SPEAKER BIOS

Prof. Habib Ahmed

*Sharia Chair in Islamic Law & Finance, Durham University Business School*

Before joining Durham University as the Sharjah Chair, Prof. Habib Ahmed was Manager, Research and Development, Islamic Banking Development Group, The National Commercial Bank (NCB), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He also worked at Islamic Research & Training Institute of the Islamic Development Bank Group, Saudi Arabia and taught at the University of Connecticut, USA, National University of Singapore, and University of Bahrain. He has been a member of the Capital Adequacy Working Group of Islamic Financial Services Board (IFSB) which is responsible for, among others, setting standards and guidelines for Islamic banks and financial institutions.

Prof. Hossein Askari

*Iran Professor of International Finance, George Washington University*

Prof. Hossein Askari is Iran Professor of International Business and International Affairs at the George Washington University. He served for two and a half years on the Executive Board of the IMF and was Special Advisor to the Minister of Finance of Saudi Arabia; during the mid-1980s he was director of the team that developed the first comprehensive domestic, regional and international energy models and plan for Saudi Arabia. He has written extensively on economic and human development in the Middle East, conflicts and wars in the Persian Gulf, Islamic economics and finance, social and economic justice in Islam, international trade and finance, agricultural economics, oil economics and on economic sanctions, including twenty-seven books, over one hundred refereed journal articles and numerous chapters in books and magazine web-based articles. He received his Ph.D. in Economics from MIT.

Prof. Thorsten Beck

*Professor of Banking and Finance, Cass Business School, London*

Thorsten Beck is professor of banking and finance at Cass Business School in London. He is also a research fellow of the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) and the CESifo. He was professor of economics from 2008 to 2014 at Tilburg University and the founding chair of the European Banking Center from 2008 to 2013. Previously, he worked in the research department of the World Bank and has also worked as consultant for – among others - the IMF, the European Commission, and the German Development Corporation. His research, academic publications and operational work have focused on two major questions: What is the relationship between finance and economic
development? What policies are needed to build a sound and effective financial system? In addition to numerous academic publications in leading economics and finance journals, he has co-authored several policy reports on access to finance, financial systems in Africa and cross-border banking. His country experience, both in operational and research work, includes Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Colombia, Egypt, Mexico, Russia and several countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. He holds a PhD from the University of Virginia and an MA from the University of Tübingen in Germany.

Dr. Muhammed Umer Chapra

Research Advisor, Islamic Research and Training Institute of the Islamic Development Bank

Dr. M. Umer Chapra is Research Advisor at the Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI) of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), Jeddah. Prior to this position, he worked at the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA), Riyadh, for nearly 35 years, retiring as Senior Economic Advisor. He has also taught as Assistant and Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Wisconsin (Platteville) and the University of Kentucky, Lexington; as Senior Economist and Associate Editor of the Pakistan Development Review at the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics; and as Reader (Associate Professor) at the Central Institute of Islamic Research (Pakistan). He has authored 15 books and monographs, 95 papers and 15 book reviews. Some of his books, monographs and papers have been translated into a number of languages, including Arabic, Bangla, French, Indonesian, Japanese, Malay, Persian, Polish, Spanish, Turkish and Urdu. An accomplished scholar of Islamic economics, Chapra made seminal contributions to Islamic economics and finance over the past several decades. He published around 15 books and monographs and more than 90 articles and book reviews. One of his groundbreaking contributions is his book Towards a Just Monetary System (1985). In 2002, he published The Future of Economics: An Islamic Perspective followed in 2005 by Objectives of Islamic Economic Order: An Introduction in Economics and Islamic Financing both of which have also been well received.

Prof. Dr. Murat Cizakca

Professor of Islamic Finance and Economic History, INCEIF

Prof. Dr. Murat Çizakça is the Professor of Islamic Finance and Economic History at INCEIF in Kuala Lumpur, since 2007. He is presently also an adjunct Professor of Islamic Finance at the Luxembourg School of Finance. Mr. Çizakça received his Ph.D. in Economics and Economic History Program at the University of Pennsylvania in 1978. He went on to become a Fellow of the Institute for Advanced Studies in Berlin, Germany, during the 1997-98 academic year. During the 2015 spring term, he went on to become a Fellow of the Institute for Advanced Studies in Nantes, France. He also served as the "Third Allianz Professor for Islamic Studies" at the Institut für Geschichte und Kultur des Nahen Orients at Ludwig Maximillians University in Munich, Germany. Besides his numerous academic achievements, he is also the author of seven books. In 1996, he wrote a book titled: “A Comparative Evolution of Business Partnerships: Islamic World and the West, with Specific

