

**ARABIC AS AN EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION INSTRUMENT IN THE
WORLD OF ISLAMIC BANKING**

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Abstract

Arabic has an important role in sharia banking, both as a legal communication tool and as a means of ensuring compliance with sharia principles. This research discusses the role of Arabic in operational aspects of sharia banking, including legal documentation, regulations, financial literacy, and the challenges faced in implementing Arabic, such as dialect variations, lack of understanding, and limited educational resources. To gain a deeper understanding of the role of Arabic in Sharia banking, this research uses a qualitative-descriptive method. The methodology used includes literature studies, as well as analysis of documents related to sharia banking and Arabic. The analysis shows that the application of Arabic in Islamic banking can improve contract accuracy, strengthen sharia compliance, and deepen customers' financial literacy. However, the complexity of the Arabic language also adds challenges in daily operations, especially in terms of translation, cross-border communication and new product development. In conclusion, although Arabic provides many advantages in maintaining the integrity of sharia, further efforts are needed in terms of education and harmonization of terms to overcome existing challenges.

Keywords: *Arabic language, effective communication, sharia banking*

Introduction

In recent decades, Islamic banking has grown rapidly in various countries, both Muslim-majority and non-Muslim. As part of the Islamic financial system, Islamic banking operates based on sharia principles derived from the Qur'an and Hadith (Illahi, 2019). Concepts such as

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murabahah (sale and purchase with an agreed profit), *mudharabah* (profit sharing), *ijarah* (rental), and *musyarakah* (partnership) are the main foundations that distinguish Islamic banking from conventional banking. All of these concepts are derived from Arabic, making the language essential in Islamic banking operations (Visser, 2010).

However, the utilization of Arabic in Islamic banking does not always go smoothly. The main problem that often arises is the different interpretation and understanding of Arabic terms used in contracts, financial products, and regulations. Dialectal differences, variations in the use of terms, and lack of Arabic language education and training among Islamic banking professionals and customers can lead to misunderstandings that impact Shariah compliance and customer trust (Hatta, 2022). For example, in the case of *murabaha* in Indonesia, there have been complaints from customers regarding the transparency of profit margins taken by banks. This occurred due to the lack of clarity in the explanation of the *murabahah* concept which uses Arabic terms. Customers feel that they are charged additional fees that are not in accordance with sharia principles, which ultimately damages the bank's reputation and creates distrust (Yakinah et al., 2020).

Another case occurred in the Middle East, where an *ijarah* contract drafted in Arabic was subject to legal disputes due to different interpretations of the term rent in the sharia context. The customer and the bank had different understandings of the provisions in the contract, which eventually led to a dispute that had to be resolved through legal channels (Islahi, 2008). On the other hand, in Malaysia, a study shows that Islamic financial literacy among customers is still low, mainly due to limited understanding of Arabic terms used in Islamic products. This results in customers feeling confused and unsure in choosing Islamic banking products, thus reducing their participation rate in this banking system (Abdullah & Anderson, 2015).

These issues show that while the Arabic language is crucial in maintaining authenticity and adherence to Shariah principles, there are significant challenges that need to be overcome to ensure that the use of this language does not hamper Islamic banking operations. Lack of adequate Arabic language education, variations in the interpretation of terms, and differences in dialect are major obstacles that can affect the integrity and effectiveness of Islamic banking (Iqbal & Molyneux, 2006).

The primary challenge in using Arabic in Islamic banking operations lies in the inconsistent understanding and interpretation of Arabic terms and concepts among professionals, regulators, and customers in the industry. This inconsistency arises from several factors. Firstly, dialectal differences and regional variations in the use of Arabic terms lead to misunderstandings and inconsistencies in applying Shariah principles. Secondly, inadequate Arabic language education and training among Islamic banking personnel and customers result in poor comprehension of the terminology used in financial products and contracts. Thirdly, differences in the interpretation of Arabic terms, especially concerning Shariah compliance, often create disputes between banks and customers, undermining trust in Islamic banking. Lastly, low levels of Islamic financial literacy among customers, particularly in understanding Arabic terms and concepts, further hinder their effective participation in Islamic.

The existing research highlights the critical role of the Arabic language in maintaining the authenticity and integrity of Islamic banking, but also identifies significant challenges in ensuring effective communication and understanding between banks and customers. Addressing these gaps through improved Arabic language education, standardization of terminology, and enhancing Islamic financial literacy is crucial for the sustainable growth and development of the Islamic banking industry.

