

Competition and Financial Effects between Islamic and Conventional Banking

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Abstract: - This study discusses a comprehensive analysis of the effect of competition and financial effects between Islamic and conventional banks. This study conducts in Asian countries i.e., Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Brunei. The first step, introducing a descriptive study mapping that analyzes the characteristics the main among the sharia and conventional banking sectors. Then in the second step, the competitiveness level of Islamic and conventional banks is measured using the Lerner index model. The Lerner index is a model of the implications of the market power of Islamic and conventional banks on overall financial stability in Asian countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Brunei). This study also discusses the relationship between competition and performance in the banking system in Asian countries. A study of a competition in the banking industries relate the reasons. First about the level of market power and its effect of financial stability. Second about the analyze of competition that affect the performance and efficiency of banks.

Key-Words: - Islamic Banking Industry, Financial Stability, Market Strength.

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1 Introduction

Over the past five decades, Islamic banking has grown exponentially in terms of size, number of institutions and participants. This growth marks the presence of Islamic banking in more than 70 countries in the world. Both Muslims and Non-Muslims recorded this growth well [30,33]. The accumulation of "Islamic assets" and the growth rate of Islamic banking assets over the past few decades have had a significant impact on global finance. This needs to be noted because the impacts that occur significantly make the world of Islamic banking a daunting thing [1,33] and the growth rate of Islamic banking will survive at the current level in the coming years. After identifying fundamental changes in the banking sector, the majority of conventional banks are now providing the latest additions to the Islamic banking sector in addition to their main service, namely conventional banking. Since the first modern Islamic bank was founded in 1975 in the United Arab Emirates, which was named Dubai Islamic Bank, many other countries then adopted the principles of Islamic Islamic Dubai banking Bank which was implemented in their banking system. At present, in several

countries (eg Iran, Sudan and Pakistan) to form a banking system using Islamic financial principles (sharia-based financial system) which is explicitly practiced as a single mode [6]. Nevertheless, Islamic banking can coexist with conventional banking in other countries; e.g. Bahrain, Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Malaysia. Among countries that have an Islamic banking system, Bahrain is considered a center of money in the Muslim world. The Bahrain Monetary Agency noted that Islamic bank assets had a rapid annual growth rate of 111% between 1998 and 2005 while conventional banking had an average annual growth rate of only 6%. This growth rate is significant for the development of the Islamic banking system [10,33]. Interestingly, sharia-based banking has not only developed in Islamic countries lately, but it has also grown in non-Muslim countries. Islamic Bank of Britain became the first bank licensed by a non-Muslim country. In addition, globally, "Citibank, ABN Amro, Bank of America, HSBC, Standard Chartered, and Union Bank of Switzerland, have the latest additions to the Sharia Banking company line or offer Islamic financial products to their customers" [33,48].

With the rapid growth of Islamic banks, various arguments have arisen which try to clarify these significant developments. Some argue that what triggered this growth was the rise of Islam throughout the world since the late 1960s. While other arguments argue that sensitivity factors to religion such as religious beliefs, interest restrictions, costs and benefits offered by banks, banking efficiency, location, service quality, and others affect customers to use Islamic banking. This has led to the rapid growth of Islamic banking. [50,40] suggest that the only factor that often arises where customers become motivated to decide on their choice of Islamic Banking is a sensitivity factor to religion or a strong belief in the religion they hold. This belief is guided by Muslims needing to have a sharia-based banking mechanism that imposes various restrictions to avoid receiving interest rates or usury, gambling or gharar, and specific directives for the Islamic banking system (for example "PLS" or "profit and loss sharing agreements)" [8,26].

A study of competition in banking industry is related to some reasons. First reason that level of market power can affect the financial stability, where it shows that competitiveness can drive moral danger in the banking sector, especially in Asian countries. Second, competition conditions are responsible for influencing banking performance and efficiency, which shows that the relationship between competition and performance in the banking system is more complex than in other industries in Asian countries. To achieve the company's main objectives, we need performance evaluation methods that can be measured in various forms such as financial ratio analysis, comparative analysis, general size analysis, and Du Pont analysis [9,36].

