Abstract:

An Inquiry on an Initiative to Create a Bank by Muslim Entrepreneurs in St. Petersburg in the Early Twentieth Century

In spite of an extensive literature, the history of Muslim-ethics claiming banking made limited progress over the past three decades. It seems to be resting on his laurels, content already of its current knowledge. The purpose of this study is to highlight an initiative for the creation of an Islamic bank, in St. Petersburg in 1907, which has remained completely unnoticed until now. Such discovery, in a European context hitherto unthinkable at such a time, is not without consequences. The interaction between finance and religious ethics is a complex phenomenon that can not be reduced to an alternative to the capitalist system nor a substitute for interest-bearing loan. This example makes it possible to introduce new hypotheses relating in particular to the affirmation of relative unity and shared interest in a perspective of doux-commerce.

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Major Points of the Presentation:

• How was the discovery of the initiative carried out?
• What is its interest?
• What is its impact?