



This bimonthly newsletter presents the most recent developments in the fields of Islamic epistemology and educational curriculum reform summarized from books, journals, websites, interviews, and academic proceedings (conferences, seminars, and workshops). We also accept original contributions of less than 500 words.

Social Sustainability from an Islamic Perspective

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Socially, human beings are created in nature that consist of both male and female, tribes, and nations to get to know each other. But in Islam, the best among the pious



of Allah's creatures is the most faithful person.

This is the principle of the Islamic social construct that involves human relationship with the environment. Socially, Islam develops the personality gradually from an Muslim individual is embodied in the teaching of Islamic personal law (فقه العبادات) which involves the family institutions under the purview of Islamic family law (الأنكحة), the other one is what we call Islamic commercial laws (فقه المعاملات) which govern human economic interactions. Islam prescribes punishment for wrongdoings committed by individuals or families under the purview of Islamic criminal law, which means that Islam educates its followers spiritually in practice. This relates to faith where in practice and the term practice here means that Muslims are governed by five tenets of Islam which start with the pronouncement of the Islamic pledge (shahadah), the five times prayers, Charity, fasting, and pilgrimage.

In addition, Islam propagates the concept of

Valedictory Address on Dr. Nejatullah Siddiqi - 1

Presented at the 2-day International Conference on 'Contributions of Prof M. Nejatullah Siddiqi in Islamic Economics' on April 27-28, 2024, by Professor Omar Hasan Kasule MB ChB (MUK), MPH (Harvard), DrPH (Harvard). Chairman of the Research Ethics Committee at King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Hospital Riyadh.

Dr. Nejatullah as an Imaam of Islamic Economics:

7t is a pleasure to talk in this forum about a great scholar in Islamic economics Dr Nejatullah Siddiq. Born in 1931 and educated at the premier Aligarh Muslim University in India which is responsible for producing many Muslim scholars and



professionals serving worldwide. He wrote many books and articles and taught many economists Muslim and non-Muslim. He deserves the title of *Imaam* in Islamic economics because like the *Imaams* of the *fiqh*, hadith, and tafsir disciplines he taught and trained many students who have gone on to expand and develop his ideas, taught, and spread them and eventually put them in practice by building economic institutions and programs based on those ideas. We can therefore recognize the Nejatullah School of Islamic Economics as a distinct school that is still developing and growing.

Writings of Imaam Nejatullah

The beginnings of the Najatullah school can be traced to his first Urdu book in the 1960s that planted the seed of banking and investment based on profit and loss sharing (PLS) as an alternative to *riba*-based transactions. The book was translated and reprinted ted in 1973, 1980, and 1983 and has had a great impact. Dr Nejatullah went on to write many other books and papers. According to my incomplete listing, *Imaam* Nejatullah has written 17 books and 44 papers/presentations. Most of his work was based on applications of *fiqh al mu'amalat* to contemporary economic problems but he also called for more research on the basic themes that he presented in his writings and called for a fresh and new look at the Qur'an and *sunnat* as sources of knowledge

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work, he was a pioneer in integrating ilm nagli you. If you don't see Him, He sees you. The fact is that (transmitted knowledge) and ilm aqli (rational knowledge) in the field of economics. * To be continued...

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including the *maqasidi ijtihad*. In his education and benevolence (إحسان) to do good deeds as if Allah sees human beings are held accountable before Allah for their evil deeds. This Islamic teaching prevents Muslims from any form of corruption, and that whatever wealth they possess is for Allah only that they are trustees (خليفة).

> In conclusion, sustainable development relates to the three major social, economic, and environmental elements. So, Muslims are strictly directed to protect the three aspects for the welfare of humanity and that they are responsible for their deeds before Allah. So, we are bound to care for Allah's creatures to lead a decent life on earth.

References:

- 1. Abedi-Sarvestabi, Towards Islamic Perspective
- 2. Odeh, Al- Jayyousi. Islamic Values and Rural Sustainable, International Platform, 2009

Figh Al-Ta'ayush Malaysia: in **Issues and Challenges**



