
NOTES FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Alhamdulillah, Volume 9, Number 2, (July - December edition) 2020, has been published on time. As always, in the attempts to maintain the quality, each article that has passed the initial review will have gone through a rigorous review process. In this issue, we publish seven articles out of dozens that have been submitted into our online system. The accepted-articles discuss various topics within the field of Islamic economics and finance.

This issue begins with an intriguing article by Mulia Saputra, Muhammad Arfan, and Neni Zahara on the efficiency of conventional insurance companies comparing to Islamic insurance companies in Indonesia. The data were selected from the period of 2014-2018 when the market share of Islamic insurance company is growing up year by year. This article gives a different insight that using the tested variables the conventional life insurance company is more efficient comparing to the shariah life insurance company. Such a finding will also explain how many more steps it is for the sharia insurance company to get in the level of its conventional insurance counterpart.

In the second row, Budi Iswanto, Munadi, and Suriadi discuss the local wisdom in trading activities of Muslim community in Temajuk, Kalimantan, a sub-district located at the border of Indonesia-Malaysia from an Islamic economic perspective. They reveal that the trading activities undertaken by the Temajuk community have a local value that shows the relation with Islamic values, as well as the value of Islamic teachings. Local wisdom values of Temajuk Malay culture like *Belalle*, *Talangge*, *Sikutuan*, and *Taware* in a trading perspective are found in the indigenous ethnolinguistic Malay Temajuk. Ethnolinguistics is the value applied in Temajuk Malay customary as a form of communication which also has the value of Sharia trading.

The discussion on how to get a pure applicable Islamic financial system is probably an unending topic to be discussed within the field of Islamic economics and finance. Now, Oluwaseun Sulaiman Saidu, have presented, in this issue, a brief description on marshaling a path towards scripting a pristine and practicable Islamic finance. The article focuses on identifying two salient preconditions to achieve the objective. It utilizes a diachronic approach whilst resorting to scriptural reasoning, historical evidence and were analyzed using inductive rationale.

Moreover, Armiadi Musa, provides us with the findings of the accounting treatment for zakat as locally-generated revenue in Baitul Mal Aceh. As a government institution, Baitul Mal is obligated to present financial statements according to Government Accounting Standards (*Standar Akuntansi Pemerintah - SAP*). This article investigated the compliance of Baitul Mal Aceh with the SAP dan Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 109 (*Pernyataan Standar Akuntansi Keuangan - PSAK 109*) in zakat financial reporting issued by the Institute of Indonesia Chartered Accountants (*Ikatan Akuntan Indonesia* –



IAI). The results show that Baitul Mal Aceh has implemented both SAP and PSAK 109 in presenting the financial statements regardless of some items that might not be in accordance with the standards.

Another article that deals with Islamic financial institutions is provided by Nunung Nurlaela and her co-authors. She assesses the fatwas related to financial technology (fintech) that have been implemented within the industry. Her research subjects are; (1) Sharia Cards, (2) Sharia Charge Cards, (3) Transfers and Collections, (4) Payment Services, and (5) Sharia Electronic Money. It is interesting to read how she presents the results for each of these subjects. Although the fatwas have already been implemented, the results provide suggestions for the fatwa creator, the Sharia National Board-Indonesian Council of Ulama (*Dewan Syariah Nasional-Majelis Ulama Indonesia – DSN-MUI*), for future fatwas' adjustments.

In relation to the current pandemic issue, the article by Siti Amaroh presents the analysis on how the capital market reacts when the first patient of Covid-19 in Indonesia was announced. This article analyzes the differences in average abnormal returns of 'go public' companies registered on The Jakarta Islamic Index (JII) 70 both before and after the announcement. Observations were made 9 days before the announcement and 9 days after the announcement. It is interesting to know that the average abnormal returns are negative both before and after the announcement. In other words, market react negatively to the announcement indicated by negative average abnormal return.

The final article offering data on the contribution of halal tourism to community economy. In this issue, Arfiwanda, Sofyan Syahnur, and Eddy Gunawan, measure and analyze the application of the halal concept in tourism attractions of the Tsunami Aceh Museum and the PLTD Floating Ship (*Kapal Apung PLTD*) sites in Banda City, Indonesia. The majority of the respondents perceived that the tourist attractions of the Tsunami Aceh Museum and the PLTD Floating Ship had implemented the halal tourism concept. The study also found that those halal tourism objects have contributed to the enhancement of the community's economic development, indicated by the Keynesian Local Income Multiplier and Ratio Income Multiplier of greater than one.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to those who have been helpful in organizing the day-by-day operation of the journal including our editors, reviewers, and also administrative staffs. We also thank our friends at the Rumah Jurnal UIN Ar-Raniry who has also been supportive in keeping the journal meet the academic standards.

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