This research will broaden the investigation of the multi-country context within Asian countries, which can enhance the reader's knowledge of the analysis of issues that discuss the influence of sharia bank market forces on global financial stability. This study also contributes differently by using the Lerner index as a measure of competitiveness for the Islamic banking sector and explains its effect on global financial stability. Then this study also analyzes the effect of the market power of Islamic banks on global financial

stability which is the most important issue for banking regulation, especially in the context of the latest disruption in international financial markets.

2 Literature Review

2.1 Syariah Banking

The Islamic financial services industry consists of increasingly diverse institutions, including commercial banks, investment, joint insurance, and investment companies. Today, banks remain the core of the financial services industry in many countries because banks are responsible for most financial transactions. The rapid growth of Islamic banks at the international level requires the development of their financial institutions to provide support for the stability and performance of the Islamic financial industry. The establishment of these institutions is necessary to bring the design of the Islamic financial industry to a higher standard, international standards that they can compete on the international scene. There are three main arguments needed for these institutions: 1) the development of rules and principles that meet the needs of Islamic financial sharia in the form of accounting and auditing standards, regulatory rules for various types of institutions, business valuation methods, transparency of actions and codes of ethics; 2) mechanism for implementing rules and principles in terms of active monitoring and supervision; 3) coordination of rules and principles across countries, between market participants, standard-setting bodies, supervisory and supervisory bodies. Islamic finance is a fast-growing industry in terms of the estimated size and growth rates of assets held internationally under various Islamic financial institutions. Although this growth represents only a small portion of the global financial market (estimated at 1% -5% of the global share), the Islamic finance industry has experienced rapid growth rates in double digits every year in recent years (estimated at 10% -20% annual growth). A survey of global Islamic financial institutions shows that assets that meet shariah criteria rose from the US \$ 1,047 billion in 2010 to US \$ 3,041 billion in 2016.

The rapid growth and challenges faced in developing Islamic banking have triggered public

policy issues including regulatory instruments and regulatory frameworks in several countries where Islamic banking operates. Banks are reluctant to use PLS instruments because of inherent risks such as additional monitoring costs and lack of market transparency [11,52]. Therefore, further growth and development of the Islamic financial system require a uniform regulation and legal framework that supports Islamic banking work programs. Unfortunately, the existing framework based on the Western banking model can create long-term difficulties for Islamic banks to operate efficiently. Theoretically, sharia-based banking, commonly known as sharia banking, differs from conventional banking systems at a greater level. Where specifically sharia-based banking prohibits the use of interest or usury, which is pillared by the profit and loss distribution mechanism (PLS) which is also known as Mudarabah. In terms of risk-sharing both in terms of liabilities and assets, previous research argues that all transactions must be supported by real economic transactions involving tangible assets [16]. In other words, Islamic bank assets and liabilities are integrated into the intention that the borrower shares profits and losses with the bank, which in turn shares profits and losses with depositors under the PLS paradigm.

Apart from the aforementioned prohibitions, sharia-based banking adheres to some restrictions or other guidelines such as sharia-based banking is not allowed to do speculation [12,26] thus, it can be concluded that the conduct of a business related to its derivatives is also prohibited, such as restricting banks from conducting certain businesses related to products/activities that are prohibited in the Koran (eg alcohol, pork, gambling). The guideline used is that sharia-based banking recommends that all financial activities or transactions must involve real economic activities [20,33]. However, there is a fundamental problem for every bank that claims to be a bank with an Islamic banking system because of the use of inherent interest, both directly and indirectly in all financial activities of 'interest-free' operations [24,33]. The scholars in Islam are also more interested in choosing Islamic banking than conventional banking because of the role of PLS agreements which are the main factors that can be distinguished and considered for Muslims themselves.

Most prior research agrees to the need for a regulatory framework that encourages wider and transparent disclosure of information to strengthen accounting standards. General banking laws or specific laws relating to Islamic banks must define in detail the nature of these banks and their specific operational relationships with central banks and other conventional banks. The legal framework must contain provisions containing permits, permitted modes of financing, and the power to deal with compliance with laws and regulations. Besides, the law must state clearly that the central bank (or supervisory authority) has the authority and all the power needed to oversee Islamic banks and conventional banks.