Therefore, it is important to better understand how Arabic can be effectively used in Islamic banking, identify the challenges faced, and find appropriate solutions to improve communication, literacy, and trust in the sector. This will not only strengthen Islamic banking operations but also ensure that sharia principles are applied correctly and consistently across the globe.

Methods

This research uses a qualitative approach (Ary et al. 2009) that aims to explore the role of Arabic in Islamic banking as well as the challenges and solutions related to its application in the context of Islamic finance operations, regulation and literacy. This research uses a qualitative-descriptive method, where data is collected and analyzed to gain a deeper understanding of the role of Arabic in Islamic banking. This approach was chosen for its flexibility and in-depth nature, which allows researchers to explore understanding of complex social phenomena, such as language use in cultural and religious contexts. The methodology used included a literature study, as well as analysis of documents related to Islamic banking and the Arabic language (Toledo-Pereyra, 2012).

Findings and Discussion

Arabic plays an important role in the world of Islamic banking, not only as the language of religion but also as an effective communication tool in managing and conveying sharia-based financial concepts. The uniqueness of the Arabic language, which is rich in Islamic financial terms, makes it essential in Islamic banking operations, both at the national and international levels (Mohamed et al., 2020).

In the world of Islamic banking, almost all concepts, principles and terminology are derived from Arabic. Terms such as murabahah (sale and purchase with a profit margin), mudharabah (profit sharing), ijarah (rental), and musharakah (partnership) are examples of the many terms that are not only widely used, but also reflect core principles in Islamic economics (Mohamed et al., 2020). A deep understanding of these terms requires knowledge of the Arabic language, which is not only a means of communication but also a key to understanding the meaning contained in the concepts (Permatasari & Berhimin, 2022).

In Islamic banking regulations, many documents and contracts are drafted in Arabic. This is important to ensure that all sharia terms used are in accordance with their original meaning and are not misinterpreted. Arabic in Islamic banking documents helps maintain the sanctity of sharia principles, ensuring that all transactions and operations are in accordance with Islamic law. The use of Arabic in these regulations also makes it easier for financial institutions to operate in countries where the majority of the population is Muslim (Permatasari & Berhimin, 2022).

The use of Arabic is also important in efforts to improve Islamic financial literacy. Much of the classic literature on Islamic economics and finance is written in Arabic. To understand and apply these principles, Islamic banking industry players need to master Arabic. Moreover, in Islamic banking education and training, teaching Arabic is often an integral part of the curriculum, as a strong understanding of the language helps learners in understanding the material better.

Arabic also serves as an international language in Islamic banking. Many international conferences, seminars and meetings on Islamic banking use Arabic as the main language. This facilitates communication between countries and strengthens global cooperation in the development of Islamic banking. In this context, mastery of Arabic becomes an important asset for professionals in Islamic banking who want to participate in global discussions and expand their networks.

Arabic in the context of Islamic banking is not only a communication tool, but also an integral part in ensuring that sharia principles are properly applied in banking operations. The following is a further discussion of the role and challenges of Arabic in Islamic banking as well as an analysis of the results of its application.

The Role of Arabic in Islamic Banking Operations

Arabic has a significant role to play in three key aspects of Islamic banking operations: legal documentation, regulation, and financial literacy.

1. *Law Documentation*

Arabic plays an important role in Islamic banking operations, particularly in the preparation of legal documentation underlying financial transactions and agreements. In Islamic banking, documents such as murabahah, mudharabah, ijarah and musyarakah financing contracts use specific terms derived from Arabic. These terms not only have technical meanings, but also deep sharia meanings, which require proper understanding in order for the documents to be legally valid and compliant with sharia principles. For example, in a murabahah contract, the use of the terms bai' (sale and purchase) and ribhi (profit) must be clearly stated so that the transaction meets the sharia criteria of avoiding usury or interest (Hatta, 2022).

The Arabic language in Islamic banking legal documentation is also important to maintain the authenticity of the interpretation of sharia law. Many of the sharia rules related to financial transactions are derived from classical fiqh books written in Arabic. Therefore, to ensure that transactions or contracts remain in accordance with the fiqh provisions, these documents are often drafted using Arabic terms, or at least referring to them. This helps to avoid ambiguity in the application of the law and allows sharia authorities to assess the documents' conformity with broader Islamic principles. In other words, the use of Arabic in legal documentation serves not only as a communication tool, but also as a verification and legitimization tool in maintaining sharia compliance in the banking sector (Hatta, 2022).

