



4TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
ISLAMIC BANKING & FINANCE
(ICIBF 2020) NOVEMBER 4&5 2020

Impact of COVID-19 outbreak on Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) & way forward for Islamic Financial Institutions

CALL FOR PAPERS



INTRODUCTION

The outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has severely affected national and global economies. Various business/enterprises are facing a variety of problems such as a decrease in demand, supply chain disruptions, cancellation of export orders, raw material shortage, and transportation disruptions, among others. Nevertheless, it is quite clear that businesses/enterprises around the globe are experiencing the significant impact of COVID-19 outbreak on their businesses. We argue that major victims of COVID-19 outbreak are the micro, small & medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) because MSMEs, in comparison to large enterprises, usually do not possess sufficient resources, especially financial and managerial, and are not prepared for such disruptions likely to go longer than expected.

According to a recent report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) (UNCTAD, 2020a), Pakistan would be hardest-hit by the global pandemic of COVID-19. This Conference aims to assess the impact of COVID-19 outbreak on these businesses and provide policy recommendations to help MSMEs in reducing business losses and survive through the crisis.

It is argued that, Islamic banks are unable to cater to the micro-entrepreneurs, marginalized clients including small and landless farmers, and hence unable to contribute towards the socioeconomic wellbeing of the society.

Therefore, the time has now come for the Islamic banks in Pakistan to ponder upon the wellbeing of the marginalized people of the society and to help them keep away from Riba which is prohibited in the Holy book of glorious Quran by offering the Islamic financial products through existing Islamic banks and establishing new Islamic Micro financing banks for Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) that will contribute towards the objective of poverty alleviation, generate employment opportunities and enhance economic growth in the country through inclusive Islamic financial products.

So, with this perspective and with an objective to enhance research opportunities in general, and to reduce the gap between academia and industry in particular, the Institute of Business Management (IoBM) is going to organize the 4th (Virtual) International Conference on Islamic Banking and Finance (ICIBF-2020).

CALL FOR PAPERS

Theme of the submitted papers include but not limited to the following:

- Impact of COVID-19 outbreak on global economy & MSMEs and way forward to Islamic Finance
- Impact of COVID-19 on Pakistani economy and MSMEs & Role of Islamic Financial Institutions
- Role of regulatory organizations i.e. SBP, SECP etc. in Post-COVID 2019
- Roadmap to providing financial assistance and other subsidies through Government & non-banking Financial Institutions for MSMEs
- Launching new Islamic financial products to providing financing opportunities to the unbanked population of the country through Islamic Banking sector
- Use of social instruments of Islamic finance by Government & Islamic Financial Institutions to help the MSMEs in Post-COVID-19
- Conversion and/or transformation of existing Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) into Islamic micro and medium enterprises in Pakistan
- Probing the prospective stress testing techniques and liquidity profile for the products of Islamic micro and medium enterprises.
- Economic and industry risks associated with launching Islamic financial products for MSMEs in Pakistan
- Regulatory framework and environment for Islamic micro, small and medium financing banks in Pakistan.
- Providing financing opportunities to unbanked population of the country in the field of Islamic micro, small and medium financing banks.
- Exploring the risks associated with establishing and managing Islamic micro, small and medium financing banks.

- Analyzing capital base and risk weighted assets for Islamic micro, small and medium financing banks.
- Management's understanding, appraisal mechanism and internal controls for Islamic micro, small and medium financing banks.
- Probing the prospective stress testing techniques and liquidity profile for the products of Islamic micro, small and medium financing banks.
- The need for technical staff and expertise for managing Islamic micro, small and medium financing banks.
- Management approach to subsidize profits to serve marginalized population of the country by establishing Islamic micro, small and medium financing banks.
- Economic and industry risks associated with initiating Islamic micro, small and medium financing banks.
- Potential of Islamic microfinance for social & economic development.

TYPES OF PAPERS

- **Research Papers**
Maximum 5000 words including abstracts, tables, diagrams, appendices.
- **Panel Proposals**
A paper where the research is being undertaken, and the author aims to fetch significant feedback on his working paper from the conference participants. This may also include student's research proposal. The proposal word limit should range within 500 to 2000 words.
- **Practitioners Notes**
Practitioners from Islamic Financial Industry are encouraged to share their view and observation on the set theme of this conference. This should range between 1000 to 2000 words.
- **Scholarly Shari'ah Paper in Urdu**
Students of Shari'ah and Fiqh and Ulema, are welcomed to publish their Fiqh and Shari'ah Related work on Islamic Economics and Finance.

AUTHORS' GUIDELINES

The authors must adhere to the following guidelines for the submission of their work:

- Please submit your extended abstract of approximately 1,500 words via email as MS-WORD file
- A cover page should indicate the title of the paper, the name(s) of the author(s), and their affiliation and the corresponding author.
- The main body of the document should provide the extended abstract.

PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITY

All accepted papers with author registration, presentation at the conference will be published in the Proceeding of the conference subject to approval of conference committee. Selected papers will be recommended for publication in the: Pakistan Business Review (PBR) (ISSN 1561-8706) - PBR is Indexed and Abstracted by ECONLIT, Journal of Economic Literature, Indexed by EBSCO, USA, HEC Approved "X" Category Journal.

PAPER'S PROPOSALS MAY BE SENT TO:

Dr. Imam Uddin (imamuddin@iobm.edu.pk) Cell # +92 3008203656
Venue: Institute of Business Management, Korangi Creek Road, Karachi

ORGANIZING INSTITUTION

Institute of Business Management (IoBM) provides management education based on cutting edge research and comprehensive training. Being number one (1) leading Business School in the country, IoBM broadens its educational focus in response to new trends in the developing field of management. It is for the same reason that IoBM is characterized by its vibrant research environment, with three HEC recognized & peer-reviewed research journals, superior HEC overall academic rating and tangible research contribution. Recognizing the potential of Islamic Finance towards the development and financial inclusion in Pakistan, Institute of Business Management (IoBM) aspires to be at the forefront, acting as a Center of research excellence for Islamic Finance and has an active research cluster established for Islamic Economics and finance. The overall strategy of IoBM is designed on threefold orientations namely academia, research and industry efforts to boost-up Islamic finance and financial inclusion in the country.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

- Prof. Dr. Syed Irfan Hyder, Rector, IoBM
- Ms. Tazeen Arsalan, HoD Department of Accounting & Finance, IoBM
- Dr. Imam Uddin, Associate Professor Department of Accounting & Finance, IoBM
- Dr. Iqbal Akhtar, Florida International University-USA
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- Dr. Muhammad Zubair Ashraf Usmani, Member Shariah Committee, SBP
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- Mr. Mehboob Moosa, Assistant Professor Accounting & Finance, IoBM
- Mr. Nayeem ul Hasan Ansari, Assistant Professor Accounting & Finance, IoBM
- Dr. Muhammad Ali, Assistant Professor-Accounting & Finance, IoBM

IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract Deadline: 05th October, 2020

Abstract Acceptance Notification: 10th October, 2020

Full Paper Deadline: 30th October, 2020

Date of Conference: 4th & 5th November, 2020

For inquiries, please contact:
Dr. Imam Uddin

Conference Convener & Associate Professor, Accounting & Finance
Institute of Business Management
UAN 111 -002 – 004, FAX: +(92-21) 35090968, Email: icibf@iobm.edu.pk