

**KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA
Ministry of Higher Education
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Islamic Economics Research Centre**

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Waqf: *A Bibliography*

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FOREWORD

The present bibliography is the sixth in the series of bibliographies prepared by the Islamic Economics Research Center. The institution of waqf is one of the priority areas of research in the Center. Preparation of a comprehensive bibliography and providing information on existing writings on the subject is a first step in this direction.

It is a matter of satisfaction that Dr. Abdul Azim Islahi has undertaken this project. Dr. Islahi has vast experience behind him as a competent researcher. We hope that researchers delving into the exciting area of waqf, will find the present work of great use.

May Almighty Allah help us in serving his cause and accept our modest efforts.

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PREFACE

History of Islamic waqf (plural=awqaf) goes back to the time of the Prophet (peace be upon him). The institution has always provided public goods that range from education and health care to water supply and highway facilities on a voluntary basis by the non-profit sector. But it has generally been considered as a religious and charitable provision. Emphasis on its socio-economic role is rather a recent phenomenon. The current move on the part of public sector to withdraw from performing an active economic role has further underscored the importance and relevance of the institution of waqf.

At present there are a few bibliographies on waqf available in Arabic (some of them containing a few entries of English works). To the best of the knowledge of this author, no comprehensive bibliography in English exists till date. It is interesting to note that a quick comparison of the present bibliography with those available in Arabic will show that the topics on which more works are available in Arabic, such as fiqh, less works are available in English. And the converse is also true. Thus, it is hoped, this work along with other bibliographies on the subject in Arabic would be complementary and supplementary to each other.

Most of the books of fiqh and Islamic law have chapters and sections on waqf. Out of these legal and juridical literatures the present bibliography lists only those works, which exclusively deal with waqf. We have also excluded government ordinances and encyclopedias. A glance at this bibliography will show that literatures on waqf – various waqf provisions, *waqfiyyah*, individual and specific awqaf, etc – have been a multipurpose source of law, history, architecture, sociology, economic and political studies, etc. That is why equal attention has been paid to the institution of waqf both by Muslim and non-Muslim writers. However, while Muslim writers generally focused on aspects of the waqf jurisprudence and law, management, development and their socio-economic role, non-Muslim writers were concerned with the other aspects of awqaf.

The author of this bibliography has tried to collect information from various available sources to make it as comprehensive as possible. However, no one can claim perfection. Especially in case of waqf it is much more difficult because the word has been transliterated in numerous forms, such as, *wakf*, *wakf*, *wakif*, *vaqf*, *evkaf*, *awkaf*, *aukaf*, *auqaf* and they have been rendered as endowments or foundation or institution with different qualifying adjectives like 'religious', 'Islamic', 'Muslim', 'pious', 'charity', etc. Moreover, the pace of forthcoming

works has also increased these days due to increasing attention to this institution. Hence any suggestion for addition and improvement is always welcome.

In the end, I would like to register my gratitude to Dr. Mohammed Najeeb Ghazali, Director of Islamic Economics Research Center, for his encouragement in preparing this bibliography. I am also grateful to Mr. Syed Anwer Mahmood for his secretarial assistance. *Wa akhiru dawana anilhamdu li'llahi Rabbilalamin*

A.A. Islahi

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