Accountability and Financial Management Practices of Micro Entrepreneurs

Title: Times New Roman, Size-16 pt, Line Spacing: fixed-0 pt

Paragraph Spacing: Above paragraph-0 pt; Below paragraph-0 pt

Following Text: Times New Roman, Size-12pt, Line Spacing: fixed-12 pt

Paragraph Spacing: Above paragraph-0 pt; Below paragraph-4 pt

Word Limit: 2,500 words

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**Abstract (Summarize in this section objective, method and findings)**

**Objective:** This study aims to look at the financial management practices of two groups of micro entrepreneurs; *sahabats* of AIM and *asnafs* entrepreneurs from PPUAZ.

**Method Analysis:** Adopting a mixed method approach, this study combines both quantitative (surveys) and qualitative (interviews) approaches. The surveys were conducted first to provide the overall and background information of the micro enterprises and their financial management practices. Adopting the purposive sampling method, samples were chosen based on the participants’ willingness to participate in the study. However, to ensure that the questions were answered by the targeted respondents, participants were asked on whether they were actively involved in running a business before answering the survey questions. Then, the findings from the questionnaire are verified in the interview sessions with the selected micro entrepreneurs.

**Findings:** Data from the surveys and interviews were analyzed, and it was found that although *asnafs* are given “free money” from the PPUAZ, they generally have better financial management practices as compared to the *sahabats.* This study also found that that majority of the micro entrepreneurs score low on the financial management variables. This suggests that the micro entrepreneurs in general are not practicing a good record keeping. As financial management is vital for all types of entrepreneurship including micro, it is a concern as 21% of the micro entrepreneurs in this study are not recording anything from their business activities.

**Keywords:** financial management, microfinance, AIM, PPUAZ, micro entrepreneurs

# General Guidelines

The extended abstract must contain the following sections: **abstract and keywords, introduction, methodology, findings, conclusion, and references**. Section can be named differently and subsections can be included.

The extended abstract shall be written in font *Time New Roman*, single line spacing and 12-font size. The extended abstract should contain a minimum of 1000 words and a maximum of 2500 words. Extended abstracts can contain figures, tables and/or images which are not included in the word count. The references are not included in the word count as well.

Supporting figures, tables and images of the results (no more than two figures and two tables) may be included in the extended abstract.

All the tables, images and figures should be centered. Figures and images should be numbered (see Figure 1 for an example) and figure headers should be placed under the figure or image; as for the tables, they should also be numbered (see Table 1 for an example) and the table header should be placed at the top. References (if any) of the tables, figures and images should be presented right under the tables, figures and images in the form of author surname and publication date.

Figure 1: Header

Table 1: Header

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | Age | Marital Status | No. of Children | Years of Working Experience |
| 1 | 29 | Married | - not stated | -not stated |
| 2 | 34 | Single | - none | 4 |
| 3 | 35 | Married | 3 | 11 |
| 4 | 35 | Married | 5 | 8 |
| 5 | 37 | Married | 4 | 16 |

*Reference: author surname and publication date*

# Introduction

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# Methodology

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# Findings

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# Conclusions

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# References

References should be listed in alphabetical order and presented in a a format according to the APA Styles (6th ed)

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