

## A Value of Trust (Amanah) in Financial Accountability

Yurmaini<sup>1</sup>, Elwardi Hasibuan<sup>2</sup>, Khairil Anshari<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1,2</sup>Universitas Al Washliyah Medan, Indonesia

<sup>3</sup>Universitas Islam Labuhan Batu, Indonesia

yurmainiyus86@gmail.com, elwardihasibuan17@gmail.com, khairilanshari2107@gmail.com

### Abstract

*This research is qualitative research with a phenomenological approach, the first objective of this research is to find out and analyze the perceptions or views of actors (informants) regarding the value of trust in financial accountability. In addition, the second objective is to determine the application of the value of trust in financial accountability including (financial planning, financial management and financial reporting). The research location is Al Washliyah Sibolga College of Economics, where STIE is a high school that has the most students in its region. The data used are primary data (derived from interviews with key informants), and secondary data (derived from interviews with additional informants, books, financial documents, and some literature). Data analysis techniques use data reduction, data presentation, and conclusions and are supported with the help of the NVivo 12 Plus application. The results of this study are that the value of trust is seen or interpreted as a form of effort to maintain commitment. The commitment in question is that campus financial management starting from planning, management to reporting must refer to the book of financial systems and procedures that have been regulated and published by the Al Washliyah organization. One of the applications of the value of trust in financial accountability is that each income is used in accordance with its designation, STIE Al Washliyah Sibolga guarantees that any income or income will not be used unless it is in accordance with its designation and must be reported and can be accounted for.*

### Keywords

trust value; financial accountability



## I. Introduction

Today, the phenomenon that occurs related to the performance of public organizations is the increasingly strengthening demands for implementation of accountability in both government and private sector organizations. Accountability is a measure that shows that public activities carried out are in accordance with the norms and values adopted by the people and public services must be able to accommodate the needs of the people. In the context of higher education institutions, accountability is a necessity, while the role and function of accountability in the world of education is in the context of providing quantitative information including finance, so that it is useful in making economic decisions in educational entities (Tandiling, 2019).

Accountability is a very important discussion considering the problem that is most concerning at the moment is the low level of trust in the economy. One of the fundamental problems faced by the Indonesian government after the economic crisis occurred was the decline in public trust in the government system and its performance, including in the

world of education. The decline in public trust has made accountability difficult, especially financial accountability.

In educational institutions, financial accountability is of course very important in order to maintain public trust in them. Article 48 of Law Number 20 of 2003 states that the management of education funds is based on the principles of fairness, efficiency, transparency and accountability. In addition to being mandated by law, educational institutions that prioritize the principles of accountability and transparency in managing their finances will also gain high trust from the public, and public trust is one of the main keys to the progress or failure of an educational institution. The problem faced is that currently there are still many educational institutions that have not been able to implement good financial management so that the impact on accountability is not created. There are still many educational institutions that have not implemented the principles of managing education funds as stipulated in Law Number 20 of 2003.

Cases of financial accountability at tertiary institutions in Indonesia are also increasing, the Indonesia Corruption Watch (ICW) found 37 cases of corruption in tertiary institutions over the last 10 years. This finding is based on the results of ICW's monitoring conducted in October 2016. The amount of state financial losses caused by corrupt practices that occurred in these universities amounted to IDR 218.804 billion. Meanwhile, on the actor side, at least 65 perpetrators were involved in the 37 cases which were academics, local government employees and the private sector. Meanwhile, the most perpetrators were employees and structural officials at faculties and universities, namely as many as 32 people. Chancellors or vice-chancellors including former rectors are the second most perpetrators with a total of 13 perpetrators. The rest are 10 private parties, 5 lecturers, 3 deans and 2 local government officials.

The Islamic accounting perspective emphasizes that financial accountability is important and must be carried out by applying sharia principles. Sharia accounting that produces Islamic financial reports is not only a form of accountability to company owners, but accountability to stakeholders and God. In carrying out financial management, starting from the beginning of the accounting cycle to the financial reporting stage, it is necessary to refer to the example of the Prophet Muhammad who has commendable qualities and noble character. One of the titles given to Rasulullah SAW is "al-amin" or trusted. Rasulullah SAW is a very trusted economic actor. Financial reports are a form of accountability that must be accounted for so that financial actors must prioritize Islamic values, especially the value of trust so that they can be trusted.

## II. Review of Literature

### 2.1 Trust (Amanah) Value

Trust (Amanah) comes from the Arabic word 'amuna-ya'munu-amānatan' which means a calm and peaceful condition, because it is free from danger and disaster, or there is no doubt and fear of something bad happening. Amanah also comes from the word 'amana-yamunu-amanatan' which means entrusted (wadī'ah) which consists of elements of trust (nazāhah), honesty (sidiq), sincerity, promises or obligations (wafā'), consistency and commitment to promises (tsabāt). 'alal 'Ahdi (Ma'luf, 2000).

