

**THE EFFECTS OF POVERTY EVALUATED BASED ON THE  
INTEGRATION OF HUMAN NEEDS AS STIPULATED IN *MAQASID AL-  
SYARIAH* AND MASLOW'S HIERARCHY OF NEEDS ON *ZAKAT*  
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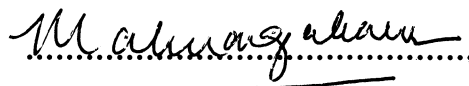
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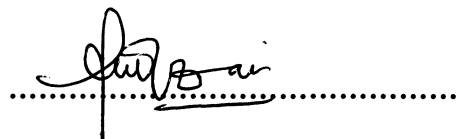
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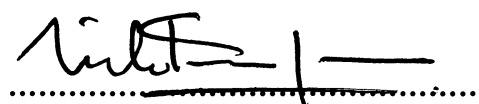
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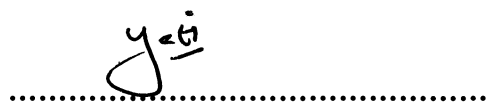
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## CHAPTER ONE

### 1.0 Executive Summary

The objective of this study is to investigate the effects of poverty evaluated based on the integration of human needs as stipulated in the perspective of *Maqasid al-Syariah* and Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs on *zakat* distribution efficiency. Approximately 450 sets of questionnaire were personally sent to *zakat* recipients of two programs conducted by Majlis Agama Islam Kelantan (MAIK) namely business assistance and living skill course. From this amount, 420 people responded, amounting to 93.33 % response rate. Data were analyzed using Social Science Statistical Package (SSPS) 20 and Analysis of Moment Structure (AMOS) 20. From the findings, it can be concluded that poverty evaluated based on the integration of human needs as stipulated in the perspective of *Maqasid al-Syariah* and Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs positively affects the efficiency of *zakat* distribution. Hence, the study provides an insight to *zakat* institutions, policy makers and the public of the importance of these multi-dimensional factors in evaluating poverty in relation to the efficiency of *zakat* distribution.

### 1.1 Introduction

This chapter provides an introduction to the scope of this research. It is divided into several sections. The first section is an introduction followed by the second section which discusses issues related to the research background. The third section specifies the research problem and identifies the research question, formulated to achieve the objective of this research, while section four describes the significance of this study. Finally, the overall structure of research content is outlined in the fifth section.

### 1.2 Research Background

*Zakat* or realms is one of the five pillars of Islam and *zakat* payment becomes the religious duty of all practicing Muslims who possess surplus wealth and earnings. The general principle of *zakat* distribution is laid down clearly in the Quran as underlined in Surah Al-Tawbah verse 60 which states: "Alms are for the poor and the needy, and those employed to administer the (funds) for those whose hearts have been (recently) reconciled (to Truth) for those in bondage and in debt in the cause of