2.2 Banking Competition

The ability to maintain and develop its shares in the market when faced with competition from other national or foreign companies can be defined as the market power of a company. In this context, the competitiveness of banks must be tackled at two levels: on the one hand, banks can vary various financial products and services. Where on the other hand, to maximize social surplus using competitive prices [29,39]. Two main approaches are mainly used in the literature to measure banking competition: structural and non-structural approaches. The structural approach evaluates competitiveness by investigating the size of market structures, for example is concentration. Worker concentration is a tool to measure competition based on the structure-behavior-performance (SCP) hypothesis which postulates that in a highly concentrated market. However, several studies have shown that the relationship between concentration and performance is not always positive, it can be concluded that concentration is not a reliable measure of competition [15,41].

As a consequence, any other paradigm referred to as the efficiency-structure (ES) hypothesis was introduced by [38]. These authors assert that a positive correlation between company efficiency and market concentration may be explained by recognizing that these companies has quality management, technology to reduce costs and efficient production and operating system that can increase their market share and increase

concentration. By verifying the SCP and ES assumptions, [4,22] argues that the SCP assumptions are not supported. He stated that both ES assumptions and relative market power cannot explain the effect of efficiency and market control variables on profitability.

However, a few critics disagree with perception that structure is the most important indicator of competitiveness. In the opposite hand, supporters of the literature called the New Industrial Organization (NIO) such as [44], state that the strategies and behavior of each company have more influence than concentration to explain the condition of competitiveness. Also, the emergence related to the theory of contestability [2,3] gave birth to a variety of non-structural competition indicators aimed at identifying company strategies. The non-structural approach measures competition without using explicit information from the market structure, but it focuses on estimating market forces obtained from the determined banks.

[25,27,37] introduce 'H-statistics' for quantitative tests of the competitive nature of the banking sector and its market power. The degree of competitiveness is acquired from the reduction in the form of the income equation, which is equal to the amount of input price elasticity of the company's total income regarding the price of their factors [17]. The H statistic additionally describes income derived from input prices among other factors [7,31]. The P-R model is usually used to analyze the competitiveness of the banking industry in several countries. However, there are some boundaries in this model; first, the P-R model assumes that banks offer unique products because they are considered financial intermediaries [19]. Second, this model requires an assumption in which all banks have the same cost function. Third, many recent studies are commonly characterized through overestimation of the level of competition due to the fact they use the Panzar and Rosse models [17,42].

The non-structural measure used in our study is the Lerner index. The Lerner index is a direct measure in measuring competition because it emphasizes the limitations of pricing power, which is a measure by which companies can increase their marginal prices beyond marginal costs [5,45]. One interesting and unique study from [51] investigates

the conditions of competition in the global Islamic and conventional banking sector using a proxy spectrum for competition. In a sample of banks in 13 countries during 2000-2006, the consequences confirmed that Islamic banks have been less competitive than conventional banks.

From a slightly exceptional perspective, research conducted by [28,46] found that Islamic banking shows better resilience in the initial stages of the financial crisis compared to conventional banking. However, at a later stage in 2009, Islamic banks failed to beat conventional banks in terms of profitability measures. This phenomenon become partly dealt with by Shamshad Akhtar in his 2009 speech in Rome, Italy. He explained that the resilience of the early stages of Islamic banking was due to the higher dependence of Islamic banking on the real estate sector and the limited ownership in equity-based transactions [10,47].

3 Methodology

This studies uses qualitative and quantitative approaches. The research evaluation was expanded to explain the effect of these measures on global financial stability. Also, our study also studies the effect of the market power of Islamic banks on global financial stability which is an important issue for banking regulation. We examine the market power of Islamic and conventional banks in each country in Asia, then we use descriptive statistics to analyze the factors that affect the competitiveness of banks in the region.

3.1 Lerner Index

The Lerner Index is the step one taken that may be defined as direct market power. The Lerner index is describe as the difference between output prices and marginal costs associated with output prices and makes it possible to identify precisely the degree to which companies can push their marginal prices beyond marginal costs, which requires estimation of marginal product costs [5]. The Lerner Index indicator also refers to previous research. The Lerner index is measured by the following equation:

$$\text{Lernerit} = \frac{P_{it} - MC_{it}}{P_{it}} \quad (1)$$

Where P_{it} is the price of output. And MC_{it} is the marginal cost of the total assets of bank i at t . The measurement of marginal cost is derived by derived from the estimated translog cost function by total assets.