**Dr. Ali Coskun**

*Director, Center for Applied Research in Finance (CARF), Bogazici University*

After receiving his Ph.D. in Accounting and Information Management from University of Texas at Dallas in 2009, Dr. Ali Çoşkun joined the Department of Management at Bogazici University. He teaches and supervises research in financial and managerial accounting, financial literacy, behavioral finance and financial reporting. He is the Director of Bogazici University Center for Applied Research in Finance (CARF).

**Dr. Mohamad Hammour**

*Chairman, Guidance Financial Group*

Dr. Hammour is Chairman of Guidance Financial Group and a Managing Director of Capital Guidance where he has been an executive over the past 22 years. Since founding Guidance Financial Group in the year 2000, Dr Hammour has led the development and execution of the company’s strategy, has overseen the growth of its organization and international expansion, and has established key strategic partnerships that form the foundation of some of the company’s main business lines. Dr Hammour is an accomplished economist, having served as: a member of the economics faculty at Columbia University and of the visiting faculty at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; a Director of Research at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique in France; a Research Fellow at the Centre for Economic Policy Research in the United Kingdom; and a consultant to the World Bank. His research has been published in leading scholarly journals of economics. Dr Hammour holds a BA in Philosophy and an MS in Industrial Engineering from Stanford University and a PhD in Economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
Prof. Kabir Hassan

Professor of Finance and Hibernia Professor of Economics and Finance in the Department of Economics and Finance


Dr. Zamir Iqbal

Head of World Bank Global Islamic Finance Development Center

Lead Financial Sector Specialist at the Finance and Markets Global Practice of the World Bank. He heads the World Bank Global Islamic Finance Development Center in Istanbul. He has more than 20 years of experience of risk management, capital markets, and asset management at the World Bank Treasury. Islamic finance is his research focus and he has co-authored several books on Islamic finance on the topics of banking risk, financial stability, and risk-sharing. His latest co-edited book, "Economic Development and Islamic Finance" was published by the World Bank in 2013. He earned his Ph. D. in international finance from the George Washington University and serves as Professional faculty at Carey Business School of Johns Hopkins University.
Prof. Dr. Abbas Mirakhor

First Holder, INCEIF Chair of Islamic Finance

Prof. Dr. Abbas Mirakhor received his Ph.D. in Economics from Kansas State University in 1969. After teaching at various universities in the USA and in Iran, he joined the staff of the Research Department of the IMF in 1984. He spent 24 years with the IMF, serving as both the organization’s Executive Director and the Dean of the Executive Board, retiring in 2008. He has published several books, papers and research articles on a wide range of areas including Islamic Economics and Finance. Most recently, he co-authored “Globalization and Islamic Finance: Convergence, Prospects and Challenges”, and “Islam and Development: The institutional Framework”. In 1997, the President of Pakistan conferred him the “Quaid-e Azam” star for service to Pakistan. In 2003, he received the Islamic Development Bank Annual Prize for Research in Islamic Economics, which he shared with Dr. Mohsin Khan, another well-known economist at IMF. Later in 2005, Dr. Abbas was conferred the “Order of Companion of Volta” by the President of Ghana, for his service to Ghana. Presently, Dr. Abbas is the first holder of the INCIEF Chair in Islamic Finance.

Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohd Azmi Omar

Director General of Islamic Research and Training Institute

Professor Datuk Dr Mohd Azmi Omar is the Director General of Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI), Islamic Development Bank Group. Prior to joining IRTI, he was the Deputy Rector in charge of academic and research at the International Islamic University Malaysia. During his tenure, a number of milestones were achieved, among these the establishment of the Institute of Islamic Banking and Finance as a center of excellence at the university. He is an active researcher and speaker on Islamic Economics and Finance and co-authored a textbook Introduction to Islamic Capital Market. Professor Azmi holds a Doctorate in Finance from Bangor University, Wales, United Kingdom, a Master of Business Administration and a Bachelor of Science (Finance) degree from the Northern Illinois University, United States of America. He was the Shari’ah adviser to Bank Kerjasama Rakyat Malaysia Berhad and Amanah Ikhtiar Malaysia.
Canan Ozkan

Financial Sector Specialist, World Bank Global Islamic Finance Development Center

Canan Ozkan is Financial Sector Specialist at the World Bank Global Islamic Finance Development Center in Istanbul. Prior to joining the World Bank, she was working at Central Bank of Turkey since 2006, where her main responsibility was working on the Financial Stability Report of CBT, focusing on credit channel. Her interests are mostly focused on the stability, and resilience of Islamic banks and Risk Management. She has an MBA from University of Wisconsin, Madison, with a specialization on Corporate Finance and Investment Banking.

