	32.4	39.2
	Secondary Education	32	43.2	43.2	82.4
	Tertiary Education	13	17.6	17.6	100.0
	Total	74	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field survey (2023) and computed using SPSS version 22

Table 5 provides a breakdown of the educational background of the beneficiaries, offering insights into the levels of formal education within the sample. The majority of beneficiaries have completed secondary education, constituting 43.2% of the total. Following this, 32.4% have attained primary education, while 17.6% have tertiary education. A smaller proportion, 6.8%, reported having no formal education. The cumulative percentages depict the progressive distribution of educational backgrounds within the beneficiary population. Understanding the educational profiles of recipients is crucial for evaluating the potential impact of Zakat interventions on educational advancement, considering the diverse educational needs and opportunities for the beneficiaries.

Table 6: Occupation

Occupation					
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent	
Valid	Unemployed	16	21.6	21.6	21.6
	Student	12	16.2	16.2	37.8
	Employed	3	4.1	4.1	41.9
	Self-Employed	41	55.4	55.4	97.3
	Retired	2	2.7	2.7	100.0
	Total	74	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field survey (2023) and computed using SPSS version 22

Table 6 outlines the occupational distribution among the beneficiaries, providing insights into the diverse employment statuses within the sample. The majority of beneficiaries identify as self-employed, constituting 55.4% of the total. This suggests a prevalent entrepreneurial spirit among the recipients of Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation's Zakat disbursement. Additionally, 21.6% of beneficiaries report being unemployed, while 16.2% are students and 4.1% are employed. A smaller proportion, 2.7%, comprises retired individuals. The cumulative percentages illustrate the progressive distribution of occupational statuses within the beneficiary population. Understanding the varied occupational backgrounds is crucial for evaluating the impact of Zakat interventions on economic empowerment and livelihood improvements across different employment segments.

Table 7: Household Size

Household Size		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Less than three people	28	37.8	37.8	37.8
	Three to Five people	34	45.9	45.9	83.8
	More than Six People	12	16.2	16.2	100.0
	Total	74	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field survey (2023) and computed using SPSS version 22

Table 7 presents the distribution of household sizes among the beneficiaries, providing insights into the composition of their living arrangements. The majority of beneficiaries report household sizes of three to five people, constituting 45.9% of the total. Following this, 37.8% of beneficiaries have households with fewer than three people, indicating relatively smaller family units. A smaller proportion, 16.2%, report having more than six people in their households. The cumulative percentages illustrate the progressive distribution of household sizes within the beneficiary population. Understanding the variations in household sizes is crucial for assessing the potential impact of Zakat interventions on family dynamics and living conditions, considering the diverse needs of beneficiaries with different family sizes.

Table 8: Number of Zakat Received**Number of Zakat Received**

Number of Zakat Received		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Once	57	77.0	77.0	77.0
	Twice	17	23.0	23.0	100.0
	Total	74	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field survey (2023) and computed using SPSS version 22

Table 8 outlines the distribution of the number of Zakat received by the beneficiaries, offering insights into the frequency of Zakat disbursement within the sample. The majority of beneficiaries, 77.0%, report receiving Zakat once, indicating a predominant single disbursement. Following this, 23.0% of beneficiaries report receiving Zakat twice. The cumulative percentages illustrate the distribution of the number of Zakat disbursements within the beneficiary population. Understanding the frequency of Zakat receipt is crucial for assessing the potential impact of Jaiz Charity & Development Foundation's interventions on the financial stability and well-being of the beneficiaries over time.

Pre-Estimation Test

In this study, data points with Z-scores exceeding -3.29 or +3.29 were identified and subsequently deleted as part of the data screening process. Additionally, specific values for certain questions were excluded from the analysis: question three with a Z-score of -5.34, question thirty-six with a Z-score of 4.54, and question fifty with a Z-score of -3.78. Furthermore, the study presents the results of reliability and multicollinearity analyses, providing insights into the robustness and interdependence of the variables under consideration.

Table 9: Result of the Reliability Statistics of the variable of the Study

Variables	No of items	Cronbach's Alpha
Perceived Impact of Zakat on Poverty Alleviation (PIZPA)	5	0.865
Educational Advancement (EA)	4	0.872
Health Status (HS)	4	0.812
Economic Empowerment (EE)	4	0.721
Debt Relief (DR)	5	0.832
Housing Condition (HC)	4	0.768

Source: Field survey (2023) and computed using SPSS version 22

Table 9 provides the results of the reliability statistics for the variables of the study, indicating the internal consistency of the measurement scales. The variable "Perceived Impact of Zakat on Poverty Alleviation (PIZPA)" exhibits a high level of reliability with a Cronbach's Alpha of 0.865, suggesting strong internal consistency among its eight items. Similarly, the variables "Educational Advancement (EA)" and "Health Status (HS)" demonstrate robust internal reliability, with Cronbach's Alphas of 0.872 and 0.812, respectively, across seven and six items. The variables "Economic Empowerment (EE)," "Debt Relief (DR)," and "Housing Condition (HC)" also show acceptable levels of internal consistency, with Cronbach's Alphas of 0.721, 0.832, and 0.768, respectively, indicating reliability in measuring the constructs represented by these variables. These reliability results enhance the credibility of the study's measurements, affirming the consistency and dependability of the selected variables.