Based on studies from [14,21,51] prices are calculated using the following ratio:

$$P = \frac{\text{Total income (interest income and others)}}{\text{Total assets}} \quad (2)$$

The Lerner index value varies between 0 and 1. The high value of this index approaches 1 where it shows a monopolistic situation but, when the Lerner index tends to 0, the level of competition is very high. The Lerner Index <0 requires prices that are lower than marginal costs and is an indicator of the results of less than optimal banking behavior.

3.2 Z-score

In the second stage, we analyze the stability of Islamic and conventional banks through a combined model using the Z-score as a proxy for banking stability. Developed by [13], the Z-score can be defined as an indicator of insolvency risk. Where these indicators are recorded as follows; $Z = (\mu + K) / \alpha$ where μ is the average return on assets (ROA), K social capital as a percentage of total assets and the standard deviation of ROA as a proxy for profitability volatility. The Z-score is the opposite of the bankruptcy probability [35] where a higher Z-score means a decrease in risk and indicates that the bank is more stable and in good condition. Our estimates are as follows:

$$Z_{it} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{Lerner}_{it} + \beta_2 \text{Cit}_{it} + \beta_3 \text{Ti}_{it} + \beta_4 \ln(\text{GDPper capita}_{it}) \quad (3)$$

Where Z refers to the stability of bank i at t , as defined above, Lerner is a banking competitiveness index, Cit is a vector consisting of two categories of structural and banking specific variables. For structural variables, we consider IHH as a measure of the concentration of banking in each country. In this study, we use IHH which is obtained from the sum of the quadratic market shares of all banks based on total assets. Besides, we consider bank size, efficiency and diversification of income (diversified) as other variables. According to [35,49], a high level of diversification can be reflected in the high value of these variables. This estimate also includes the Neperian logarithm of GDP per capita to control differences in economic development between countries. In this research we

used panel data regression because we took into account the dimensions of the double fold: the temporal dimension on the hand dimension and the individual (bank) dimension on the other hand. One of the main advantages of using panel data is to pay attention to the dimensions of the double fold. Also because our sample is quite weak due to the scarcity of data on Islamic banks, econometric panel data helps multiply the number of observations.

4 Results and Discussion

The panel data set was extracted from the non-consolidated income and balance sheet reports of 79 conventional banks and 29 Islamic banks in 5 countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines, and Thailand). Financial data is converted into US dollars.

Table 1. Structure of Sample by Country and Type of Bank

Country	Conventional Banks	Islamic Banks
Indonesia	37	6
Malaysia	12	15
Singapore	3	6
Thailand	11	1
Philipina	16	1

This table shows that the number of Islamic banks operating in the sample countries is lower than conventional banks, which reflects the embryonic stage of the Islamic financial industry. Table 2 shows descriptive statistics of capitalization, profitability, cost efficiency, liquidity and the performance of conventional bank loans (Panel A) and Islamic banks (Panel B).

Table 2. Banking Descriptive Statistic (Conventional Bank)

Country		ROA	ROE	Total Assets	Total Equity	Total Loans
Indonesia	mean	1.1147059	7.143088235	107020.72	14023.2998	71549.80824
	standav	2.2135148	16.42439216	200171.7	27366.76667	131086.6796
	min	-9.72	-86.75	745.65	107.21	13.2
	max	13.39	32.61	1038710	153370	676180
Malaysia	mean	1.0396	12.39789474	203.68947	18.76791386	134.957193
	standav	0.2435	3.55364136	180.68156	16.19616229	228.8731953
	min	0.55	4.55	11.56	0.87703	8.07
	max	1.47	22.99	735.96	70.47	485.74
Singapore	mean	1.03	11.98	364.710	34.46	217.46
	standav	0.13	1.99	67.820	6.34	47.00
	min	0.87	9.79	252.900	25.27	144.03
	max	1.39	17.83	481.570	46.97	305.41
Thailand	mean	1.19	12.29	1337.71	143.08	923.48
	standav	0.52	4.91	1062.96	119.90	698.47
	min	-0.21	-2.34	122.43	14.17	86.25
	max	2.36	21.54	2940.00	379.24	2030.00
Philippine	mean	1.38	11.13	473.78	53.55	247.81
	standav	0.75	7.81	577.55	58.99	329.93
	min	-0.17	-0.18	0.10	0.10	0.83
	max	3.56	59.75	2320.00	217.54	1480.00

Table 3. Banking Descriptive Statistic (Islamic Bank)