The use of Arabic in Islamic banking legal documentation serves as a tool to ensure global compliance with sharia standards across multiple jurisdictions. Many countries with different Islamic banking systems have regulations that refer to international sharia supervisory boards, such as the Accounting and Auditing Organization for Islamic Financial Institutions (AAOIFI), which sets financial contract standards based on Arabic terminology. In this case, Arabic becomes the connecting language that harmonizes the different interpretations of sharia in different countries. For example, ijarah contracts drafted in Bahrain can be adopted by Islamic financial institutions in Indonesia without causing misunderstanding because the terms and concepts used refer to internationally standardized terminology. Thus, Arabic not only serves as a medium in drafting contracts, but also as a tool to create uniformity and transparency in Islamic banking practices at the global level (Mohamed et al., 2020).

2. *Regulation*

Arabic plays a significant role in the regulation of Islamic banking, especially in ensuring that all financial activities meet strict sharia standards. Most Islamic banking regulations in Muslim-majority countries, such as Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Kuwait, are drafted using Arabic. This is important because Arabic is considered to be able to communicate the nuances of sharia law more deeply and comprehensively than other languages. For example, terms such as riba (interest prohibited in Islam) or gharar (uncertainty in contracts) have very specific sharia meanings and are difficult to fully translate into other languages without losing the essence of the sharia prohibitions. The use of Arabic in regulation helps to ensure that all parties, including financial institutions, regulators, and customers, have the same understanding of what is allowed and prohibited in Islamic banking operations (Anisah S., Irawati R.P., & Miftahudin A, 2013).

Many countries refer to regulatory standards developed by international organizations such as AAOIFI and the Islamic Financial Services Board (IFSB), which also use Arabic as the main language in their regulatory documents. In this context, Arabic serves as a bridging language that facilitates the adoption of uniform Islamic regulatory standards across countries (Hatta, 2022). For example, regulations related to murabaha financing or musyarakah partnerships drafted by AAOIFI use specific Arabic terms to ensure that there is no misinterpretation or application that

deviates from shariah. This allows Islamic banks in different countries to follow the same guidelines, thus creating uniformity in global Islamic banking practices, despite local language and cultural differences.

In addition, in the local context, regulators in countries with Islamic banking often issue regulations that are based on Islamic law and use Arabic as the main reference. Regulators such as Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) or the Financial Services Authority (OJK) in Indonesia refer to Arabic terminology in setting rules related to Islamic products. While these regulations may be translated into local languages, Arabic terms such as zakat, sukuk or mudarabah remain widely used as they carry a deeper meaning in a sharia context. Thus, Arabic is not only a regulatory language, but also a bridge to ensure that all Islamic banking products and services remain in line with sharia principles, both at the national and international levels.

3. Financial Literacy

The Arabic language plays an important role in Islamic financial literacy, especially in ensuring that Islamic financial concepts are properly understood by the general public. One of the obstacles that often arises is the lack of understanding of Islamic finance terms derived from Arabic, such as riba (interest), gharar (uncertainty), zakat (obligatory charity), or sukuk (Islamic bonds). The use of Arabic terms is important because each term has a specific sharia meaning and cannot be translated directly into other languages without changing its essence (Hatta, 2022). Thus, effective Islamic financial literacy requires an understanding of Arabic so that the public and customers can understand Islamic financial products correctly, so that they can make financial decisions in accordance with sharia principles.

In Islamic financial literacy, Arabic is also a tool that connects people with the rich heritage of Islamic law, especially when it comes to ethical financial management in accordance with sharia principles. Many Islamic financial guides refer to classical fiqh books written in Arabic, where financial concepts, such as profit sharing (mudharabah), partnership (musyarakah) or leasing (ijarah), are explained in depth. Good Islamic financial literacy requires the ability to understand these concepts in the context of the original language, so that Islamic principles can be properly applied in daily practice (Hatta, 2022). Thus, the understanding of Arabic by customers and the wider community enables them to access the original sources of Islamic financial knowledge, which in turn improves their financial literacy.

Arabic also plays a role in financial literacy through media and educational materials developed by Islamic financial institutions. Brochures, product guides and educational materials provided by Islamic banks often use Arabic terms to describe certain products or services. Therefore, customers who have good Arabic literacy will find it easier to understand the details of Islamic financial products. For example, in murabahah financing products, customers need to understand the concept of profit and buying and selling in sharia terminology, which is directly taken from Arabic. In this case, Arabic literacy is key to ensure that customers not only understand these products from a financial point of view, but also from a sharia compliance perspective. This suggests that Islamic financial literacy cannot be separated from an understanding of the Arabic language, as it plays an integral role in bridging customers with valid Islamic financial products and principles (Hatta, 2022).

