

Contributors

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Ayob, Meor Amri is Chief Executive Officer of Bond Pricing Agency, Malaysia. He has progressively developed the agency's core business to become the principal source of valuation and data reference on the Malaysian *sukuk* and bond markets. He holds an MBA with specialization in Finance from the International Islamic University, Malaysia and a BSc degree in Actuarial Science from the University of Kent, Canterbury, UK. He has written articles for various trade journals on credit as well as valuation issues. He is viewed as a subject matter expert on pricing and has been engaged by institutions including regulators to conduct lectures

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Bacha, Obiyathulla Ismath, DBA, is Professor at the International Centre for Education in Islamic Finance (INCEIF) University, Malaysia, and holds a Doctorate from Boston University (BU), where he gained a teaching award when working as assistant professor. He holds an MBA and MA in Economics from BU after completing his first degree at the University Sains Malaysia. His industry experience was obtained at Maybank. His current research interests are in international finance, derivatives and Islamic finance. He has published in local and international journals and won several research grants. Bacha's book on financial derivatives, *Financial Derivatives, Markets and Applications in Malaysia* (third edition, 2012), is currently used as a textbook in Malaysian universities. His work on the Nikkei Stock Index Futures contracts won the Chicago Mercantile Exchange Competitive Research Award. He is a trainer for institutions such as the Securities Commission, Permodalan Nasional, the Employees Provident Fund and the Bank Negara Malaysia. He is a member of Bursa Malaysia Panel on Derivatives. He was elected President of the Malaysian Finance Association in 2013.

Hasan, Zubair, PhD, is Professor at the International Centre for Education in Islamic Finance (INCEIF) University, Malaysia. He holds a PhD from the University of Bombay, and has been commissioned by a leading publisher to author two textbooks on microeconomics and macroeconomics in Asia. He worked at the International Islamic University for a considerable period of time before moving to his current position. Hasan has published widely in scholarly journals and presented novel ideas on Islamic finance, which he teaches at his university.

Iqbal, Munawar, PhD, is Professor at the Islamic Economics Institute, King Abdul Aziz University, Saudi Arabia. His PhD is from Simon Fraser University, Canada. He is a researcher, speaker and trainer in Islamic banking and finance. His 30-year career has seen him in top management positions while teaching, researching and engaging in training activities. He was Foundation Professor and Dean at the International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI) in 1984. As Chief of Research at the Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI) of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) Group, Iqbal saw its growth over several years before retiring. He has published 15 books and 30 papers on Islamic finance. He was the founding editor of *Review of Islamic Economics* and *Islamic Economic Studies*, a leading journal at the IDB. He lectures and conducts training in

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Leng, Yeah Kim, PhD, is the Group Chief Economist of RAM Holdings, Malaysia's first credit and bond rating agency and also the first Islamic *sukuk* rater. He took charge of RAM Consultancy Services, the advisory services arm, on business, economics and industry. As Managing Director for over six years and Chief Economist of the subsidiary company, Leng was involved in numerous consultancy and research projects for both the private and public sectors, including regional and national economic studies, sectoral and industry research projects and strategic advisory services for several large Malaysian corporations. Before joining RAM, he worked as a senior analyst at the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia on a number of research projects on national economic policies. Prior to joining ISIS and after postgraduate studies in Hawaii, he worked for seven years for the Forestry Department Malaysia

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Mirakhor, Abbas, PhD, has been a visiting faculty member teaching Islamic finance at the International Centre for Education in Islamic Finance (INCEIF) University, Malaysia, since 2010 and is the first holder of the position Chair in Islamic Finance. He holds a PhD from Kansas State University. He taught at various universities during 1968–84 before joining the International Monetary Fund (IMF), from which he retired in 2008. His research interests include conventional and Islamic economics and finance. He has published books on Islamic finance such as *An Introduction to Islamic Finance: Theory and Practice* with Z. Iqbal. He gives regular speeches and appears in mass media conversations in Malaysia. His research aims to connect the theory of moral philosophy with mainstream economics to find a common ground between Islamic finance and classic economic thought.

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Skully, Michael T. holds the Chair in Banking at Monash University. He joined the School of Banking and Finance, University of New South Wales in 1992 as Associate Professor. He worked for a US investment bank prior to his move to Australia. He holds a Masters degree in Economics from the University of Colorado. His research and teaching is mainly in the area of financial institutions in Australia and the Asia Pacific

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Zaman, Raquib, PhD, is the Charles A. Dana Professor of Finance and International Business, Ithaca College, New York, where he served as Dean for a long period. He holds a PhD from Cornell University. He has published on mainstream finance including papers in economics journals such as *North American Review of Economics and Finance*, *American Business Review* among others. Zaman has published papers on Islamic finance in leading journals such as the *American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences*. His views are based on interpretations of principles in the Qur'an, and the Islamic jurisprudence over long historical times. He has brought a fresh perspective on the issue of usury and the role played by banks that have increasingly ignored the role of ethics in the design and operations of banking.