

THE FREEING OF SLAVES

WITH THE NAME OF ALLAH, MOST GRACIOUS, MOST MERCIFUL.

Before and during the time of Nabie Muhammad (S.A.W.) slavery was widespread in almost all parts of the world.

Some of the sources of slavery were as follows:

- 1) Those taken as prisoners of war were made slaves.
- 2) Many people were kidnapped and enslaved.
- 3) Those who were unable to pay their debts were enslaved.

Slaves were regarded as things and not as human beings.

Man-made laws, including the Roman law allowed the master to do as he liked with his slaves.

The torturing and killing of slaves was lawful.

With this kind of attitude towards slaves, the task of freeing them was extremely difficult.

Not only were slaves required to be freed physically, but their minds also had to be freed.

There was also the task of making the masters and the slaves know that all service belongs to Allah (S.W.T.).

In Sura al-Baqara (ch.2): verse 177 we are told:-

“...and for the freeing of slaves;...”

According to Allah (S.W.T.) among other things, our wealth must be spent to free slaves.

Worksheet

- 1) Name two sources of slavery.

- 2) To whom does all service belong?