Trust can be interpreted as, (1) obedience, (2) worship, (3) deposit (wadī'ah), (4) trust (tsiqah), (5) and security. Amanah can also be interpreted as an intention that becomes a person's belief, which is reflected orally and carries out what is required concretely so that Allah SWT gives peace to him (Mandzur, 1998).



### III. Research Method

This type of research is qualitative research, the selection of qualitative research types in this research is based on the suitability of efforts to reveal the phenomenon of accountability on the assumptions of ontology and research epistemology. This study uses a phenomenological approach in general which aims to obtain empirical data about the research subject, namely the informant. The main goal of phenomenology is to find out, find, explore and understand something that is essential and specific-uniqlly without prejudice, even though that prejudice is an economic axiom or comes from economic theory.

This research was conducted at the Al Washliyah Sibolga Tapanuli Tengah College of Economics which is located at Padangsidempuan s.t No. 98 Sarudik District, Central Tapanuli Regency, North Sumatra. The data used is primary data derived from the results of interviews with the main informants or also called actors (Deputy Chair II for Administration and Finance: Muhammad Shafwan Koto, S.E, M.M, while secondary data is data derived from several additional informants to strengthen the data, system manuals and procedures for al washliyah college financial management, college financial reports, books, and other documents that provide additional data. The data analysis technique used is divided into 3 types: data reduction, data presentation, verification/conclusion, and to strengthen the analysis and ensure that the data is used with the help of the NVivo 12 Plus application.

### IV. Discussion

Al Washliyah Sibolga High School of Economics is a high school under the auspices of the Al Jam'iyatul Washliyah organization and is a high school with the highest number of students compared to high schools throughout the city. This is what makes the Al Washliyah Sibolga Middle Tapanuli High School of Economics (STIE AW) also have to have substantial finances. In addition, STIE AW has a very good vision in its activities as a higher education institution, including to answer economic challenges, namely to become a tertiary institution that produces Islamic Economics graduates who are competitive and have a global entrepreneurial spirit in 2033. STIE AW was formed and founded by people Al Washliyah people who obey Islamic teachings, one of which is upholding the value of trust in every step, including in finance.

The value of trust is one of the objectives contained in the Articles of Association and Bylaws of Al Jam'iyatul Washliyah as stated in CHAPTER III, namely the Purpose, Nature, Functions and Efforts of Article 3 which reads as follows: "Al Washliyah aims to uphold Islamic teachings. amar ma'ruf nahi munkar for the creation of a society of faith, piety, intelligent, trustworthy, just, prosperous that pleases Allah SWT. To achieve this goal, efforts must be made to carry out amar ma'ruf nahi munkar and to carry out other efforts outside of what has been stipulated in the Statutes and Bylaws of Al Jam'iyatul Washliyah and not contrary to the Statutes and Bylaws Al Jam'iyatul Washliyah Stairs.

The value of amanah has the meaning of being trustworthy and upholding the trust given to Al Washliyah cadres in all aspects/fields including in carrying out the positions given. The value of trust is one that is emphasized in financial management at Al Washliyah College. The intended value of trust is that all financial management is in accordance with existing regulations and the trust that has been given by the wider community. As conveyed by Mr. Muhammad Shafwan Koto who serves as Deputy Chairperson for Administration and Finance of STIE Al Washliyah Sibolga, as follows:

“The mandate in question is a commitment to duties and obligations, that all activities carried out, both related to academics and finance, must be carried out in accordance with existing and entrusted regulations, which in this case are in line with the financial systems and procedures that have been made by the educational assembly. senior management of Al Washliyah”.

From this explanation, it is clear that the purpose of the mandate which is used as the principle of financial management at STIE AW requires that officials or employees who are entrusted with carrying out tasks in the financial sector must manage it in line with the rules of the person giving the trust, which in this case is the senior management of Al Washliyah. This is actually in line with what was stated by Atsir that someone who is said to be trustworthy is someone who is entrusted to be a caretaker or manager of something.

The value of trust is also seen as a form of commitment, namely commitment to existing rules and agreements. The commitment in question is that financial management from planning to reporting must refer to the book of financial systems and procedures that has been published by the Al Washliyah organization. Therefore, the use of finances carried out is adjusted to the principle of trust that has been determined in the financial procedure book of Al Washliyah Higher Education. All existing income must be used according to its purpose, because as a campus that is sheltered by the Al Washliyah organization, of course it must follow Islamic values and rules in the use of finance, which in this case the most important is the value of trust, in the sense of fulfilling the people's trust according to regulations that have been determined by the organization/foundation. This is in line with what was conveyed by Mr. Muhammad Shafwan Koto namely: "The value of trust that is interpreted by STIE AW is a form of fulfillment of the agreement that has been made as well as possible. The value of trust means fulfilling the agreement as well as possible, fulfilling the agreement between the two parties and not cheating or upholding the principle of willingness in fulfilling the agreement. The value of trust in financial management means that the financial planning, use and reporting carried out at STIE Al Washliyah Sibolga is carried out in accordance with the agreed rules as stated in the system and procedure book of Al Washliyah college finance issued by the MP Executive Board Al Jam'iyatul Washliyah”.

