A unique MBA at UniRazak

UNIVERSITI Tun Abdul Razak (UniRazak), one of Malaysia’s leading private universities specialising in innovation, leadership, and entrepreneurship, has a wide variety of niche academic courses in both its undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

One example is UniRazak’s MBA in Global Islamic Finance offered by its Graduate School of Business, the first of its kind in Malaysia. Four of its students help enlighten us on what the programme is all about.

UniRazak’s MBA in Global Islamic Finance is a unique programme. Additionally, this programme is offered under a partnership consortium known as IBSA (International Business School Alliance) consisting of seven universities, namely University of Westminster (UK), Hochschule Bremen (Germany), Euromed Marseille (France), Universitat De Valencia (Spain), Academy of National Economy under the Government of Russian Federation (Russia), Cameron School of Business UNCW (USA) and Universiti Tun Abdul Razak.

Students of UniRazak’s MBA (Global Islamic Finance) have the choice of spending one semester in a foreign university, and vice-versa. Four bright students chose to study in UniRazak instead of the other universities for interesting reasons. Interestingly, only one of the four is a Muslim, showing that Islamic Finance is becoming more accepted at the international level and that interest in the subject is increasing.

Abriansyah Harahap is from Indonesia, where his family runs a business in Jakarta. After studying in Germany, he had the choice of continuing his studies in the United States or Malaysia. UniRazak’s Global Islamic Finance programme is especially interesting to him as it is a new field, which gives him the motivation to study even more about it.

Olga Godunova from Belarus chose Malaysia due to her interest in the region. As she has a degree in economics, she is keen to learn more about finance in this region – to see what the working conditions are, how businesses are run, etc.

Roslinda Mat Musa is a local who spent her first semester in Valencia, Spain, and joined UniRazak to discover more about Islamic finance. Her bachelor’s degree is in telecommunications.

Finally, there is Fabiola Nava Carrera from Mexico, who obtained her Bachelor in International Trade from Mexico and was in Germany for the first part of her MBA. Her initial reason for coming to UniRazak was to experience Malaysian culture, and she has also developed a passion for Islamic finance.

In today’s globalised environment, she believes that knowing new cultures is important and helps to facilitate and conduct business.

The part of Global Islamic Finance that interests the students the most is how one can make profit without interest. The world’s economy and finance have been largely interest-based for the past 300 to 400 years, and only recently in the past 30 to 40 years has Islamic finance been used in major financial transactions.

• For details on Universiti Tun Abdul Razak’s MBA in Global Islamic Finance or other programmes, visit http://www.unirazak.edu.my, contact 03-7627 7000 or e-mail marketing@unirazak.edu.my or md@unirazak.edu.my