

## **MASTER THESIS REVIEW**

**THESIS AUTHOR:** Ahmad Abdel Majeed

**TOPIC NAME:** Activating "Waqf" and "Zakat" in Tackling Poverty and Supporting Investment in Palestine: Chances and Challenges

**BRANCH OF STUDY:** International Development Studies

**AUTHOR OF REVIEW:** Pavla Vítová

| <b>EVALUATION, PART 1: FACTUAL CONTENT OF THE THESIS</b>  |   |
|---|---|
| To what extent is the thesis structure logical and transparent? Did the author answer research questions? What has been achieved in terms of the thesis objectives?             | C |
| How complicated and how well applied is methodology of the thesis?  | C |
| How good is factual content of the thesis? Are there any factual mistakes? Are facts and described relations interpreted correctly? Did the author use appropriate terminology? | B |
| How well – in terms of depth and quality – did the author analyse the topic?  | D |

### **Verbal assessment:**

Master Thesis is, according to the title, focused on activating Waqf and Zakat in tackling poverty and supporting investment in Palestine. Although the key objective and research questions are clearly specified within the introduction, the author did not fully cover the whole topic. I would prefer higher concentration on the endowments and its' task in Palestine, rather than wide and long theoretical introduction. On the other hand, this sweeping theoretical part is necessary for readers without any knowledge on this topic.

The thesis has a logic structure, it contents all the fundamental parts but the quality of several section is a bit low (abstract, clnclusion and recommendation).

| <b>EVALUATION, PART 2: LITERATURE AND SOURCES CITED IN THE THESIS</b>  |   |
|--|---|
| To what extent does the author use suitable sources? Is quantity of cited sources appropriate for master thesis? | B |
| What is the quality of citations and references? Are sources identifiable?                                       | C |

### **Verbal assessment:**

The author used a sufficient amount of sources written in English and Arabic. Verses from the Quran were used precisely and they complete the discussed topic.

The bibliographic references seems to be good except some cases. The citation should not be used with the titles (on the page 19 the author used „Dr Rakesh Kumar Singh (2011: 294); the year of publishing should be always presented (page 40, according to Benzouai). In some cases the author forgot to quote at all (i.e. on the page 40). The reference to „United States, 1980“ (page 38) is just weird.

| <b>EVALUATION, PART 3: FORMAL REQUIREMENTS</b>  |   |
|---|---|
| What is the stylistic level of the thesis, particularly the use of correct terminology? | B |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Is format of the thesis in accordance with the usual standards for academic works? Is graphic edit positive contribution to the quality of the thesis? | C |
|--|---|

**Verbal assessment:**

Master thesis is written in English language and I do not want to examine the grammar. The author is using a lot of arabic terms (mainly in the first chapter) which might be confusing for the reader. Also large using of italics is disturbing. The thesis consists only two tables but there is no list of table that would make searching for them easier.

| TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION DURING THE THESIS DEFENCE  |
|--|
| Is it possible for „waqif“ to withdraw the waqf?<br>Do you see any alternatives of „zakat“ and „waqf“ in the Czech Republic? |

| OVERALL EVALUATION OF THE THESIS  |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Verbal assessment:</b><br>Master thesis is discussing very interesting and uncommon topic. All the requirements on the thesis were met. It is a pity that not all the research questions were answered. Therefore I recommend the thesis to be defended with the proposed grade „C“. |   |
| <b>Proposed grade:</b>  | C |

**DATE:** August 7, 2017

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_