



Empowering Communities: The Impact of *Waqf* on Social and Economic Development

Research Article

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Abstract

The study examines the concept of *Waqf* (Islāmic Endowment), its historical origins and foundational principles, highlighting its role in providing social, educational and charitable services. It also evaluates the contemporary relevance of *Waqf*, its status in various countries and its effectiveness in addressing development challenges. The core research question guiding this study is, how can the strategic management of *Waqf* assets contribute to sustainable social and economic development in contemporary societies. The findings indicate that *Waqf* assets represent a substantial reservoir of wealth, which holds significant potential for addressing a range of societal challenges. By synthesising historical insights with modern practices, the paper illustrates how the strategic management and development of *Waqf* assets can yield substantial social and economic benefits, thereby affirming its ongoing relevance and utility in the global context.