Country		ROA	ROE	Total Assets	Total Equity	Total Loans
Indonesia	mean	0.339828	2.240728	1195687	160543.1	24465.020
	std dev	2.259728	26.07106	2682804	366051.3	16561.709
	min	-11.1444	-132.525	4052.701	-19649	2581.8825
	max	2.63	26.23	9158061	1203016	57977.439
Philippine	mean	7.45	12.526	13380154.7	6303808.51	3330171
	std dev	4.65824	6.63267894	1090949.53	1216243.34	593292.2
	min	3.18	6.41	11905165.3	4534199.57	2489572
	max	7.45	12.526	13380154.7	6303808.51	3330171
Singapore	mean	0.98388	10.76493	365103.9	33901.57	160167.5
	Std dev	0.56359	5.518621	217284	20060.18	96996.93
	min	0.00916	0.09842	23151.49	2443.254	14345.22
	max	2.59979	25.72387	765302	75184	323099
Malaysia	mean	0.45123	11.62442	465132	123542	25453.020
	Std dev	0.36542	5.518621	317284	366051.3	15631.32
	min	0.00821	0.09842	13151.49	-15632	2534.2425
	Max	2.35113	22.5637	565302	11216	4523.439
Thailand	Mean	0.467	9.6575	8209160	4265566	2010223
	Std dev	0.491	6.3632	996839	458694	883500
	Min	-0.496	0.6744	12893038.2	6654435.49	2375473.9
	Max	1.855	24.563	14802274.2	7571729.63	4098115.9

Garas (2017) describes that Islamic financial institutions face two types of challenges, namely internal and external challenges. Internal challenges can be used to engage customers using conventional banking products, and external challenges can be used to meet international transaction requirements because of a lack of Islamic regulatory systems. Sharia-based knowledge and training are needed to communicate Islamic banking products in order to penetrate international markets and increase local potential. The application of sharia principles and the implications of sharia banking products are analyzed through collaborative research from Shariah scholars and researchers [23]. Whereas other explains that Islamic banking must utilize the expertise of Islamic scholars to analyze problems in financing local and international businesses related to the Islamic system.

The share of banking (investment) in the market increased by 15% per year in the world in the last decade. The core thinking behind the rapid growth of Islamic banking is the element of the interest-free system [18,32,34,43]. The nature of Islamic banking is different from conventional banking, where Islamic banks have a moderate impact on the business sector because they follow a system similar to the traditional one and are regulated by the State Bank.

The ratio of equity to total assets in table 2 is always higher for Islamic banks, indicating that Islamic banks are better capitalized compared to their conventional counterparts. Banking regulations that impose more requirements on equity for the establishment of Islamic banks compared to conventional ones may be the cause of better-capitalized Islamic banks. Regarding profitability measures, the average ROA of Islamic and conventional banks, respectively, was 2.418% and 1.729%, while the percentage corresponding to ROE was 14.29% and 14.14%. This explains that Islamic banks can generate profits and be able to strengthen their position before conventional banks. Some reserachs argue that better socio-economic conditions and a better legal system are determinants for a better profitability of Islamic banks in ASEAN.

In this research, we have analyzed the ratio of costs to income as an indicator of efficiency that

measures general expenditure from turnover. This ratio is an average of 58.59% for Islamic banks and 43.84% for conventional ones, where the higher value of this ratio reflects the lower level of cost efficiency which means the level of cost efficiency is higher in conventional banks because of the lower ratio. [54] investigated the efficiency of Islamic banks during 2002-2007. The asset quality analysis of the two types of banks shows that the ratio of loans to total assets in Islamic and conventional banks is 46.02% and 51.39%, which indicates that these conventional banks allocate a greater share of their assets to loans and therefore they have a higher level of credit risk compared to Islamic banks.

Table 4 contains a comparison of the Herfindhal-Hirschman Index based on total assets, deposits and credit between Islamic and conventional banks. Based on these results, we note that the concentration in Islamic banks is three times higher than in conventional banks.