Challenges in the Use of Arabic

Despite the importance of the Arabic language, there are several challenges faced in its use in Islamic banking:

1. Dialectal and Terminological Variations

The use of Arabic in Islamic banking faces a major challenge in the form of dialectal variations and different terminologies in different countries. Arabic has many dialects spoken by

people in the Middle East, North Africa and other regions, and this can lead to different understandings of key terms in the context of Islamic banking (Hatta, 2022). For example, a term commonly used in Islamic banking in Egypt may have a slightly different connotation in Jordan or Morocco. In addition, colloquial dialects that differ from the Fusha (standard) Arabic used in legal documents often lead to misunderstandings among customers or even among banking professionals. These challenges necessitate harmonization efforts in the use of Arabic so that the messages conveyed by financial institutions can be uniformly understood across different regions.

Differences in terminology are also a significant barrier. Although Arabic is the primary language in Islamic banking, variations in terminology in the interpretation of sharia law can lead to differences in the interpretation of Islamic financial regulations or products (Hatta, 2022). For example, the term *tawarruq* used in Islamic transactions in the Gulf region may not be well known or understood in other countries, such as in Indonesia or Malaysia. In these countries, the use of local terms or adaptations of certain Arabic terms can cause confusion among both customers and banking practitioners. This poses challenges in drafting contracts, marketing products and educating the public about Islamic finance in an appropriate and uniform manner, especially when such products or services are marketed internationally.

In addition, as Islamic banking is a globally expanding industry, the integration of different Arabic dialects and terminology in different jurisdictions becomes more important. Countries that are not majority Arabic-speaking, such as Indonesia and Malaysia, face difficulties in using Arabic terms that may not be familiar to local customers. Islamic banking in these countries must adapt the use of Arabic to the local language while still maintaining the essence of the sharia concept. This requires Islamic financial institutions to create more consistent terminology standards, as well as increase Arabic language training among Islamic banking employees. Improving uniformity and understanding of sharia terminology across dialects and countries is key to overcoming these challenges and strengthening Islamic financial literacy worldwide.

2. Lack of Understanding

The lack of understanding of Arabic among Islamic banking practitioners and customers is one of the main challenges in Islamic banking operations. Many Islamic banks operate in non-Arabic countries, such as Indonesia (Hatta, 2022), Malaysia, and some Western countries, where the majority of employees and customers do not have a strong understanding of Arabic. Although terms such as *murabahah*, *mudharabah*, and *ijarah* are frequently used in Islamic financial products, in-depth understanding of the sharia concepts behind these terms is often limited. As a result, there is a risk of misinterpretation or incomprehension that may affect Shariah compliance in day-to-day operations. Lack of understanding of Arabic can lead to errors in the application of sharia contracts, or even misunderstandings in communication between banks and customers regarding the products and services offered (Permatasari & Berhimin, 2022).

This challenge is also compounded by the limited Arabic language training for Islamic bank employees. In many countries, Islamic finance training focuses more on technical and legal aspects, while Arabic language understanding is often neglected. This results in a significant knowledge gap, where employees responsible for drafting contracts or interacting with customers may not fully understand Islamic concepts derived from Arabic. Without a strong understanding of sharia language and terminology, there is the potential for errors in translation or application of sharia principles in financial products, which can ultimately harm the reputation of Islamic financial institutions and reduce customer trust (Permatasari & Berhimin, 2022).

For customers, a lack of understanding of Arabic also poses challenges in effectively accessing Islamic banking products and services. While many banks make an effort to explain their products in local languages, the sharia terms that are still used in Arabic often confuse customers who have no background knowledge of sharia or Arabic. This can hinder customers from making informed decisions regarding the Islamic financial products they choose, as well as

lead to misunderstandings about how the products work in compliance with sharia principles. Therefore, Islamic banks need to increase financial literacy efforts and provide specialized training that not only explains financial products, but also provides an in-depth understanding of the Arabic terms on which Islamic financial concepts are based (Permatasari & Berhimin, 2022).

