Handbook of Research on Islamic Business Ethics

Research Handbooks in Business and Management series

Edited by Abbas J. Ali, Distinguished University Professor and Professor of Management, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, US

The complex relationship between society and business is vividly captured by ethical standards and obligations. This is especially pertinent in the Islamic world, where religion plays a key role in both social and commercial interactions. Many people see the presence or absence of ethical commitments as an indicator of whether business actors uphold their social responsibilities, and there is an increasing recognition of the significance of ethical value for business. This Handbook explores the interweaving relationship between Islamic business ethics and the market, and examines the critical role that ethics can play in ensuring that business thrives. By offering theoretical perspectives on research it goes beyond the conventional treatment of Islamic ethics, and asks what is important for the various market and social actors in the business world to behave in a morally responsible manner.

'This book is a collection of thought provoking and timely readings on a topic of increasing importance; business ethics in Islam. The chapters provide an excellent review and integration of diverse literature on Islamic business ethics within contemporary frameworks. The chapters are also an excellent source for ideas on future research projects. I would highly recommend this book for students of not only business morality and ethics, but also for those interested in comparative and cross-cultural management.'

– Ahmed Amin Mohamed, German University in Cairo, Egypt

'This landmark book of readings on the subject of Islamic Business Ethics edited by Professor Abbas Ali is a true gem. Unlike most volumes that are edited, this Handbook reads like a truly integrated wholeness of symmetry. The topics covered including those of individual rights, marketing ethics, and financial conduct are most germane in helping to understand the international business arena. Professor Ali's striking introduction to the topic – as well as the reflections of the top scholars regarding the topic – make this book superb. I highly recommend this treatise to executives and scholars and as required reading in Business Ethics courses in both undergraduate and graduate Schools of Business.'

– Douglas M. McCabe, Georgetown University, US

'An intriguing journey into an important subject that is often neglected in the Muslim World. This collection represents a perspective on business ethics necessary for scholars and Muslim researchers to familiarize themselves with original Islamic precepts in the marketplace. Indeed, this Handbook is a must read and it is needed in a world where greed and material gains have increasingly become a motivational factor.'

– Abdulrahman Al-Aali, King Saud University, Saudi Arabia

'When business ethics began its emergence as legitimate field of study in the late 1970s a primary goal was to confront the over-employed moral argument of utilitarianism – namely, the idea that an action is right if it produces the greatest amount of good for the greatest number of people. Utilitarianism needed confronting because the idea of “good” had been subverted to mean, “profit” for corporate stockholders. Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Abbas Ali and his co-contributors to Handbook of Research on Islamic Business Ethics we now have a fresh and compelling set of new perspectives. Peace through commerce might be a fanciful goal, but thank you Professor Ali, for giving us a new reason to keep trying.'

– Paul M. Swiercz, The George Washington University, US