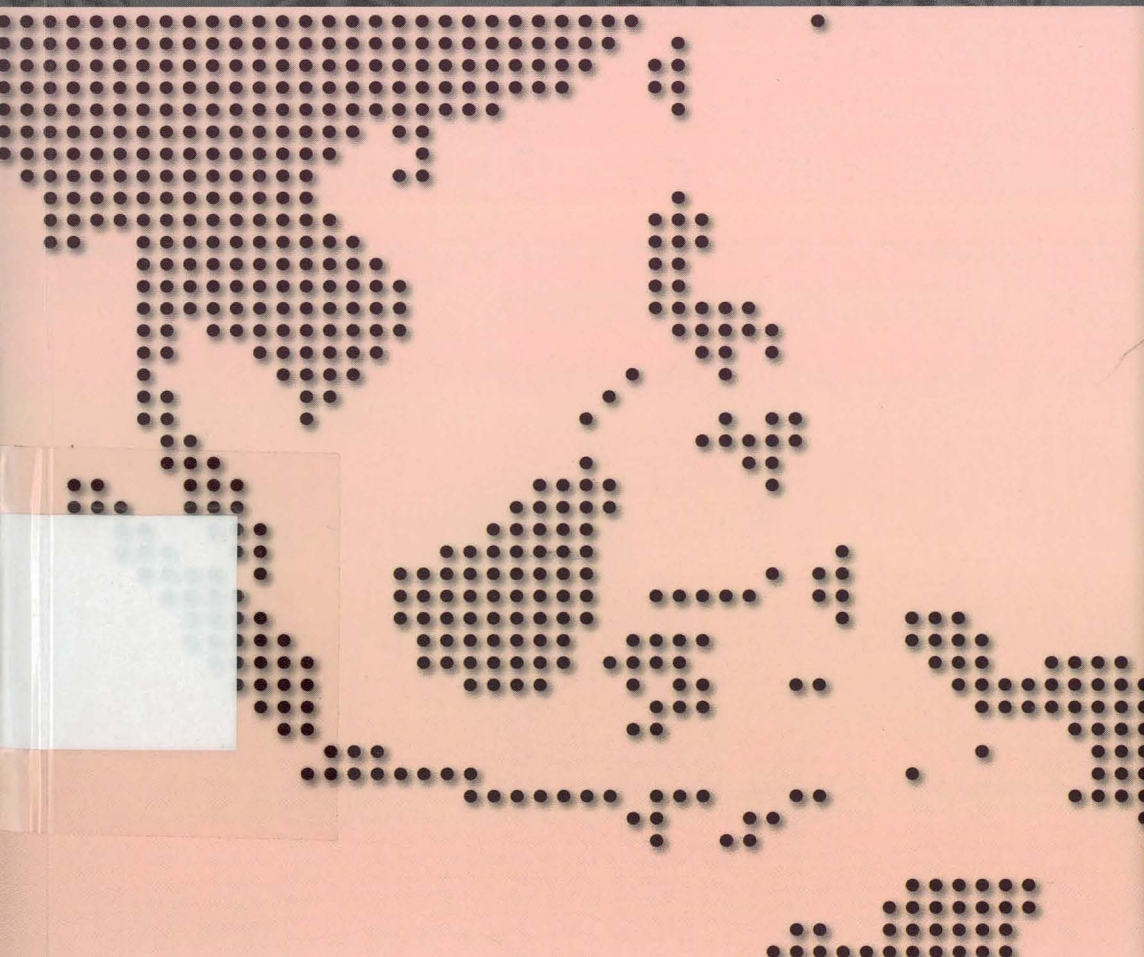


ISLAMIC ECONOMICS EDUCATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIAN UNIVERSITIES

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 4

Integrating Al-Turath al-Islami to Modern University Curriculum: Issues and the Need for a Benchmark

Mustafa Omar Mohammed

1. Introduction

Generally speaking, *al-Turath al-Islami* or Islamic heritage or *al-turath* in short refers to all the legacies left behind by Muslim individuals and societies throughout Islamic history (Sultan, 1991; Muhammad, 2004). Such legacies can be physical, for instance arts, buildings and they can be abstract such as intellectual properties – on which this chapter will focus. *Al-turath* constitutes an important reference point for the Ummah. The two primary sources of *al-turath* are the Quran and the Sunnah. Both connect the Muslim Ummah to their origin and past, provide them with a sense of identity and belongingness and, give them guidance on how to conduct their lives. Both sources also define and explain the relationships of the members of the Ummah with their creator, with one another and with their environment. In short, *al-turath* is itself the foundation of the Ummah's existence, direction, development and prosperity. The success of the Muslim Ummah throughout history has primarily depended on them being steadfast in adhering firmly to and integrating the lessons from *al-turath* in its letter and spirit to their day to day affairs. This of course is in line with their