

ECONOMIC PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES OF AMIR AL-MU'MININ MUHAMMAD BELLO

LEGACIES AND RELEVANCE TO NIGERIAN ECONOMIC LIFE

This book on Economic Thoughts and Policies of Amir al-Mu'minin Muhammad Bello investigates Bello's major intellectual and administrative contributions to economic development of the Sokoto Caliphate. The book outlines some thoughts and policies he developed and implemented in the Caliphate which were responsible for rapid socio-economic development of the Caliphate. It reveals how best the thoughts and policies can be applied in Nigeria today with a view to providing an alternative economic system for a better human society. The book carries out extensive study and analysis of the primary works written by Bello and other Jihad leaders as well as later works such as travel diaries of the Western explorers and indigenous scholars. The book discovers that Amir al-Mu'minin Bello adopted a classical Muslim economic development model and aligned it with local economic realities and features to achieve his overall economic goals for the new Caliphate. Bello made emphases Islamic moral provisions in economic pursuits and good fiscal policies and strategies in consonance with Shari'ah guidelines. The book discovers that revenue generation and expenditure formula was Shari'ah compliant in the Caliphate under Bello. It outlines and analyzes some impacts of Bello's approaches to poverty alleviation, unemployment, agricultural development, regulation of trade, commerce and industry as well as new labor policy. The book also discovers that Qualities of trust, hard work, sincerity and fulfillment of promise were emphasized by Bello while fraud, deceit, laziness, corruption of all kinds and all behaviors that militate against economic development were condemned and uprooted.

The book reveals that Bello appreciated the abundant human and material resources that were available at his disposal to ginger the populace to harness them maximally. Training of manpower, provision of basic infrastructures needed for economic activities to flourish, establishment of new ribat as defense frontiers and economic centers as well as introduction of new techniques had impacted significantly in Bello's economic development strategy. The book discovers that the major difference between current Nigerian economic system and that of the Sokoto Caliphate was attitudinal problems in the former. The book, finally, recommends that there is need for a proper understanding of our past in order to correct our present and plan for our future. Attitudinal change is paramount for Nigeria to achieve meaningful economic development that can give her competitive advantage among other nations. Adoption and improvement on practical measures from Bello's legacies such as prudent management of public funds, emphasis on skills and manpower training, creating enabling economic environment as well as straightening Islamic economic institutions are also recommended.

It is hoped that readers will find the book relevant in many areas related to Islamic Economic thought and system. It deals specifically with topics related to Islamic economic thought, wealth creation and distribution in Islam, Islamic economic development model, fiscal policy and public finance in Islam, role of a state in economic regulation, corruption and riba and their impacts on an economy, land and labor policy in the Sokoto Caliphate, general history of the Sokoto caliphate, etc.

Brief Biography of the Author



Hamza Abubakar Hussaini was born in Sabon Garin Tulu village in Lame District, Toro Local Government Area of Bauchi State, Nigeria. He received his early Qur'anic and other aspects of Islamic Education from his father Malam Abubakar Hussaini (Mall. Garba, a popular Qur'anic scholar in the locality) as well as other Muslim scholars in the locality. After completing his six year primary education in his village, he was enrolled in School for Higher Islamic Studies (SHIS), Sarkin Mangu, in Jos Plateau State for his secondary education. Upon completion of his Senior School Certificate in 1999, he joined the University of Jos where he graduated with a B.A. Degree in Islamic Studies in 2005. The author proceeded to Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto for his Master Degree (M.A.) in Islamic Studies in the year 2009 and obtained PhD in Islamic Studies from Bayero University, Kano Nigeria in the year 2020.

He started his working career as an Assistant Lecturer with A.D. Rufa'i College for Legal and Islamic Studies, Misau in Bauchi State in the year 2006 and rose through the rank to Lecturer II in the year 2012. He transferred his services to the Federal University, Kashere, Gombe State in the year 2013. He is currently a Senior Lecturer of Islamic Studies in the University. He also has extra-curricular engagements within and outside the University. He served as Islamic Online University (IOU) Representative in Bauchi from 2016 to 2018. He is a member of various Islamic Da'wah groups as he engages himself in Ta'lim activities. His areas of research interest include; Islamic Texts, Islamic Jurisprudence, Islamic Economic System and Muslim Development. He has published many researched-based papers in these areas in different scholarly journals within and outside Nigeria. The author is happily married with children.