

This book is for all those who are interested in economics and banking system in the perspective of a value-based approach to economics and financial system. It has been a long process, which has exposed me to Western thinking and practices as a result of my PhD research in the Netherlands (Erasmus University Rotterdam). Departing from some skepticism towards the purity and integrity of Islamic banking practices in Indonesia, I was surprised to come across banking practices in the Netherlands that were in many respects in accordance with Islamic principles.

Moreover, I found some commonality in Western ethical thinking and in Islamic ethical thinking that relates to Western sources, I was surprised to find considerable inspiration as a Muslim in virtue ethics in particular. I was even more surprised to encounter a value-based approach and subsequently adopt this as an expedient approach to study Islamic banking.

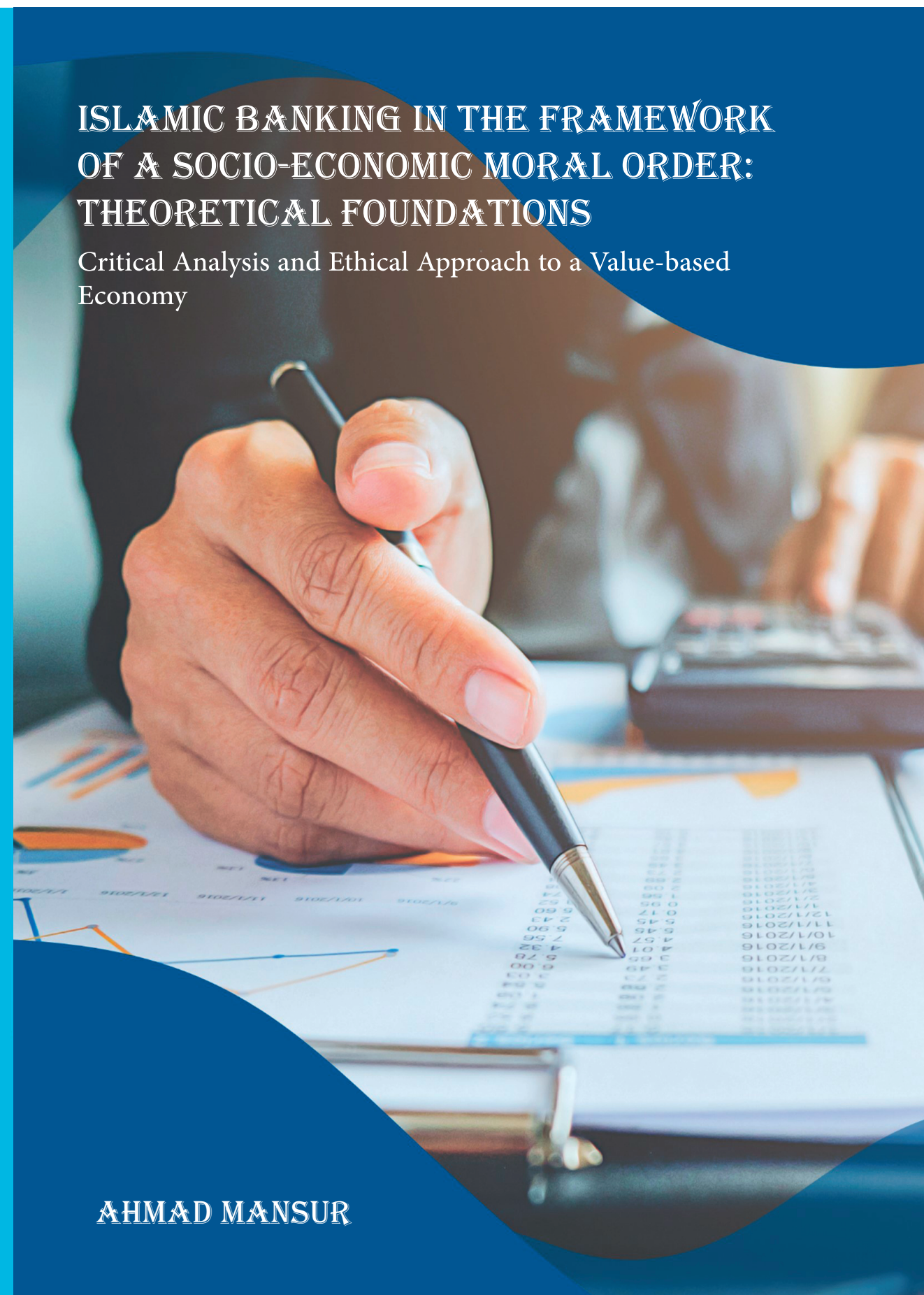
The results of this dissertation are unexpected in many respects. Whereas I began this dissertation with critiquing current Islamic banking practices and pointing towards the correct practices that they should adopt, however, I ended up engaging in an intercultural dialogue. I found out that we in the Muslim world can find relevant sources in Western thinking that support to our Islamic banking practices, including virtue ethics, a value-based approach. At the same time, the principles of Islamic banking and the values that support these practices can inform and support ongoing efforts to stress the importance of articulating purpose for capitalist-based financial institutions.

In this respect, I present this PhD dissertation as an invitation to deepen the dialogue further between Western and Muslim practices. Needless to say, such dialogue is crucial in times of conflict and cultural misunderstanding.

Islamic Banking in the framework of a socio-economic moral order

ISLAMIC BANKING IN THE FRAMEWORK OF A SOCIO-ECONOMIC MORAL ORDER: THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS

Critical Analysis and Ethical Approach to a Value-based
Economy



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