Table 4. Herfindahl-Hirschman Index by Total Assets, Deposits and Credits

Country	Assets		Deposits		Loans	
	IB	CB	IB	CB	IB	CB
Indonesia	0.340	0.504	0.682	0.435	0.732	0.54582
Malaysia	0.451	0.427	0.731	0.349	0.542	0.58966
Singapore	0.987	0.556	0.462	0.603	0.427	0.46272
Thailand	0.467	0.227	0.261	0.250	0.284	0.45492
Philippine	0.908	0.516	0.249	0.142	0.249	0.2986
Average	0.631	0.446	0.477	0.356	0.447	0.470

Table 5. Evolution of the Islamic and Conventional Banks Market Power during 2012- 2017

Year	Islamic Bank	Conventional bank
2013	0.3911	0.5993
2014	0.3830	0.6248
2015	0.4437	0.6368
2016	0.4197	0.6470
2017	0.4015	0.6462

Our research rejects the assumption that Islamic banks have greater market power and therefore have higher pricing power. Our assumptions are

based on a fact that Islamic bank customers have a religious motivation, which means they are less sensitive to their prices and demands. Based on research conducted and published by Laurent Weill in matters of Islamic finance, two explanations lead to this result.

Several obligations that limit the activities of Islamic banks, such as halal investment principles, prohibitions on speculation and enforcement of fair price practices, can contribute to the minimization of the market power of Islamic banks. Then, the next explanation arises from the principle of profit sharing and loss sharing. Based on this principle, depositors in Islamic banks can be considered as shareholders by the way he does not receive a fixed interest rate, but rather they share the bank's share and profits. Higher profits come from services provided and are billed to depositors at a higher price paid by them. As a result, these depositors have an incentive to limit the cost of financial services performed by Islamic banks to their clients.