The argument for maintaining trustworthy finances is not only in enforcing commitments to rules, but also in upholding an independent attitude which is an integral part of the meaning of trust itself. Independent in carrying out entrusted tasks must also have a high commitment so that in its application it can work as well as possible and free from demands, pressures and can even be free from fraud. In practice, an independent attitude often cannot be carried out considering that things often occur that can cause a person to be not independent both at work and in making decisions, including debt of gratitude, or personal (family) relationships, bribery, intervention. The following summarizes the views of actors regarding the value of trust in financial accountability which is concluded from the analysis using the NVivo application:

**Table 1.** The Value of Trust in Financial Accountability

<b>Islamic Values</b>	<b>Identify The Meaning of Value</b>	<b>The Value of Trust in Financial Accountability</b>
The Value of Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fulfill promises, commitments and oaths</li> <li>- justice (fair) fulfilling commitment (keep promises and commitments)</li> <li>- reliability (reliable to carry out the mandate)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- can be trusted and uphold the trust given in finance</li> <li>- financial management in accordance with existing regulations</li> <li>- maintain commitment to financial decision rules and agreements</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- transparency (openness),</li> <li>- independence,</li> <li>- emotional and physical fitness (mental and physical health),</li> <li>- accountability and responsibility.</li> <li>- responsible, punctual, loyal, sincere, trustworthy or trustworthy</li> <li>- Disciplined and fair</li> <li>- Return the rights to the owner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Allocate funds or budget in its designation</li> <li>- Fulfill the people's trust in financial budgeting, financial management and financial reporting</li> <li>- Restore rights according to their responsibilities</li> <li>- Fulfilling something in accordance with the provisions and trust that gives trust</li> <li>- Fulfill the promise of the trust that is carried out</li> <li>- Fulfill the promises that have been made</li> <li>- fulfillment of the agreement that has been made</li> <li>- Independence.</li> </ul>
--	---

The concept of the value of trust in financial accountability found at STIE AW Sibolga is applied to financial activities, namely financial planning, financial management and financial reporting. One form of implementing the value of trust in finance is that every income must be used according to its purpose, STIE AW Sibolga guarantees that every time income is received, the income will not be used unless it is in accordance with its purpose. Not only in terms of income generation, the preparation of the annual budget must be clear, transparent and also must have a thorough interest so that all campus activities can run well without any constraints including finance or activity funding. Another finding in the context of applying the value of trustworthiness in financial accountability is the use and management of routine expenditure which has been regulated in the Al Washliyah financial management systems and procedures book which requires all tertiary institutions under the auspices of Al Washliyah to allocate the use of funds in accordance with article 8 paragraph 1.

The nature of the quality of financial reports which also requires trust or trust is implemented in financial reports, including accounts or lending activities, including those of third parties. Loans made already have a contract that contains a period of repayment or return. Repayment of the loan before the due date for returning the money, this is done in order to maintain the debtor's level of trust so that if one day you need it again, the trust is still there. The value of trust which is interpreted by upholding justice is also realized at STIE Al Washliyah Sibolga which is related to applying justice in financial work. The application of the principle of justice must be applied equally to all elements of human resources in the financial department. Everyone is equal before the law without distinction of origin, ancestry, skin color, race or culture. There is no individual, group, class, ethnicity or any community that is considered higher and more noble, because all people are equal before the law and the only difference is the value of faith and piety. In financial management, the principle of justice is also upheld when receiving rewards or punishments for all levels of employees/financial staff. From the results of observations and several interviews used, the following conclusions regarding the application of the value of trust in financial accountability are compiled in the following table:

**Table. 2** Implementation of Trust Value in Financial Accountability

<b>Islamic Values</b>	<b>The Value of Trust in Financial Accountability</b>	<b>Implementation of Trust Value in Financial Accountability</b>
The Value of Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- can be trusted and uphold the trust given in finance</li> <li>- financial management in accordance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provision of optimal financial services for all parties</li> <li>- Each income is used in accordance with</li> </ul>

