

UNDERSTANDING ASSET CONCEPT  
FOR ISLAMIC BANKING AND FINANCE  
PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

Umar Mohammed Idris

IIUM PRESS  
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA



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DEVELOPMENT**

**Umar Muhammed Idris**



IIUM Press

Published by:  
IIUM Press  
International Islamic University Malaysia

First Edition, 2011  
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Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia

Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Umar Mohammed Idris: Understanding Assets Concepts for Islamic  
Banking and Finance Product Development  
Bibliography p.  
Includes Index

ISBN: 978-967-418-060-7

Member of Majlis Penerbitan Ilmiah Malaysia – MAPIM  
(Malaysian Scholarly Publishing Council)

Printed by :  
**IIUM PRINTING SDN. BHD.**  
No. 1, Jalan Industri Batu Caves 1/3  
Taman Perindustrian Batu Caves  
Batu Caves Centre Point  
68100 Batu Caves  
Selangor Darul Ehsan

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# Chapter Three

*Umar Mohammed Idris & Aznan Hasan*

## Classification of Wealth in Islamic Financial System

### 3.1 Introduction

Wealth has been termed and classified by scholars into assets and benefits, money as subject, homogeneous and non-homogeneous, durable and perishable wealth. The researcher in his classification adopted the view of those that termed wealth as objects and benefits. Nonetheless, it can be modified based on the derivation of wealth, its type, and its usage. An Illustration on these categories will be discussed in the following sections on assets, and benefits.

### 3.2 Assets

#### 3.2.1 Literary Meaning of Assets

The Arabic term of Asset is – A’ayn- and it is defined as *“The present wealth, and it was said “A’ayn Ghair Dain” which means cash/ property is not debt, rather it is the Dinar as Abi Al Miqdad meant in his poem that the person has eighty Dinars. A’ayn also is gold in general. Sybawayh – The famous grammarian- mentioned how they described a man with debt. Al Azhri also mentioned that Ala’yn is the dinar”*.<sup>1</sup> Moreover, conventionally, money – which is an asset - is defined as *“Property considered with reference to its pecuniary value”*<sup>2</sup>

#### 3.2.2 Assets in Islamic Jurisprudence

A’ayn (Asset) is a singular noun while the plural is A’ayan (Assets). The scholars are unanimous on the definition of asset, which is not different from its literal definition. However, scholars use the term