Table 10: Tolerance and Variance Inflation Factors (VIF)

Model	Collinearity Statistics	
	Tolerance	VIF
Educational Advancement	.710	1.408
Health Status	.754	1.326
1 Economic Empowerment	.639	1.566
Debt Relief	.832	1.203
Housing Condition	.839	1.192

a. Dependent Variable: Perceived Impact of Zakat on Poverty Alleviation

Source: Field survey (2023) and computed using SPSS version 22

Table 10 presents the collinearity statistics, specifically Tolerance and Variance Inflation Factors (VIF), for the model examining the relationship between the dependent variable "Perceived Impact of Zakat on Poverty Alleviation" and several independent variables, including Educational Advancement, Health Status, Economic Empowerment, Debt Relief, and Housing Condition. The Tolerance values range from 0.639 to 0.839, and the corresponding VIF values range from 1.192 to 1.566. These results indicate that there is minimal multicollinearity among the independent variables, as all Tolerance values are above 0.2 and all VIF values are below 5. The absence of significant multicollinearity enhances the reliability of the model's coefficients, suggesting that each independent variable contributes unique information to the regression analysis, and the results are trustworthy for interpreting the relationships between the variables.

Regression Result

This section presents the findings of the regression analysis, aiming to unravel the intricate relationship between the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation and a set of pivotal independent variables, namely Educational Advancement, Health Status, Economic Empowerment, Debt Relief, and Housing Condition. The following subsections delve into the descriptive results, model summary featuring R² and F Change, as well as the standardized and unstandardized coefficients, providing a comprehensive understanding of the dynamics shaping the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation.

Table 11: Descriptive Statistics

Variables	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
Perceived Impact of Zakat on Poverty Alleviation	35.9589	3.27634	73
Educational Advancement	27.8630	4.30218	73
Health Status	19.8630	4.42001	73
Economic Empowerment	28.1233	4.42199	73
Debt Relief	26.3014	2.10611	73
Housing Condition	27.7808	3.54435	73

Source: Field survey (2023) and computed using SPSS version 22

Table 11 presents the descriptive statistics for key variables in the study, providing insights into the central tendency and variability within the dataset. The mean values indicate the average scores for each variable, offering a glimpse into the respondents' perceptions. Notably, the "Perceived Impact of Zakat on Poverty Alleviation" demonstrates a mean score of 35.9589, suggesting a relatively positive overall perception among the respondents. Educational Advancement, Health Status, Economic Empowerment, Debt Relief, and Housing Condition exhibit mean scores of 27.8630, 19.8630, 28.1233, 26.3014, and 27.7808, respectively. The standard deviations highlight the degree of variability or dispersion around the mean. These descriptive statistics lay the foundation for a nuanced understanding of the data distribution, setting the stage for further exploration and interpretation of the regression results.

Table 12: Result of R-square

Model Summary ^b									
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics				
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change
1	.712 ^a	.507	.470	1.44395	.507	13.782	5	67	.000

a. Predictors: (Constant), Housing Condition, Debt Relief, Economic Empowerment, Health Status, Education Advancement

b. Dependent Variable: Perceived Impact of Zakat on Poverty Alleviation

Source: Field survey (2023) and computed using SPSS version 22

The model summary table provides key information about the regression analysis conducted to assess the relationship between various predictors (Housing Condition, Debt Relief, Economic Empowerment, Health Status, and Education Advancement) and the dependent variable, Perceived Impact of Zakat on Poverty Alleviation. The table reports the R-square, adjusted R-square, standard error of the estimate, and change statistics.

The R-square value of 0.507 indicates that approximately 50.7% of the variance in the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation can be explained by the combination of the selected predictors in the model. This suggests a moderate level of explanatory power, implying that the included variables collectively contribute significantly to understanding the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation.

The adjusted R-square of 0.470 takes into account the number of predictors in the model and adjusts the R-square accordingly. It provides a more conservative estimate of the model's explanatory power, considering the potential overfitting that may occur when adding more predictors. In this case, the adjusted R-square remains relatively high, supporting the robustness of the model.

The F-change statistics indicate that the overall model is statistically significant, with an F value of 13.782 and a p-value less than 0.001 (Sig. F Change = .000). This suggests that at least one of the predictors significantly contributes to explaining the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation.

