

THE RISE IN DEMAND OF SUKUK

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Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Bachelor of Business Administration (Hons) Islamic Banking

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(14TH JUNE 2013)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

All praises to almighty ALLAH, the most merciful and the most benevolent for giving me the opportunities in completing this research paper. It would be impossible for me to spent time to complete this study without the grace and help of ALLAH S.W.T.

I am greatly indebted to Puan Rabiatul Alawiyah binti Zainal Abidin and Dr. Norashikin bt. Ismail whose excellence in supervision and plays a big role in inspired my work. Without her untiring encouragement, suggestions, ideas and comments throughout this study and this research could not be completed.

I dedicate this research to my beloved parents and for their endless support and understanding and also to the rest of my families for their help and encouragement. Beyond a simple thank you, I want them to know that I really appreciate what they had done to me.

I wish to express my deepest gratitude to all my friends, who shared their valuable experience, time and commitment. Without their patience, this study cannot be complete.

Last but not least, I would like to thank to everyone that involved directly or indirectly for their contribution, invaluable support and encouragement they have place on me. Without everyone continued support, this study would not been the same as presented here.

Thank you.

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ABSTRACT

The demand for sukuk in Malaysia has been grown remarkably in the last couple of years

since the first issuance in the early 1990s by a foreign owned non-islamic company, Shell MDS,

known as World's first ringgit sukuk. Up until now, sukuk had not shown any sign of slowing

down except when it faces the global financial crisis.

The study objective of this paper is going to foresee the rise in demand of sukuk issuance

with the economics factors in Malaysian Capital Market.

This paper will analyze three independent variables related to the rise in the demand of

sukuk for the period 1990 to 2011. Whereby, it consists of (i) Gross Domestic Product (GDP),

(ii) Foreign Exchange Rate (FOREX), and (iii) Market Liquidity (LIQ). Otherwise, the

dependent variable would expect to be the growth rate of sukuk issuance.

The methodology use is model estimation of ordinary least square regression method

(OLS) by using multiple regressions. Thus, the results shows that sukuk issuance in Malaysia

reckon only two variables consist of GDP and FOREX as major factor contribute to the rise in

demand of sukuk. While, for market liquidity the result show slightly insignificant due to the

liquidation of other Islamic products that give negative effect to the sukuk issuance likewise

demand for commodity murabahah or tawarrug.

Keywords: Sukuk, and Malaysian capital market.

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

In this section, the researcher starts by defining "sukuk" and then followed by sukuk as an alternative source of financing. Thereafter, the researcher will view the development of sukuk issuance in Malaysian capital market.

1.1.1 Overview of sukuk

Islamic finance industry has grown massively in response to a profusion of investment products, which has been fuelled by an increasing demand for investments that comply with Islamic law. The world has witnessed a strong growth in global sukuk issuance in recent years as it has been enjoying tremendous growth since its debut in 1970s. Of all the rapidly growing Islamic capital market securities none are gaining in popularity as much as sukuk, which in some respects has a different underlying structure compared to the conventional models.

Considering the recent financial crisis that has had a strong impact on global financial sector including Islamic finance industry, this study attempts to investigate the sustainability of sukuk during the recent financial crisis. This study focuses solely on Malaysia's debt market, taking into account unique features of

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