Dr. Andrew Sheng

Distinguished Fellow, Fung Global Institute

Dr. Andrew Sheng is Distinguished Fellow of Asia Global Institute, University of Hong Kong, and Chief Adviser to the China Banking Regulatory Commission. He has written extensively on international finance and monetary economics, financial regulation, and global governance and sits on several international, regional and national boards and advisory panels. His international/regional appointments include Board Member of the Qatar Financial Centre Regulatory Authority, Board Member of the Advisory Council of the National Institute of Securities Market, India (NISM), and member of the Advisory Board of the Emerging Markets Forum. From 1989 to 1993, he was seconded to the World Bank as Senior Manager, Financial Sector Development Department, where he undertook pioneering work on bank restructuring, including publication of the definitive "manual", Bank Restructuring: Lessons from the 1980s. In 2011, Andrew Sheng became President of the Fung Global Institute, where he focused on business-relevant research on global issues from Asian perspectives. He relinquished that position in April 2014 to devote more time to writing on global financial reforms and governance issues. A chartered accountant by training, he holds a BSc in Economics and an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Bristol. In 2013, Time Magazine named Andrew Sheng as one of the 100 most influential people in the world.
Talat Ulussever was born in Adana, Turkey in 1970. Holding a BA degree in Public Finance from Ankara University (Turkey) and a Master’s degree in Management of Financial Resources from Carnegie Mellon University (USA), he earned his Ph.D. degree in Economics from the University of Kansas (USA) in 2004. During his graduate studies, he worked as teaching assistant, financial analyst, instructor and adjunct professor at different universities and institutions in the U.S. After acquiring his Ph.D., Dr. Ulussever joined Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina (USA) in 2004 as Assistant Professor of Finance where he lectured on economics and finance until 2007. Besides his academic career at Benedict College, Dr. Ulussever also served as research and financial consultant to the Business Development Center and Community Development Corporation of the College. Dr. Ulussever continued his academic career as Assistant Professor of Finance at King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia where he taught and conducted research in finance and economics. Throughout his graduate and postgraduate studies, Dr. Ulussever has attended numerous international academic symposia as speaker, discussant as well as chair and published academic papers in internationally recognized refereed journals. Moreover, Dr. Ulussever has actively participated in many research teams and served as principal investigator, co-investigator as well as consultant on sponsored research projects in the U.S. and Saudi Arabia. Promoted to the rank of Associate Professorship in February 2013, Dr. Ulussever has served on the Editorial and Scientific Boards of various international academic journals and institutions. Dr. Ulussever worked for the Investment Support and Promotion Agency of Turkey (ISPAT) from 2010 to 2014 as Chief Project Director and Advisor to the President and trained the Project Directors of ISPAT in economics, finance and investment. Appointed as a Board Member to Borsa İstanbul on April 5, 2013, Dr. Ulussever was elected as the Chairman of the Board by the General Assembly on March 31, 2015. Dr. Ulussever is a founding Chairman of Economics Department at Istanbul Sabahattin Zaim University, and has held an Associate Professorship in the School of Political Sciences at Ankara Social Sciences University since 2014. Dr. Ulussever is fluent in English and has intermediate knowledge of Arabic. Dr. Ulussever is married with four children.
CALL FOR PAPER AUTHORS

Alaa Alaabed
Ph.D Student at INCEIF, Malaysia

Alaa Alaabed is a PhD student in INCEIF, Malaysia. She has qualified as a Chartered Islamic Finance Professional (CIFP) in 2011. She was awarded Bachelor of Commerce; major in Finance from Macquarie University, Australia in 2007. Her work experience includes Treasury products’ development in HSBC Amanah, Malaysia, in 2011 and buy-side research analysis in SICO investment bank, Bahrain, for the period 2008-2010.

