

## Moral Values and Financial Markets: Islamic Finance against the Financial Crisis

Milan, 18th - 19th November 2009  
Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei  
Corso Magenta 63

Organised by:  
Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei and Durham University

Morality and ethics are increasingly seen as important ingredients to be included in the future financial system. Aim of this conference is to provide critical perspectives on the financial system(s) by assessing the underlying values, principles and features of Islamic banking and finance with reference to the concept of moral economy, which substantiate its observed resilience against the prevailing financial crisis.

### Wednesday, November 18, 2009

09.00-09.30 *Registration and welcome coffee*

**09.30-10.00** **Welcome address**  
Gianmarco I.P. **Ottaviano**, FEEM and Bocconi University, Italy  
Mehmet **Asutay**, Durham University, UK

**10.00-12.30** **Session 1. Foundations of Islamic finance**  
*Chair:* Daniele **Atzori**, FEEM and Durham University, UK

**An introduction to Islamic moral economy**  
Mehmet **Asutay**, Durham University, UK

**Islamic financing instruments**  
Habib **Ahmed**, Durham University, UK

**Islamic asset management**  
Iqbal **Asaria**, Afkar Consultancy, UK

**An introduction to Takaful and Takaful industry**  
Abulrahman **Tolefat**, Allianz Takaful, Bahrain

**Discussion**

12.30-14:00 *Lunch*

**14.00-15.30** **Session 2. Instruments of Islamic finance at work**

*Chair:* Mehmet **Asutay**, Durham University, UK

**Capital structure, efficiency and governance: a comparison between Islamic and western banks**

Lucia **Dalla Pellegrina**, Bocconi University and University of Bicocca, Italy

**Can an Islamic model of housing finance cooperative elevate the economic status of the underprivileged?**

M. Shahid **Ebrahim**, Nottingham University, UK

**Islamic securitisation: an alternative to avoid subprime crisis**

Nafis **Alam**, Monash University, Malaysia

**Discussion**

15.30-16:00 *Coffee break*

**16.00-17.30** **Session 3. Weathering the storm: Islamic finance and the financial crisis**

*Chair:* Habib **Ahmed**, Durham University, UK

**Islamic economic system as an "embedded" system: economic analysis of fiqh al-Muamalat and its macroeconomic implication to the current financial crisis**

Shinsuke **Nagaoka**, Kyoto University, Japan

**From great depression to the present global financial crisis: lessons from Islamic investment financing**

Seif El-Din **Tag El-Din**, Markfield Institute of Higher Education, UK

**Will the Islamic financial system fall into the financial crisis trap? Some lessons to be learnt**

Mohamed Asmy **Bin Mohd Thas Thaker** and S.M. Ferdous **Azam**, International Islamic University, Malaysia

**Discussion**

*Closure of the first day*

Thursday, November 19, 2009

**09-00-10.30 Session 1. Shari'ah compliance and taxation issues**

*Chair:* Zamir **Iqbal**, World Bank, USA

**Shari'ah compliance in financial intermediation: legal and moral issues**

Zurina **Shafii**, Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia, Malaysia

**Shari'ah screening systems and indexes**

Shehab **Marzban**, IdealRatings, Egypt

**Achieving equal tax treatment for Islamic finance**

Mohammed **Amin**, PricewaterhouseCoopers, UK

**Discussion**

10.30-11.00 *Coffee break*

**11.00-13.00 Panel discussion: Islam in the global economy**

*Moderator:* Mario **Margiocco**, il Sole 24 Ore, Italy

Habib **Ahmed**, Durham University, UK

Federico Maria **Bega**, Promos, Italy

Rony **Hamaui**, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore and Mediofactoring, Italy

Yahya Sergio Yahe **Pallavicini**, Comunità Religiosa Islamica Italiana - COREIS, Italy

Enrico **Vitali**, Strategic Committee, Ministero Affari Esteri, Italy

13.00-14.30 *Lunch*

**14.30-16.00 Session 2. Risk and Shari'ah compliance**

*Chair:* Zurina **Shafii**, Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia, Malaysia

**Managing the risks of risk management: lessons from the current financial crisis**

Zamir **Iqbal**, World Bank, USA

**Questioning Shari'ah compliance as a potential source of financial vulnerability**

Shehab **Marzban**, IdealRatings, Egypt and Mehmet **Asutay**, Durham University, UK

**The credit crisis from an Islamic risk management perspective: how the Shari'ah can provide valuable lessons for capitalists**

Azman **Ismail** and Muhammad Ali Jinnah **Ahmad**, International Shari'ah Research Academy, Malaysia

**Discussion**

16.00-16.30 *Coffee break*

**16.30-18.00**    **Session 3. Critical perspectives of Islamic finance**

*Chair:* M. Shahid **Ebrahim**, Nottingham University, UK

**The ‘religious equivalence’ of profit loss sharing and fixed income modes of financing: legal positivism and the failure of Islamic finance**

Ali-reza **Bhojani**, University of Durham, UK

**The Islamic investment industry: is the current financial crisis a blessing in disguise?**

Wafica Ali **Ghoul**, Lebanese International University, Lebanon

**Why does nobody see the financial system as a whole?**

Dian **Masyita**, Durham University, UK

*Closure of the conference*