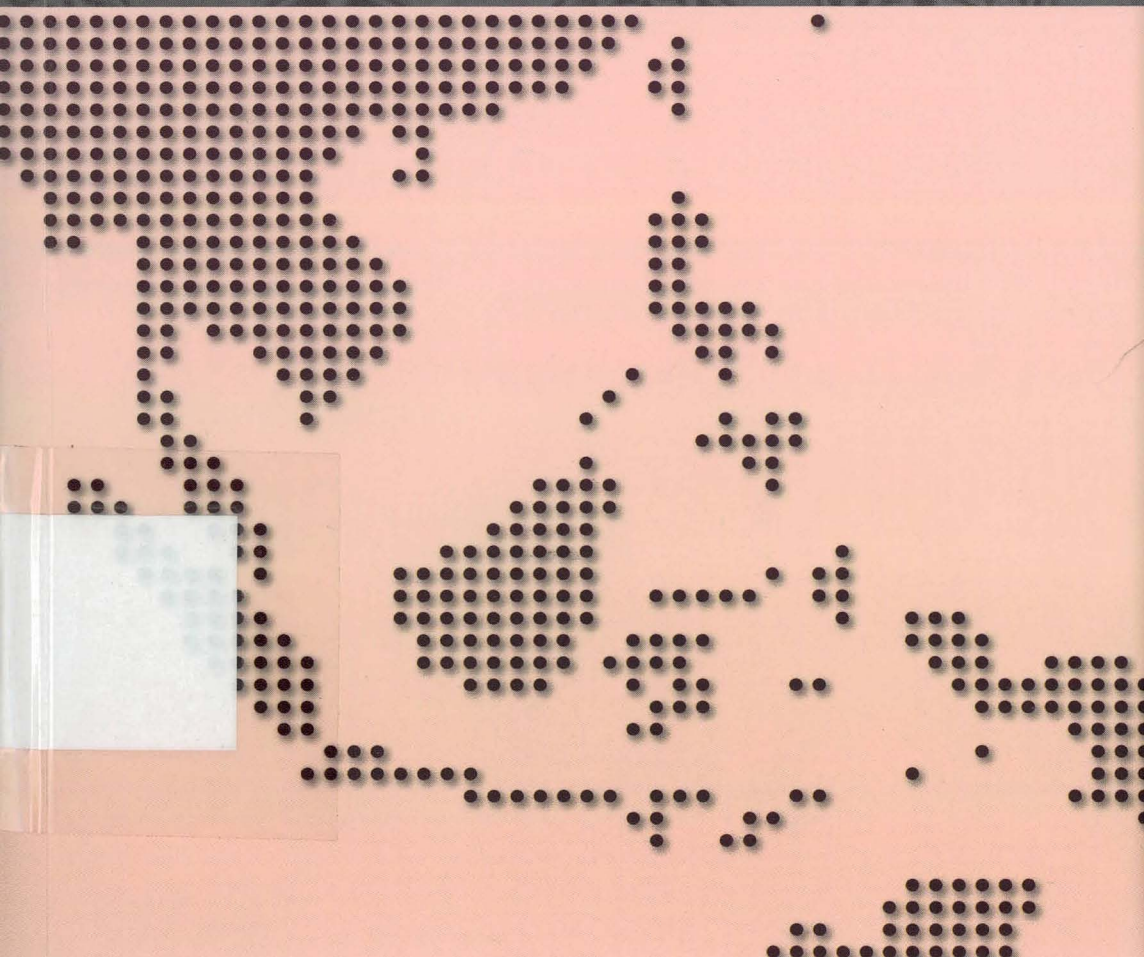


ISLAMIC ECONOMICS EDUCATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIAN UNIVERSITIES

Edited by
Mohd Nizam Barom, Mohd Mahyudi Mohd Yusop,
Mohamed Aslam Haneef & Mustafa Omar Mohammed



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Centre for Islamic Economics
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA



INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ISLAMIC THOUGHT

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Chapter 2

Islamization of Human Knowledge

Mohd Kamal Hassan

1. The Importance and Role of Human Knowledge in the Worldview of Islam

It is clear from a comprehensive study of the Qur'an that it emphasizes the special position of human beings as Allah's most honored creation who are destined to construct a holistic civilization, by managing and developing the world's resources based on the guidance and knowledge from Divine revelation (*al-wahy al-Ilahi*) as well as the exertions of the human intellect (*al-'aql al-insani*) and will. While reaffirming the supremacy of Divine revelation, the Qur'an teaches that the sound human intellect has been entrusted by Divine revelation to play crucial roles in the confirmation of revealed truths and the development of all fields of human knowledge necessary for effective and wholesome human vicegerency on earth. Thus, there should not be any conflict between Divine revelation and sound human reason.

The Islamic postulate that human beings have to seek and pursue knowledge within the epistemology and ethic of *Tawhid* (affirmation of the uncompromising oneness of Allah) and servitude (*'ubudiyah*) to Allah (S.W.T.) can be traced back to the very beginning of the descent of Divine revelation to Prophet Muhammad (S.A.A.S) – "*Iqra' bi-ismi Rabbika alladhi khalaq...*" (Q. 96:1-5). Knowledge, being a very special gift and trust bestowed by the Creator, Master, Ruler and