

Assessing the Service Quality and Customer Satisfaction on Islamic Banking by Using SERVQUAL Model

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Abstract

The quality services demanding by Islamic bank's customers are increased due to the increasing of customer's awareness on the quality services in Islamic banks. In evaluating the service quality, SERVQUAL instrument that divided by five dimensions which is reliability, responsiveness, tangibility, assurance and empathy will be used. So that, the main objective of this research is to investigate the impacts of (reliability, responsiveness, tangibility, assurance, empathy) on the satisfaction of the customer in the Islamic banking industry. The questionnaires are designed by adapting SERVQUAL model then distributed by employing the convenient sampling technique. Then, the data analysed using Statistical Package for Social Scientist (SPSS). The result indicated the relationship between assurance and empathy are very significance on customer satisfaction while reliability, responsiveness and tangibility are not significance on customer satisfaction.

Keywords: assessing the service quality, customer satisfaction, Islamic banking, SERVQUAL Model

1. Introduction

Nowadays, Islamic banks must compete with the other Islamic banks, foreign banks and conventional banks which also offered the services and products that fulfil the Islamic principles (Shariff, 2012; OLAOYE & OLANIPEKUN 2018). There are very high competition in the banking industries due to the increasing of the commercial banks (Al-alak & Tarabieh, 2011; Olowa & Olowa 2017). However, regarding to the high competition among the banks have resulted to the better services provided by the banks in order to fulfil the customer's needs and wants (Shariff, 2012). In evaluating the service quality, SERVQUAL instrument will be used by the banks (Ilyas et al., 2013). The SERVQUAL instrument is developed by Parasuraman et al., (1988) in order to measure the service quality dimension and most of the researchers used this instrument in their researches. According to Parasuraman et al., (1988), SERVQUAL is divided into five dimensions which is reliability, responsiveness, tangibility, assurance and empathy. The banks management have to create the varieties ways to attract the customers and stay competitive in the industries (Kumar et al., 2011; Olanrele, 2018).

2. Problem Statement

Akhtar et al., (2016) mentioned, the poor demands of Islamic banks product due to the bad service quality provided where the managers cannot makes significant strategies for services. This statement supported by Rahim Abdullah in their previous studied in 1996, where the customer not satisfied with the attitude of staffs in delivering of services such as the attitude of staffs not polite, they are too busy, telephone line difficult to call and time work too limited. Hamzah et al., (2015) also indicated in their study where the staffs in Islamic banks are not very competent and have shown the bad attitude to the customers. Awan & Azhar (2014) suggested in their study, the important capabilities like competencies, well communicate, confident, and have good attitude are the characteristics that Islamic bank's staff should have. This problems again highlighted by Lone & Rehman (2017) in their study where the Islamic banks are very weak in assessing the customers' specific needs, which makes them unable to train their employees and tailor the products in parallel with these customers' needs. According to Thaker et al., (2016), since the number of Islamic banks is limited, existing banks should adopt online-based transaction in order to reduce the service inconvenience to customers. So that, Thaker et al., (2016) and Ali & Raza (2015) suggest in their studies, Islamic banks should improve the qualities of services in fulfil the customers' needs in the various segment especially in credit cards facilities.

3. Research Objective

The objective of this study is to investigate the impacts of (reliability, responsiveness, tangibility, assurance, empathy) on the satisfaction of the customer in the Islamic banking industry.

4. Literature Review

Parasuraman et al., (1988) claimed that, service quality is the judgement from the customers on the performance of the service quality in the sector of services. According to Daniel & Berinyuy (2010), if the customers get the services below the expectation, they judges that banks have low quality and if the customers meet the high expectation, they judge that banks have high quality. The landscape changing of the Islamic banking had led the changing of the customers taste in demanding the better service quality that offered in banks (Abdullah et al., 2012; Olufemi, 2018). According to Shariff (2012), providing the best quality services to the customers is the important thing for the business survival. Ladhari et al., (2011) claim that, the services quality that provided by banks will influence the customer satisfaction and affected from that it also will influence the bank profitability. Based on Hamzah et al.(2015), the example of quality services that banks can provide include respect the customers by showing the good attitude to them, the capabilities of staffs to make the customers confident and trust on Islamic banks, very competent in handling the problems during the transaction, have a lot of knowledge especially about the Islamic banks, and well prepared in every situations happened. Based on Ahmed (2014), service quality play a big role while the customers select the banks. Besides that, Dusuki & Abdullah (2007) also concluded, the service quality become a dominant factor while choosing the banks. According to Mahamad & Tahir (2011), the deliverance of quality service, which can fulfil all needs and demands, also can attract the non-Muslims customer in choosing the Islamic bank.