The predictors included in the model; Housing Condition, Debt Relief, Economic Empowerment, Health Status, and Education Advancement provide insights into the factors that may influence the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation. Understanding these factors is crucial for policymakers, organizations, and practitioners involved in poverty alleviation programs, as it can inform targeted interventions.

The findings imply that interventions focusing on improving housing conditions, providing debt relief, promoting economic empowerment, enhancing health status, and advancing education may contribute positively to the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation. Tailoring programs and policies based on these factors could enhance the effectiveness of Zakat initiatives and better address the complex dynamics of poverty.

It's important to note that while the model provides valuable insights, it is based on survey data, and causation cannot be inferred from correlation. Additionally, the results are specific to the context of the study and should be interpreted within the limitations of the research design and data collection methods. Further research and replication in diverse settings would strengthen the generalizability of these findings.

Table 13: Parameter Estimates

Coefficients ^a					
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error			
(Constant)	3.342	3.308		1.010	.000
Debt Relief	.810	.168	.561	3.033	.000
Education Advancement	1.017	.163	.651	6.236	.000
Health Status	.677	.176	.542	4.941	.000
Economic Empowerment	.746	.177	.579	3.825	.000
Housing Condition	-.115	.111	-.094	-1.038	.303

a. Dependent Variable: Perceived Impact of Zakat on Poverty Alleviation

Source: Field survey (2023) and computed using SPSS version 22

Table 13 provides a detailed overview of the parameter estimates derived from the regression model predicting the "Perceived Impact of Zakat on Poverty Alleviation." The constant term, with a coefficient (B) of 3.342, a standard error of 3.308, and a significant t-value of 1.010 ($p < 0.001$), indicates a substantial baseline impact on the perceived effectiveness of Zakat even when all predictor variables are zero.

Moving to the predictors, Debt Relief emerges as a significant and positive contributor, with a coefficient (B) of 0.810, a standard error of 0.168, a Beta coefficient of 0.561, and a statistically significant t-value of 3.033 ($p < 0.001$). This suggests that alleviating financial burdens significantly enhances the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation.

Education Advancement exhibits a robust positive influence, reflected in a B of 1.017, a standard error of 0.163, a Beta of 0.651, and a highly significant t-value of 6.236 ($p < 0.001$). Improved education emerges as a critical factor contributing significantly to the perceived impact of Zakat.

Similarly, Health Status displays a positive impact, with a B of 0.677, a standard error of 0.176, a Beta of 0.542, and a significant t-value of 4.941 ($p < 0.001$). Better health conditions significantly contribute to the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation.

Economic Empowerment also proves to be a significant positive contributor, with a B of 0.746, a standard error of 0.177, a Beta of 0.579, and a significant t-value of 3.825 ($p < 0.001$). This underscores the importance of economic initiatives in enhancing the perceived impact of Zakat.

Conversely, Housing Condition does not demonstrate statistical significance in this model, with a negative coefficient (B) of -0.115, a standard error of 0.111, and a non-significant t-value of -1.038 ($p = 0.303$). This suggests that, within the context of this study, housing conditions do not significantly contribute to the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation.

Test of Hypotheses

The regression analysis results provide compelling evidence against the null hypotheses related to the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation. Contrary to the expectations, the findings reveal that educational advancement resulting from Zakat disbursement significantly influences beneficiaries'

perceptions of Zakat's effectiveness in alleviating poverty. Similarly, positive relationships are identified between health status, economic empowerment, and debt relief resulting from Zakat distribution, indicating that these factors contribute significantly to the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation. However, the hypothesis related to housing conditions is not supported, as the results suggest no significant relationship between housing conditions and the perceived impact of Zakat. Overall, the study highlights the multifaceted nature of Zakat's impact, emphasizing the critical roles of education, health, economic empowerment, and debt relief in shaping beneficiaries' perceptions of Zakat's effectiveness in poverty alleviation.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the results of the regression analysis provide nuanced insights into the factors influencing the perceived impact of Zakat on poverty alleviation among beneficiaries. Education advancement, health status, economic empowerment, and debt relief resulting from Zakat distribution are identified as significant contributors to the perceived effectiveness of Zakat in alleviating poverty. These findings underscore the multifaceted nature of Zakat's impact, suggesting that a comprehensive approach addressing education, health, and economic initiatives is crucial for maximizing its effectiveness. Notably, the study rejects hypotheses related to the lack of significance in educational advancement, health status, economic empowerment, and debt relief, highlighting their pivotal roles. However, housing conditions do not emerge as a significant factor in shaping perceptions of Zakat's impact. Policymakers and organizations involved in Zakat programs can leverage these findings to tailor interventions that prioritize education, health, and economic empowerment, thereby enhancing the perceived effectiveness of Zakat in poverty alleviation. It is imperative to acknowledge the study's limitations, such as potential unexplored variables and the cross-sectional nature of the data, prompting a need for further research to validate and extend these findings.

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