

This book discusses and analyzes an area of contemporary Islamic economics and finance that is relatively under-written, i.e., Islamic Economics Education. It provides a conceptual introduction by experts in Islamic Thought and Education on the urgent need for curriculum reforms in university education that is represented by integration between Islamic heritage (*al-Turath al-Islami*) and modern knowledge/disciplines. In

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economics. *Islamic Economics Education in Southeast Asian Universities* presents the case studies and experiences of selected universities in Malaysia and Indonesia offering Islamic economics programs, reflects critically on these experiences, identifies important issues and challenges, and offers recommendations for the future progress of Islamic economics education.

Editors

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Centre for Islamic Economics, IIUM

In line with the vision and mission of the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), the *Centre for Islamic Economics* (CIE) was established to promote the discipline of Islamic economics at both theoretical and policy levels. One of the focus areas of the centre is Islamic economics education, related specifically to curriculum and human resource issues. For further information about the CIE, please visit www.iium.edu.my/cie.

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The International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT) is a non-profit academic, cultural and educational institution based in Herndon, Virginia. IIIT functions as a think tank dedicated to reform Islamic thought and bridge the intellectual divide between the Islamic tradition and Western civilization. As part of IIIT's continuous effort, this book is published in the hope that it will promote the Islamization of knowledge agenda; particularly in the area of Islamic economics and finance. For further information about the IIIT, please visit www.iiit.org.

ISLAMIC ECONOMICS EDUCATION
IN SOUTHEAST ASIAN UNIVERSITIES

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provided by The In

Edited by
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Centre for Islamic Economics
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA



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Chapter 1

Islamic Economics Education in Southeast Asian Universities: An Introduction

Mohd Nizam Barom & Mohd Mahyudi Mohd Yusop

1. Background

The fountainhead of the topic at hand in this edited book is the intellectual effort that has been branded as “Islamization of Knowledge” (IOK). It is an attempt to project the Islamic worldview not only in the present body of knowledge but also in any research endeavor to produce new knowledge in all disciplines. Consequently, the expected outcome of this IOK agenda would be a complete set of knowledge that is free from secular influences. Thus, knowledge of such quality would definitely allow ready application by Muslim societies in modern times.

Interestingly, in response to the ever increasing clamor for true Islamic solutions to contemporary problems, more and more people are showing a greater sense of conviction to the IOK agenda. This trend can be better observed when one analyzes the Muslims academia. This is perfectly understandable since in essence, IOK aims to be the panacea for the crisis of thought that inhibits Muslim communities from constructively engaging with the world around them. Empowered by the offerings of IOK, Muslims everywhere would be much bolder in being problem-solvers in current political, social and economic issues.