10246 - When should zakah be paid?

the question

I know in shariah,it says that zakah is due after a year is up.Now what i want to know is that is there a specific date when its due, or is it based on the individual?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

You must hasten to pay zakah as soon as it become obligatory, because Allah says (interpretation of the meaning): “… and give Zakah…” [Al-Baqarah 2:110]

And because the situation of the poor means that help should be given to them as soon as possible; delaying payment causes harm to them. And hastening to pay it is furthest removed from miserliness and is more likely to be on the safe side. This is what pleases the Lord. It should not be delayed except in cases of necessity, such as delaying it in order to give it to the one who is in more need, or because you do not have cash in hand. It is also permissible to bring it forward and pay zakah before the time when it is due, because the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) made ‘Abbaas pay the zakah of two years in advance. (Narrated by al-Tirmidhi, al-Zakah, 615; classed as hasan by al-Albani in Saheeh Sunan al-Tirmidhi). It may be paid in advance when all the conditions of zakah being obligatory are met.

See al-Mulakhkhas al-Fiqhi by al-Fawzaan, 1/247