3. Limited Education Resources

Limited educational resources on Arabic in the context of Islamic banking is one of the main challenges that hinder the understanding and effective application of Islamic finance concepts. In many countries, especially non-Arabic countries, access to Arabic learning materials relevant to Islamic finance is still very limited. Most of the available educational programs focus only on teaching general or traditional Arabic, which does not specifically cover the technical and legal terms used in Islamic banking. As a result, bank employees, financial practitioners, and students interested in Islamic banking do not receive adequate training to understand the use of Arabic in the context of Islamic finance and law (Burhanuddin, 2024).

The lack of teaching staff or instructors who are experts in Islamic banking and have good Arabic language skills is also a significant challenge. Many educational institutions offer Islamic finance study programs, but only a few have instructors who are able to integrate Arabic language teaching with Islamic finance concepts. This limitation makes learning unbalanced, where learners may master the technical aspects of Islamic banking, but do not understand how Arabic is used in drafting contracts or setting sharia regulations. This condition is also exacerbated by the lack of access to textbooks, literature, or online resources that provide an in-depth understanding of the role of Arabic in Islamic finance, especially those that are local or bilingual (Hatta, 2022).

As a result of these limited educational resources, many professionals in the Islamic banking industry have to learn independently or through practical experience, which is often insufficient to build a comprehensive understanding of Arabic in an Islamic context. This results in a high reliance on Shariah experts or Shariah supervisory boards to bridge the understanding gap between Arabic and day-to-day banking operations. However, this reliance can be problematic when expert resources are limited or not always available. Therefore, increased investment in educational resources, including the development of Arabic language training programs specific to Islamic finance, as well as the provision of relevant and accessible literature materials, is urgently needed to overcome this challenge and support the sustainable development of Islamic banking (Susi & Nilasari, 2023).

Analysis of the Results of Arabic Language Implementation

The use of Arabic in Islamic banking has yielded positive results, but it also poses some challenges that need to be addressed.

1. Accuracy and Shariah Compliance

Arabic in Islamic banking operations plays an important role in ensuring accuracy and compliance with Shariah principles. One of the main outcomes of the use of Arabic in legal documents and contracts is the clarity of terminology which reduces ambiguity in the interpretation of sharia. Key terms such as *riba* (interest), *gharar* (uncertainty), and *mudharabah* (profit sharing) carry clear and specific legal meanings in Arabic, thus maintaining the accuracy of financial contracts and transactions. By using Arabic in contract drafting, Islamic banks can ensure that every transaction remains Shariah-compliant without the risk of deviation or misunderstanding that can result from translating terms into other languages. This helps reduce potential disputes between banks and customers regarding sharia compliance (Hatta, 2022).

The accuracy in the application of Arabic is also evident in the context of verification of Islamic financial products. For example, when a financial product such as *sukuk* (sharia bonds) is

launched (Pratista, 2021), the use of Arabic terms helps to ensure that the product has gone through testing by a sharia supervisory board, which usually consists of scholars who have a deep understanding of Arabic and Islamic law. The use of Arabic allows these scholars to assess the validity of contracts and identify potential non-compliance with sharia (Hatta, 2022). This verification process is more effective with the Arabic language, as it allows for more detailed and structured scrutiny based on the original texts written in the language, thus increasing accuracy and transparency in product implementation.

The application of Arabic is directly linked to the level of Shariah compliance in Islamic banking practices. Most fatwas or legal decisions governing Islamic banking are issued in Arabic (Hatta, 2022), especially by international institutions such as AAOIFI and IFSB that set global standards in Islamic finance. By referring directly to Arabic documents, Islamic financial institutions can more easily ensure that their products and services comply with those standards without any misinterpretation. This allows Islamic banks to minimize the risk of non-compliance that could damage their reputation or affect customer confidence. As a result, the consistent use of Arabic in Islamic banking operations not only improves accuracy, but also strengthens the integrity of Islamic financial institutions in the eyes of regulators and the public (Hatta, 2022)..

2. *Literacy Development*

The use of Arabic in Islamic banking has a significant impact on improving financial literacy, especially among customers and the public who want to understand basic concepts in Islamic finance. The use of Arabic terms such as murabahah (sale and purchase with profit margin), mudharabah (profit sharing), and wakalah (representation) in Islamic banking products introduces customers to Islamic terminology that has deep religious and legal significance (Misra & Sadikin, 2023). By understanding these terms, customers gain better insight into how Islamic products work and how they differ from conventional banking products. This helps improve financial literacy among the public, especially for those who are new to the concept of Islamic finance and want to ensure that their transactions are in line with sharia principles.