Dr. Ascarya
Senior Researcher, Center for Central Banking Research and Education, Bank Indonesia

Dr. Ascarya is a Senior Researcher at Center for Central Banking Research and Education, Bank Indonesia (BI). He is also a lecturer at International and National Programs of Doctoral (PhD), Graduate (Master) and Under Graduate Programs in the field of Islamic Economics and Finance in several universities. In addition, he is a reviewer of several National and International Journals, as well as a managing editor of scientific Islamic Journal. He has received doctorate degree in Islamic Economics and Finance from IEF-Trisakti University, Indonesia; PhD Candidate in International Development, MBA in Finance and MSc in Management Information System from University of Pittsburgh, USA; and Engineer in Industrial Engineering from Bandung Institute of Technology, Indonesia. He is an expert on Islamic economics, monetary, and banking, as well as Islamic microfinance. He has produced 9 international journals and books, 20 national journals, 28 working papers, 3 occasional papers, 17 books, 2 proceedings, 48 international papers, 22 national papers, 11 periodical publications, and 6 research notes. He has presented in 26 international conferences and 70 national conferences. He has received two International Best Paper Awards at the “International Islamic Finance Conference”, International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management, Abu Dhabi, April, 2013, as well as at the “4th ISRA International Colloquium for Islamic Finance (IICIF 2014)”, ISRA-BNM, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, September, 2014.
Prof. Obiyathulla Ismath Bacha

Professor Obiyathulla Ismath Bacha is currently Professor of Finance INCEIF. Prior to this, he has held teaching positions at the International Islamic University Malaysia and Boston University, USA. He received his Doctorate in Finance, MBA and MA in Economics from Boston University. His undergraduate degree was from the Science University of Malaysia. Currently, President of the Malaysian Finance Association, he has published extensively in academic journals and has authored a textbook on Financial Derivatives. His most recent work is a co-authored textbook on Islamic Capital Markets.

Prof. Clement Moore Henry

Visiting Research Professor at the Middle East Institute of the National University of Singapore

Clement Moore Henry is Visiting Research Professor at the Middle East Institute of the National University of Singapore after having chaired the Political Science Department at the American University in Cairo (2011-2014). He is also Emeritus Professor of Government, the University of Texas at Austin, where he taught 1987-2011. Dr. Henry previously taught at the University of California, both at Berkeley (1963-69) and at Los Angeles (1984-86), at the University of Michigan, the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris, and the American University of Beirut, where he directed the Business School in the early 1980s. In addition to the politics of international oil, Dr. Henry’s research interest include Middle Eastern responses to globalization, banking systems in southern Mediterranean countries, and the development of civil societies in the Arab world. He has spent about fifteen years in North Africa, the Levant, and Turkey and has written, co-authored, or edited 13 books, including, most recently, The Arab Spring: Will It Lead to Democratic Transitions? Palgrave Macmillan, 2013; Globalization and the politics of development in the Middle East, Cambridge University Press, 2nd edition, 2010; and UGEMA 1955-1962: Temoignages, Algiers: Casbah Editions, 2010, expanded 2012; The Politics of Islamic Finance (coedited with Rodney Wilson), Edinburgh University Press, 2004. He received his AB and PhD from Harvard and, in mid-career, an MBA from the University of Michigan.
Patrick Amir Imam

IMF Representative, Madagascar

Patrick Amir Imam is currently the representative of the IMF in Madagascar, and has been with the institutions since 2005. Prior to joining the Fund, he worked as an Investment Banker at Credit Suisse First Boston in London. Since joining the Fund, he has worked on IMF programs, carried out technical assistance, and done surveillance in the Middle East and Central Asia department, the African Department, the IMF Institute, and more recently in the Monetary and Capital Markets Department. His publications have focused on issues related to financial stability, macro-prudential policies, and financial sector development. He was educated at the University of Oxford, at the University of Warwick, and has a PhD in Economics from Cambridge University.

Prof. Nabil ben Mohamed Al Maghrebi

Professor of Finance at the Graduate School of Economics, Wakayama University

Nabil Maghrebi is Professor of finance at the Graduate School of Economics, Wakayama University, and visiting professor at the Center for the Study of Finance and Insurance, Osaka University, Japan. He has more than two decades of experience in academic research and teaching at Japanese national universities. He served as director of the Institute of Economics and Econometrics at Wakayama University. He was research fellow at the International Institute for Advanced Studies in Kyoto, and visiting scholar at the International Center for Education in Islamic Finance in Kuala Lumpur, and the Centre for International and Financial Economics Research at Loughborough University. He holds a Ph.D. in finance from Osaka University, and has co-authored a number of articles on international financial markets, financial instability, and model-free volatility index, as well as a forthcoming book, “Intermediate Islamic finance”.

