

MUHAMMAD UZAIR ZULKIFLY

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Executive Summary

I am a multidisciplinary finance–economics professional and former central-bank supervisor who blends policy insight with rigorous, hands-on data analysis. My work spans corporate and Islamic finance, financial econometrics, public-sector governance, and political economy, and I am comfortable moving between quantitative modelling and real-world implementation. I build clean, auditable analytics (R/Python) and translate results into clear guidance for decision-makers; additionally, I teach financial econometrics and core economics at BSc/MSc level. Alongside this, I develop and curate capitalandislam.com, an interactive research website that translates comparative evidence on banking, financialisation, and structural transformation into accessible maps, visualisations, and analytically structured narratives. This work combines research design, data curation, and web-based visualisation to communicate complex political-economy findings to academic, policy, and wider public audiences. It extends my quantitative practice into digital scholarship, with attention to methodological transparency, analytical context, and the limitations of the underlying data.

Languages: English and Malay (fluent); Arabic (intermediate).

Education

Durham University 2020–2025

PhD in Islamic Finance (econometrics–embedded political economy). Supervisors: Prof. Mehmet Asutay

Focus: regulation & capital; institutional performance; financialisation; ethical finance; economic geography; socio-legal perspectives; multi-level modelling; Islamic moral economy; political economy.

Durham University 2016–2017

MSc Islamic Finance (*Distinction; Best Dissertation*).

Dissertation: *Exploring and Dissecting the Roots of Financialization in the Development of Islamic Banking in Malaysia* (Empirical Study on Islamic Political Economy).

Coventry University 2013–2016

BA International Trade and Economics (Upper Second Class).

Dissertation: *Impact of International Trade on Income Inequality in NAFTA Countries*.

Professional Experience

Vizierai, Saudi Arabia — AI Knowledge Curator & Domain Specialist August 2025–December 2025

- Lead domain input on the Islamic Applied Approach (IAA) to guide the development of an LLM-based knowledge assistant grounded in Islamic ontology and ethics.
- Curate, classify, and structure VizierAI’s literature catalogue into a reusable corpus organised around the IAA phases (Define, Connect, Evaluate, Synthesize, Communicate).
- Translate core Islamic principles (tawhid, justice/ihsan, trust, solidarity, purposes/accountability) into practical workflows for research, policy, product, and community design use cases.
- Collaborate with the technical team to review and refine model outputs, strengthening conceptual coherence, reducing misinterpretation, and aligning responses with the IAA framework.

Bank Negara Malaysia (Central Bank of Malaysia) — Supervisor Apr 2019–Apr 2020

- Conducted risk-based supervision of major banking groups (capital adequacy/ICAAP, governance; credit, operational and Shariah risk) and prepared concise supervision packs for senior committees.
- Built reproducible supervisory datasets and Power BI profiles with versioning and audit trails, improving traceability and enabling red-flag/anomaly analytics for prudential oversight.
- Provided analytical input to Malaysia’s *Value-Based Intermediation Financing & Investment Impact Assessment Framework*, supporting consistent implementation across Islamic banks.

Islamic Banking & Finance Institute Malaysia (IBFIM) — Shariah Business Advisor Jan 2018–Sep 2018

- Edited *Investment Account Platform* handbook; reviewed client reports for compliance; issued monthly certifications for asset managers.

Affin Islamic Bank Berhad — Executive in Product Development

Jun 2016–Sep 2016

- Supported ideation and conversion of concepts into marketable Shariah-compliant products.

Research & Consultancy

Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung — Research Consultant

Feb 2023–May 2023

- Authored policy paper: *Decolonisation at the Crossroads: Post-colonial Social Formation in Malaysia* (governance implications for inclusive growth).

ISRA Consultancy — Research Consultant

Nov 2018–Jan 2019

- Produced ASEAN/Malaysia Islamic-finance analysis for the Government of Malaysia–IsDB Centre of Excellence, highlighting the development of Islamic Finance environment in Malaysia and its potential to become the global hub of the nascent industry.

Academic Appointments & Teaching

Durham University — Academic Tutor

Oct 2021–Jun 2025

- Designed R/Stata labs and assessment rubrics with reproducible code repositories; taught Financial Econometrics/Methods and Principles/Intro Economics; translated results into one-page policy/markets memos for non-technical audiences.

