Submitting Religious Tax of Zakāt to Charities - 18 /Mar/ 2020

question| Can we offer our *zakāt* to charitable institutions, such as the Imam Khomeini Relief Organization (*kumītih imdād imām khumiynī*), if they intend to use it to purchase necessary household items for the newlywed young women under their care? Is it permissible to spend the religious tax of *zakāt* for such purposes?*

answer| If the charitable organizations in question are awarded power of attorney by the needy individuals that they serve and are thus authorized to function as their agent (*wakīl*) both in the receipt of the offered *zakāt* and in its expenditure, they may use the *zakāt* given them by the believers for the purpose described in the question.

* Note that *zakāt* in the context of Shia law refers to a specific mandatory religious tax.