

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**DETERMINANTS OF AWARENESS TO
CONTRIBUTION TO CASH WAQF :
AN ANALYSIS AMONG PEJABAT DAERAH
BESUT STAFF**

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ABSTRACT

Cash waqf is a form of endowment involving monetary contributions for charitable purposes and social development. A study was conducted in Besut regarding awareness of cash waqf, which found that the Besut community in 2015 had low awareness of cash waqf practices. This study aims to explore awareness of cash waqf among the staff of the Besut District Office. The main objectives of this study are to measure the level of awareness and understanding of cash waqf practices, identify the factors determining awareness, and examine efforts to promote public awareness of its benefits. Therefore, using a qualitative approach, interviews were conducted with five staff members of the Besut District Office who held positions as officers, selected for interviews to gain in-depth views and experiences on the concept of cash waqf. The analytical methods used in this study were thematic analysis and content analysis to identify the themes that align with the objectives and ensure proper organization of the findings. The results of the study indicate that there is awareness among the staff of the Besut District Office, where some are aware, but others are not. However, the number of individuals with understanding is larger, suggesting that they have an average level of knowledge. This shows that there is some awareness among the staff, with the main challenges including economic constraints, differences in income levels, and the community's limited confidence in fund management. Various efforts made by the Besut District Office, such as salary deductions, mobile applications, and community engagement initiatives, were identified as effective tools to encourage contributions. The study also emphasizes the need for comprehensive promotional efforts, such as collaboration with local leaders, digital campaigns, and educational programs, to enhance understanding and participation in cash waqf. The study outlines the importance of institutional support and transparency in increasing trust and involvement to attract more people to contribute to cash waqf. It also calls for integrating cash waqf into broader community development strategies to maximize its socio-economic impact, as cash waqf can support the Islamic economy. Future research could explore comparative analysis across different regions or organizations, incorporate quantitative methods, and assess the long-term impact of cash waqf contributions on local development. The findings aim to contribute to the growing discourse on Islamic philanthropy and its potential in fostering sustainable community growth.

Keyword: *Cash Waqf, Community, Contribution, Besut District Office*

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 RESEARCH BACKGROUND

This phenomenon frequently occurs in various regions and ultimately contradicts the primary objectives of waqf. The fundamental aim of waqf to ensure that its assets can be continuously utilized for the benefit of Muslims. In addressing this challenge, it is time for new approaches to be adopted to make waqf lands more productive or to explore alternative methods to optimize the benefits of waqf assets. One initiative that has emerged in this regard is the introduction of the concept of cash waqf. Unlike land and buildings, money as a waqf asset offers high flexibility and is not restricted by geographical boundaries. Cash waqf is also considered more practical in meeting the significant needs of the Muslim community, including addressing poverty issues that span various regions (H. Muhammad Wahib, 2019).

Cash waqf, or cash endowment, is a form of waqf involving monetary contributions for charitable and social development purposes. This concept has garnered significant attention in economic and social contexts, particularly in Islamic countries like Indonesia and within the ASEAN community. However, although cash waqf has long been introduced in Malaysia, it remains less prominent and not well understood by the public. This is evidenced by a study titled "Awareness of Cash Waqf: A Study in Besut, Terengganu." The study found that a portion of the community is still unaware of the concept and importance of cash waqf, highlighting the need to enhance awareness and understanding of this practice among the public. Through cash waqf, the financial burden on the government can be effectively alleviated, primarily by providing a sustainable financial source that can be utilized for various welfare programs. Additionally, it helps reduce dependency on government budgets, supports low-income groups, and contributes to the development of social infrastructure such as schools and hospitals. Cash waqf also plays a role in enhancing collaboration between the public and private sectors, while contributing to economic development through job creation and strategic investments. Overall, cash waqf serves as a complementary mechanism that supports government efforts in delivering services and fostering community development, thereby significantly reducing the government's financial burden. (Nadiyah Zulkiflee, 2015).

Cash Waqf refers to the practice of endowing a sum of cash to an appointed waqf trustee, where the principal amount is preserved in the form of permanent assets, and its