

Name of the Scholar: SAJID PP
Name of the Supervisor: Dr Sameena Hameed
Centre: India Arab Cultural Centre
Title of the Study: Role of Islamic Microfinance in Bahrain Since 2000

ABSTRACT

Keywords: Participatory Finance, *Shari'a*-compliance, Inclusive Growth, Profit and Loss Sharing, Interest- free system.

The study basically deals with theory of Islamic economics and banking, Islamic banking in the Gulf and Islamic microfinance in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Chapter One of the thesis elaborates on literature review under four different themes, objectives of the study, conceptual framework, research design, methodology, hypotheses, research questions, limitations of the study and the chapter scheme.

Chapter 2 titled 'Islamic Economics, Banking and Microfinance: Theoretical Perspectives' examines the different theoretical perspectives of Islamic economics, banking and microfinance. It considers the concept of welfare and the role of market and state in Islamic economic order. It makes a comparative analysis of Islamic economics, socialism and capitalism emphasising on the notion of inclusive growth. The chapter also discusses the evolution of Islamic banking and finance and the different Islamic financial instruments used by the modern Islamic banks. The importance of Islamic microfinance as a tool of poverty alleviation, different types of microfinance and the challenges facing Islamic microfinance are also being analysed in the chapter.

Chapter 3 on 'Islamic Banking in the Gulf' discusses the evolution, regulatory and research organizations and *Shari'a* governance system of the Islamic Banks in the Gulf. It also analyses the global share of the GCC in the total Islamic banking assets and the major driving factors which facilitated the growth of Islamic banking in the region. The chapter also considers the deposit facilities, modes of financing loans and other services provided by the Islamic Banks in the Gulf. It also makes a sample study of 10 Islamic Banks from the region for analysing their economic performance. A comparative analysis of Islamic versus conventional banks in the Gulf region is also included. The chapter also analyses the major challenges facing the industry and the role Islamic microfinance in the Gulf.

Chapter 4 on the 'Role of Islamic Microfinance in Bahrain' discusses the evolution of Islamic microfinance and the establishment of the Family Bank in Bahrain. It analyses the socio-economic status of the people in Bahrain. Different aspects of the Family Bank like financial services, number of beneficiaries, total number of male and female beneficiaries, the quality of the services, the total amount of loans disbursed, average amount of a single loan, loan repayment and sectoral distribution of the micro-credit of the Family Bank in the six years between 2010 and 2016 are also analysed in the chapter. The chapter also looks into different Islamic financing instruments used by the bank for lending to the poor customers. The chapter tries to see the changes in broad socio economic indicators during the functioning of the Family Bank.

Chapter 5 discusses the findings and conclusions of the study