Management and Science University (MSU) — Lecturer

Oct 2018–Mar 2019

- Lectured Financial Econometrics, Islamic Economics, Introduction to Fiqh Muamalat and Islamic Banking Products; contributed to faculty research team.

Publications (Selected)

Zulkify, M. U. (2024). *Redefining Capital and Monetary Policy in G20 Countries: Lessons from Islamic Political Economy*. In İ. Kalaycı (Ed.), *Central Banking and Monetary Policy in G20*. Vernon Press.

Kamal, S. M., Mulyadi, Kassim, E. S., & Zulkify, M. U. (2022). *Is loan shark an alternative? The intention to take a loan from loan sharks in Indonesia*. *Shirkah: Journal of Economics and Business*, 7(2), 167–186.

Sari, J. D. P., Zulkify, M. U., & Meylianda (2022). *Baitul Mal strategy in increasing community interest in paying zakat, infaq, and alms*. *Journal of Economic Welfare, Philanthropy, Zakat and Waqf*, 1(1), 15–29.

Works in Progress for Publication

- **Book translation project: Karl Polanyi's *The Great Transformation* into Malay** (with consent from Karl Polanyi Levitt).
- **Islamic banking, financialisation, and premature deindustrialisation in Malaysia**. *New Political Economy*.
- **Capital imagination, the nation-state, and premature deindustrialisation in Malaysia**. *Competition & Change*.
- **Unequal financialisation and Islamic finance as semi-peripheral grafting**. *Capital & Class*.
- **Reification and international financial subordination**. *Review of International Political Economy*.
- **Law, Islamic banking, and the financialisation paradox**. *Journal of Institutional Economics*.
- **Healthcare financialisation, Islamic finance, and the commodification of care in Malaysia**. *Review of Social Economy*.
- **GDP-linked sukuk as a post-crisis risk-sharing instrument**. *International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management*.

- **Dispossession through Shariah-compliance and financialisation in Islamic banking.** *Review of Radical Political Economics.*
- **Factish gods, iconoclasm, and everyday Islamic finance in the Global South.** *Journal of Cultural Economy.*
- **Islamic political economy, Althusserian structuralism, and divine ownership of the means of production.** *Review of Political Economy.*
- **Capital and Islam: historical evolution and contemporary implications.** *History of Economic Ideas.*
- **Risk society, natural disasters, and the political economy of climate governance.** *Globalizations.*

Professional Development & Methods Training (Selected)

1st Islamic Economic Workshop, Sakarya University (*Presenter*) (2026)
 Islamic Capital Market Summer School, Securities Commission Malaysia & Durham University Business School (2025) (*Accredited*)
 Exploring Innovative Method(ologie)s in International/Global Political Economy workshop (*Presenter*) (2025)
 4th AlBaraka Summit: “New Horizons: Islamic Economy in Global Markets, Beyond Majority-Muslim Societies” (*Presenter*) (2025)
 Bank Negara Malaysia: *15th Banking Supervision Course (Accredited); Supervision of Organisational Behaviour & Culture (Accredited)* (2019)
 Royal Geographical Society: Annual International Conference (*Presenter*) (2023)
 Law & Political Economy in Europe: *1st Summer Academy (Presenter)* (2023)
 British International Studies Association: IPEG Workshop (*Presenter*) (2023)
 British Association for Islamic Studies: Annual Conference (*Presenter*) (2023)
 Finance & Society Network: Intersections of Finance & Society (*Presenter*) (2022)
 Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics: SASE “Fractious Connections” (*Presenter*) (2022)
 Coventry University: Global Leaders Programme (*Accredited*) (2016)

Honours & Awards

Graduate Excellence Programme (GrEP) Scholarship, Majlis Amanah Rakyat Malaysia (2020–2023)
 Best Dissertation (MSc Islamic Finance), Durham University (2018)
 President’s Scholarship, Management & Science University (2013–2018)
 President’s List, Management & Science University (2012)

Leadership & Community Service

President, Durham University Islamic Society Jul 2022–Jul 2023
 Led a city-wide Muslim community in the absence of an independent local mosque; launched the first annual *Eid@Oriental Museum* with the Vice-Chancellor; coordinated welfare and engagement.

International Student Officer, Ustinov College GCR 2020–2021
 Initiated the first Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) officer post; organised regional integration trips.