	<p>with existing regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- maintain commitment to financial decision rules and agreements</li> <li>- Allocate funds or budget in its designation</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fulfill the people's trust in financial financial budgeting, financial management and financial reporting</li> <li>- Restore rights according to their responsibilities</li> <li>- Fulfilling something in accordance with the provisions and trust that gives trust</li> <li>- Fulfill the promise of the trust that is carried out</li> <li>- Fulfill the promises that have been made</li> <li>- fulfillment of the agreement that has been made</li> <li>- Independence.</li> </ul>	<p>its designation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consistency in the amount of the intended percentage</li> <li>- Responsible according to financial activities</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Transparent in providing and information</li> <li>- Prepare financial reports according to a predetermined time</li> <li>- Manage finances in accordance with what has been regulated in financial management systems and procedures</li> <li>- Providing optimal tuition payment services</li> <li>- Receiving funds from other sources is allocated according to its designation</li> <li>- Manage routine spending with responsibility and regardless of individual interests</li> <li>- Responsible for the allocation of the use of funds PT</li> <li>- Responsibility in every financial decision and action</li> <li>- Allocating aid funds according to their designation and can be accounted for.</li> <li>- Financial reports must reflect the principle of being trustworthy or reliability and free from misleading things</li> <li>- Responsible for fulfilling obligations (debt) both the bank and third parties</li> <li>- Prioritizing commitment to a sense of responsibility in financial management</li> <li>- Fulfilling financial promises including budget disbursement for each activity</li> <li>- Carry out the principles of fairness in the preparation of budgets, management and financial reporting</li> <li>- Not taking sides in one financial decision, and not discriminating</li> <li>- Giving reward and punishment</li> <li>- Provide and report fair wages for every employee/staff.</li> </ul>
--	--	--

The results of the research that can be concluded are that financial accountability requires financial managers to be able to uphold principles in accounting theorization, one of which is upholding transparency and accountability. One of the Islamic values that cannot be separated from upholding transparency and accountability is the value of trust. Trust value can be applied if the actors (financial actors) can understand the concept of trust value well. The value of trust in STIE Al Washliyah Sibolga is seen or interpreted as a form of effort to maintain commitment.

The commitment in question is that campus financial management, from planning, management to reporting, must refer to the books of financial systems and procedures that have been regulated and published by the Al Washliyah organization, namely the Al

Washliyah Higher Education Council. The application of the value of trust in financial accountability cannot be separated from planning, managing or using and reporting finances. One form of implementation is that each income is used according to its designation, STIE Al Washliyah Sibolga guarantees that whenever there is income or income, the income will not be used unless it is in accordance with its designation, and this is in accordance with existing rules from Al Washliyah.

## V. Conclusion

The results of this study are that the value of trust is seen or interpreted as a form of effort to maintain commitment. The commitment in question is that campus financial management starting from planning, management to reporting must refer to the book of financial systems and procedures that have been regulated and published by the Al Washliyah organization. One of the applications of the value of trust in financial accountability is that each income is used in accordance with its designation, STIE Al Washliyah Sibolga guarantees that any income or income will not be used unless it is in accordance with its designation and must be reported and can be accounted for.

## References

- Eko Setyanto, (2018). Faktor-Faktor Yang Mempengaruhi Akuntabilitas Keuangan Pemerintah Daerah".  
Jurnal AKURAT: Jurnal Ilmiah Akuntansi, Vol. IX, No. 1.  
<https://ejournal.unibba.ac.id/index.php/akurat/article/download/19/18>
- Ibn Mandzur, (1998). Lisan al- 'Arab. Qahirah, Darul Ma'arif.
- Iwan Triyuwono, (2012). Islamic Accounting: Perspective, Methodology, and Theory. Jakarta, Rajawali Press.
- Juliana Tandiling, (2018). The Effect of School Financial Transparency and Accountability on Teachers Teaching Motivation in Keerom District. Jurnal Kajian Keuangan dan Ekonomi Daerah Vol.7 No.1.  
<https://ejournal.uncen.ac.id/index.php/KEUDA/article/view/989>
- K.H. Ahmad Warson Munawwir, (2015). Al Munawwir Dictionary, Arabic-Indonesian. Surabaya, Pustaka Progressif.
- Lewis Ma'luf, (2000). Al-Munjid Fi Al-Lughah. Lebanon-Beirūt, Dār al-Masyriq.
- Mark Bovens, (2003). Two Concepts of Accountability, Utrecht School of Governance. Utrecht University, Dubnick.
- Muhammad Syafii Antonio, (2013). Ensiklopedia Prophetic Leadership and Management Wisdom: Amanah. Jakarta, Tazkia Publishing.
- Muindro Renyowijoyo, (2013). Public Sector Accounting. Jakarta, Mitra Wacana Media.
- Samuel Paul, (1991). Accountability in Public Service: Exit Voice and Control, in World Development Journal, Volume 2, No. 7.  
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/0305750X9290130N>