10
Dr. Mustafa Omar Mohammed

Associate Professor at the Department of Economics, International Islamic University Malaysia

Dr. Mustafa Omar Mohammed is presently an Associate Professor at the Department of Economics, International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) where he has been teaching for more than 15 years now. He has published more than 40 refereed journal articles and presented more than 70 papers, mostly at international conferences. He is actively involved in funded and commissioned research projects. His present research areas of interest are in Waqf, Zakat, Islamic Microfinance and Maqasid al-Shari’ah. He has supervised more than 45 dissertations at PhD and Master Levels. He is also a journal editorial member and reviewer panel to 11 academic entities. He has received several quality awards for teaching and research. He was part of a committee responsible for setting up the Institute of Islamic Banking and Finance and recently, the Department of Islamic Finance at IIUM. He also has long experience in translations, Arabic and English. He undertook projects for several organizations, including MIFC, IBFIM, AIBIM, IFSB - affiliates of the Central Bank of Malaysia. He offers consultancy and has conducted several training on Islamic economics, banking and finance in several countries including Singapore, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Philippines, Indonesia, South Africa and Uganda. Dr. Mustafa holds a Bachelor and Master degrees in Economics from IIUM and PhD in Finance from Universiti Sains Malaysia.

Dr. Md. Mizanur Rahman

Head of Training, Jaiz Bank Plc, Nigeria

Dr. Md. Mizanur Rahman is an economist, have had his PhD from Imperial College, University of London, UK, (with Scholarship funded by World Bank). He also completed a Post-graduate Diploma in Islamic Banking and Insurance (PGDIBI) from Institute of Islamic Banking and Insurance (IIIBI), UK. Dr. Rahman has started his career as a researcher in 1987; during his long career he worked in different National and International Research and Training Organizations in different capacities. Presently, he is working in Jaiz Bank, Nigeria as an Islamic Banking Expatriate on secondment from his position of Director, Islami Bank Training and Research Academy (IBTRA), IBBL, Bangladesh. He is also simultaneously involved in conducting research in Islamic economics, banking, finance and micro-finance areas, and out of his which he has published 40 papers in different National and International journals. He has also presented over 80 scientific papers, at different seminars and symposiums, in home and abroad. Dr. Rahman has also authored 7 books published in Germany and Bangladesh. He is the associate editor of two scientific journals, and also regularly review scientific papers for different national and international journals. He also, very often, write sub-editorials on Islamic economics, banking and finance in different National Dailies Newspapers in
Bangladesh and Nigeria. Dr. Rahman has travelled widely, for higher studies and professional engagements to over 30 countries of the world, including UK, USA, Canada, and Australia, Nigeria, Malaysia, Indonesia, Brunei, KSA, Korea, Sudan, Egypt.

**Luqyan Tamanni**

*Ph.D. Student, Smith Business School, University of Glasgow*

Luqyan Tamanni is PhD Student at the Adam Smith Business School, University of Glasgow working on a doctoral research related to the impact of commercialization on Islamic microfinance institutions. Previously he was microfinance researcher for Islamic Relief Worldwide and Islamic Finance Council, UK; Associate Operations Officer for Advisory Services of International Finance Corporation, the World Bank Group, Indonesia; and Head of Research & Consultancy for Tazkia Institute, Indonesia. He has also served as lead consultant for several Islamic financial institutions in Indonesia and a multilateral based in Jeddah. He has published works on Islamic microfinance, banking, and family financial management. Other area of interests include financial literacy for poor family and micro-takaful. Luqyan holds degrees in Economics from International Islamic University Malaysia and University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur.

**Isa Yilmaz**

*PhD Student, Durham University*

Isa Yilmaz has a BSc in Economics and Management from the Istanbul Bilgi University (Turkey) and another BSc in the same subject from the University of London International Program (UK); continued for MSc in Islamic Finance, University of Durham (UK); and now first year PhD candidate in Islamic Finance at the University of Durham. His research interests are on Islamic Banking and Finance, Islamic Political Economy, Public Choice, Islamic Moral Economy, Political Economy of Development and Social Welfare.