5. Hypotheses

The hypothesis are as follow:

H1: The relationship between reliability and satisfaction of customer is positively significant.

H2: The relationship between responsiveness and satisfaction of customer is positively significant.

H3: The relationship between tangibility and satisfaction of customer is positively significant.

H4: The relationship between assurance and satisfaction of customer is positively significant.

H5: The relationship between empathy and satisfaction of customer is positively significant.

6. Methodology

The data was collected in Kota Bharu, Kelantan. The target population focused on the customers of Islamic banks in Kelantan. Respondents were selected by convenience sample, where the questionnaires that based on the SERVQUAL model were distributed during the visits of the customers to the banks. In total, there are 20 questionnaires distributed. Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) Version 22.0 is used to analyse the data that gathered.

6.1 Data Collection Method

For the primary data, this study used a survey approach and distribute the questionnaires to the respondents by employing the convenient sampling technique. The respondents were asked to answer the questionnaires based on a Likert-type scale, that ranged from 1= ‘strongly disagree’, 2= ‘disagree’, 3= ‘neutral’, 4= ‘agree’, and 5= ‘strongly agree’. (Adis & Jubilee, 2010; Okon & Monday 2017).

7. Findings

7.1 Reliability Analysis

Cronbach’s Alpha statistic is used to analyse the reliability of the data. The value can be measured between 0 and 1 by using Cronbach’s Alpha. The value that closer to 1 indicate the value become more reliable. According to Ulfat (2013), the value that showed between 0.738 and 0.813 can be considered good while the value below 0.60 cut off point, has no reliability in the coefficients. In this research, all the dimensions will be tested for the reliability. The overall reliability (α) of the scale was 0.787 and reliability of each dimensions were greater than 0.7, which showed that the questionnaire was fit for analysis. Reliability of each dimensions are presented in the Table 1.

Table 1

Dimension	Cronbach's Alpha	Cronbach's Alpha Based on Standardized Items	N of Items	Analysis
Reliability	0.845	0.843	5	Reliable
Responsiveness	0.856	0.851	5	Reliable
Tangibility	0.898	0.898	5	Reliable
Assurance	0.907	0.907	5	Reliable
Empathy	0.889	0.894	5	Reliable
Customer Satisfaction	0.848	0.841	5	Reliable
Overall	0.787	0.782	30	Reliable

7.2 Hypothesis Testing

The column "Sig." holds the significance levels for the variables. As a rule of thumb, the coefficient is statistically significant if its p-value is smaller than 0.05. So that, as mentioned in Table 2, there are significance correlation between assurance and empathy on customer satisfaction. While, there are no significance relation between reliability, responsiveness and tangibility on customer satisfaction.

Table 2

Model	Coefficients ^a				
	B	Std. Error	Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
1	(Constant)	-.261	.227	-1.153	.268
	mean_reliability	.184	.181	1.015	.327
	mean_responsiveness	.248	.138	.239	.093
	mean_tangibility	.150	.115	.150	.212
	mean_assurance	.257	.114	.278	.040
	mean_empathy	.231	.095	.245	.029

a. Dependent Variable: mean_performance

8. Conclusion and Recommendations

The results showed there are significance relationship between assurance and empathy on customer satisfaction while there are no significance relationship between reliability, responsiveness and tangibility on customer satisfaction. Actually, this study will contribute the benefit to the banks in order to improve the service quality thus can enhance the customer satisfaction on the Islamic banks. Besides that, the bank manager also will know the needs and wants that demands by the customers in order to improve the services offered. For the further research, non-Muslims can be made as a sample in order to identify their satisfaction on the Islamic banks. Besides that, the present research just represents a small sample size of the respondents and data. For a further research, the questionnaires and surveys should be distributed on a big sample in order to get results that are more accurate. Furthermore, the researchers should consider other determinants that can affect the customer satisfaction such as market orientation and innovation orientation. The idea of Islamic banking is new and the customers having less knowledge about Islamic banks, so that, the Islamic banks must develop innovative and strong marketing program to enhance the awareness about the Islamic products and services.

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