

# Accountability hisbah in islamic management the

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The System of Accountability: Hisbah in Islam\*\*

### **Introduction**

In Islamic tradition, the concept of accountability plays a crucial role in both personal and societal spheres. Hisbah is the system of accountability that ensures the upholding of Islamic values and ethical principles.

### **What is the Principle of Hisbah?**

The principle of hisbah is based on the obligation of every Muslim to enjoin good and forbid evil (Amr bil Ma'ruf wa Nahi 'anil Munkar). It involves monitoring and advising individuals and institutions to conform to Islamic norms and standards.

### **The Role of the Hisbah in Islam**

The hisbah system is a collective responsibility of the Muslim community, but certain individuals known as muhtasibs or hisbah officers are specifically appointed to oversee its implementation. They are responsible for:

- Enforcing Islamic laws and regulations
- Ensuring public safety and order
- Monitoring market activities to prevent fraud and malpractice
- Advising individuals on religious matters

### **Accountability in Islamic Management**

Accountability in Islamic management is rooted in the belief that all authority comes from God and that those in positions of leadership will be held responsible for their actions. The three elements of accountability are:

- **Amanah (Trust):** Leaders are entrusted to protect and utilize resources effectively and ethically.
- **Masa'uliyah (Responsibility):** They are responsible for the outcomes of their decisions and must account for them.
- **Hisbah (Accountability):** They are subject to scrutiny and feedback from their subordinates and the community.

### The Four Functions of Accountability

Accountability serves four primary functions:

- **Control:** Ensuring that actions align with established standards.
- **Motivation:** Encouraging ethical behavior and performance.
- **Transparency:** Creating a culture of openness and communication.
- **Protection:** Safeguarding individuals and organizations from wrongdoing.

### The Four Pillars of Accountability

The four pillars of accountability are:

- **Clear Expectations:** Setting?????????
- **Monitoring:** Regularly assessing performance and compliance.
- **Feedback and Communication:** Providing timely feedback and encouraging open dialogue.
- **Consequences:** Enforcing appropriate consequences for misconduct or non-compliance.

### Human Accountability in Islam

Human accountability in Islam extends beyond the worldly realm. It encompasses the belief that individuals will be held responsible for their actions and intentions on

the Day of Judgment. The Quran teaches that:

- "Every soul is a pledge for what it has earned." (Quran 74:38)
- "Say: On that day, you shall be recompensed for what you did." (Quran 16:111)

### **The Hisbah of the Islamic State**

In an Islamic state, the hisbah system is a key component of governance. It ensures that the government acts in accordance with Islamic principles and that the rights of citizens are protected.

### **The Waqf System in Islam**

The waqf system is a charitable endowment that contributes to the hisbah system by providing financial support for religious, social, and educational institutions.

### **How to be Accountable in Islam**

To be accountable in Islam, individuals and organizations must:

- **Fulfill their duties conscientiously:** Perform their roles with integrity and dedication.
- **Seek guidance from Islamic sources:** Refer to the Quran, Sunnah, and scholarly interpretations for direction.
- **Accept feedback and criticism:** Be open to constructive feedback and use it to improve.
- **Be prepared to face consequences:** Be willing to take responsibility for their actions and decisions.

### **Conclusion**

The hisbah system in Islam is a comprehensive and effective system of accountability that promotes ethical behavior, transparency, and social harmony. It serves as a reminder that all individuals and institutions are ultimately responsible for their actions and decisions. By incorporating its principles into their lives, Muslims can strive to lead accountable and righteous lives.

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