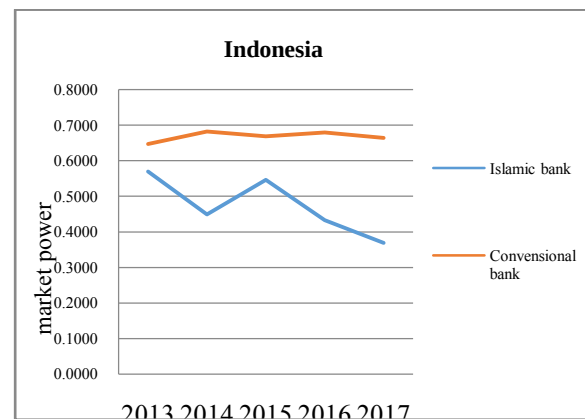


Fig.1. Financial Performance of Indonesia Banks

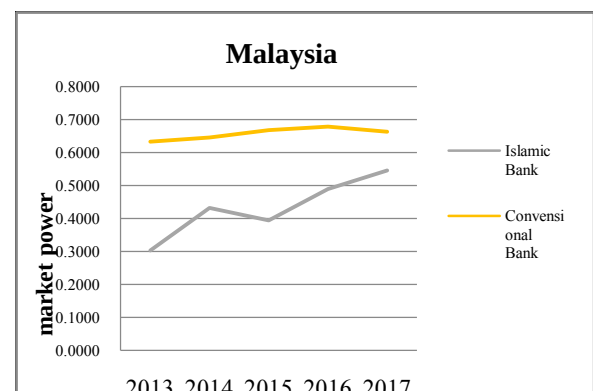


Fig.2. Financial Performance of Malaysia Banks

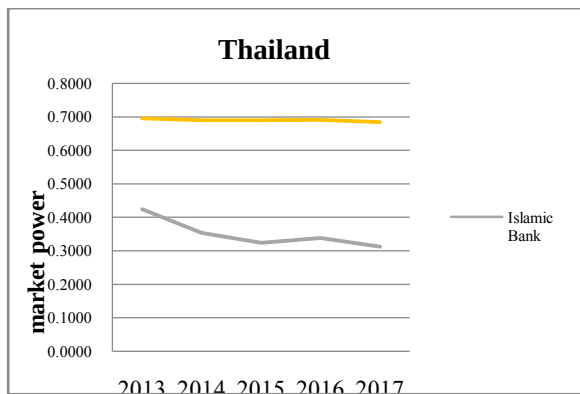


Fig.3. Financial Performance of Thailand Banks

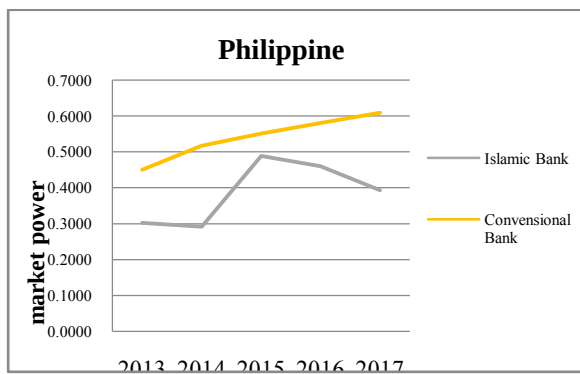


Fig.4. Financial Performance of Philippine Banks

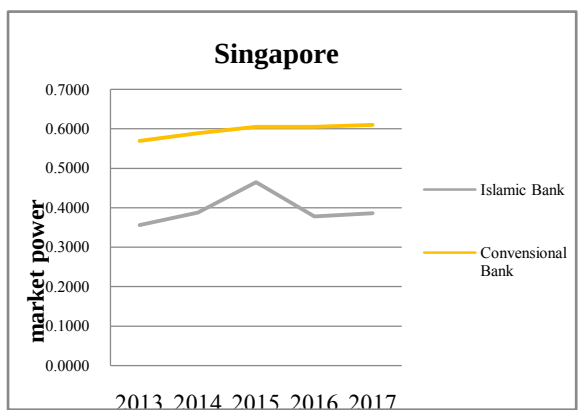


Fig.5. Financial Performance of Singapore Banks

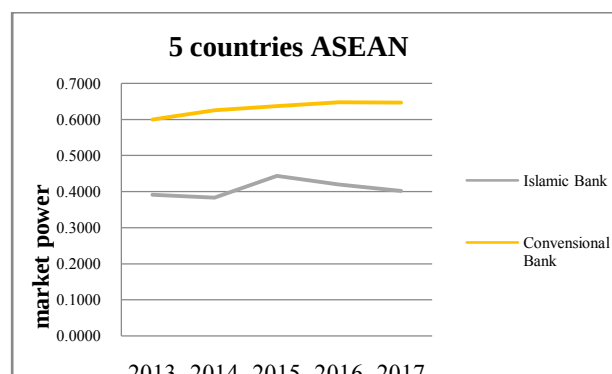


Fig.6. Financial Performance of ASEAN countries Banks

In Table 6 the estimation results of equation (3) show that the Lerner index is significantly and positively related to the Z-score, which confirms that the decline in banking competitiveness increases stability. This result is consistent with the 'franchise value' theory with the assumption that limited competitiveness can encourage banks to protect the value of their high franchises by pursuing security policies that contribute to the stability of the banking system. Based on the franchise principle, banks moderate their risk when they have an annuity, that when they gain market power. The banking literature empirically and theoretically supports this theory.

Table 6. Estimation Result

Explanatory variables	Z-score
Size	-0.431994* (0.064)
Efficiency	-0.0001211 (0.313)
Diver	-1.131121 -0.182
HHI	2.912132 -0.262
Lerner	3.875361 -0.001
Income diversity	-9.655212 -0.002
Ln GDP	-1.000121 -0.021
Constant	32.71312 0.000
Observation	820
R-squared	0.0731

However, the relationship between the measured concentration with IHH and financial stability is not significant, which confirms that the size of competitiveness is inadequate. As for certain banking variables, it was found that bank size negatively influenced the Z-score. Our results are consistent with most of the previous research which argues that several large banks face a higher level of risk. The efficiency coefficient of income diversity does not appear to be significant and the

presence of Islamic banks in the banking system does not influence on the stability of conventional banks. Regression shows that Islamic banks are less stable than conventional banks because the principle of profit or risk sharing is characterized by negative and significant dummy variables of Islamic banks at the 5% level.

5 Conclusions

This research compares descriptive analysis to show differences in composition between Islamic and conventional bank assets and portfolios. The results of the analysis of this research suggest that Islamic banks have a higher level of capitalization than conventional banks and therefore have a lower level of financial risk. Conventional banks are more vulnerable to credit risk due to the allocation of most of their assets to loans.

In this research, we observe the condition of competitiveness using the Lerner index and reject the initial assumptions that Islamic banks have greater market power. The results of the research are consistent with [53] who argues that adhering to certain religious principles and limits may be responsible for minimizing the market power of Islamic banks in Asia.

The second part of this research is that we use a parametric techniques to analyze the effect of market forces on the Z-score. The results are consistent with the theory of franchise value which postulates that limited competitiveness can encourage banks to maintain high franchise values from their security policies.

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