With the use of Arabic in financial education and literacy materials, customers can more easily understand the structure and mechanism of Islamic banking products (Hatta, 2022). Many Islamic financial institutions provide brochures, guides and seminars that explain financial products using specific Arabic terms. These materials clarify the basic principles underlying Islamic transactions, such as avoiding riba (interest) and gharar (uncertainty), so that customers can make better financial decisions. The direct use of Arabic terms in financial literacy makes it easier for people to relate banking practices to Islamic religious teachings, increasing their confidence in choosing Islamic products that suit their financial needs (Misra & Sadikin, 2023).

The application of Arabic also opens up opportunities for more in-depth financial literacy among banking professionals and Islamic practitioners. Arabic language training coupled with learning Islamic finance concepts enables professionals to enhance their understanding of Islamic products, regulations and global standards using Arabic as a key reference. In addition, they are also better able to provide customers with more accurate explanations of the products offered. This not only helps improve financial literacy among customers, but also strengthens the competence of Islamic banking professionals themselves. Ultimately, the implementation of Arabic in Islamic banking operations not only supports Shariah compliance, but also promotes increased financial literacy at various levels, from the general public to industry professionals (Misra & Sadikin, 2023).

3. *Operational Complexity*

The application of Arabic in Islamic banking operations brings challenges in the form of complexities that affect various aspects of operations, especially in non-Arabic countries. One prominent result is the difficulty in ensuring uniform understanding across all levels of the organization. Many Islamic banking employees, especially in non-Arab majority countries such as Indonesia, Malaysia and Pakistan, do not have an adequate command of the Arabic language. This

leads to gaps in the understanding of Islamic terminology used in financial products and regulations (Novianti, 2021). For example, terms such as *ijarah* (lease) or *musharakah* (partnership) may be understood differently by staff in different branches or divisions, which may result in differences in the application of Islamic products. This complexity requires extra effort in terms of internal training and standardization to ensure that all employees understand and apply sharia terminology in a consistent manner.

The use of Arabic in drafting contracts and legal documents adds another layer of complexity in terms of translation and interpretation. Documents drafted in Arabic often require translation into local languages to ensure that non-Arabic customers and employees can understand them. This translation process often poses a risk of misinterpretation or loss of specific Shariah meaning. For example, the concept of *gharar* (uncertainty), which is very important in Islamic contracts, may be mistranslated, which may affect compliance with Shariah principles (Mohamed et al., 2020). This makes it necessary for Islamic banks to employ a team of experts who not only understand Islamic finance but are also able to bridge language differences, so that they can translate documents with high accuracy and minimize the risk of misunderstanding (Novianti, 2021).

Complexity also arises in the aspect of external communication with regulators, customers, and other stakeholders. In many countries, Islamic banking regulators use Arabic to draft regulations and fatwas that govern the industry. Islamic banks operating in a multilingual environment must be able to translate and adapt these regulations into local languages while maintaining the essence of sharia law. This process requires not only expertise in Arabic (Hatta, 2022), but also an in-depth understanding of local sharia law and regulatory systems. If not managed properly, this complexity can slow down the implementation of regulations or cause uncertainty in day-to-day operations, which can affect the overall efficiency of the bank.

The complexity in Arabic implementation can have an impact on product innovation in Islamic banking. When banks want to launch a new Shariah-compliant product, they must ensure that the product complies with existing terminology and concepts in Arabic. However, due to the many interpretations and different understandings of Arabic terms, product development becomes more complicated. The process of getting the product approved by the Shariah supervisory board often takes longer as it is necessary to carry out in-depth verification of every aspect of the product to ensure compliance. In this case, language complexity can slow down the pace of innovation and product launches, which can affect the competitiveness of Islamic banks in a rapidly growing market (Novianti, 2021).

Conclusion

Arabic plays a crucial role in the world of Islamic banking, both as an effective communication tool and as a foundation in the application of sharia principles. It is widely used in legal, regulatory and financial literacy documentation related to Islamic banking. Mastery of Arabic ensures that sharia concepts are applied accurately and in accordance with Islamic law, reduces the risk of sharia violations, and increases customer confidence in Islamic banking institutions. However, the application of Arabic also faces challenges, including dialectal variations, lack of deep understanding among professionals and customers, and limited educational resources. These challenges can lead to misunderstandings and complexities in Islamic banking operations. Overall, despite these significant challenges, the adoption of Arabic in Islamic banking has yielded positive results in terms of accuracy, compliance and financial literacy, contributing to the growth of the sector worldwide.

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