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The second question of Fatwa no. 14838:

Q 2: What is the meaning and essence of the word Amanah in Islam? Answer my question! May Allah reward you well!

A: Amanah means what a Mukallaf (person meeting the conditions to be held legally accountable for their actions) is trusted of legal commands and prohibitions as Salah (Prayer), Sawm (Fasting), Zakah, obligatory acts of worship, Hudud (ordained punishments for violating Allah's Laws) and other obligations. Deposits that are given by people as a trust fall under the categories of Amanah. One should bear the responsibility of Amanah in order to get Allah's reward. Being negligent in bearing the responsibility of Amanah exposes the Mukallaf to severe punishment. Allah (may He be Exalted) says, ﴿ Verily, Allâh commands that you should render back the trusts to those to whom they are due ﴾ and ﴿ Truly, We did offer Al-Amânah (the trust or moral responsibility or honesty and all the duties which Allâh has ordained) to the heavens and the earth, and the mountains, but they declined to bear it and were afraid of it (i.e. afraid of Allâh's Torment). But man bore it. Verily, he was unjust (to himself) and ignorant (of its results)... ﴾ verily, Allâh is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful. ﴿

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May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family and Companions!

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