

Secretariat General of IIFA mourns H.E. Prof. Ahmed Khaled Babeker, former Secretary General of the Academy

"Who, when disaster strikes them, say, "Indeed we belong to Allah, and indeed to Him we will return." Al-Baqara, 156 "Everyone upon the earth will perish, and there will remain the Face of your Lord, Owner of Majesty and Honor." Ar-Rahman, 26-27 Eight decades spent by our late father – may Allah have mercy on him – as a servant of the Noble Quran, the Pure Sunnah and Islamic jurisprudence. He spent his time as a teacher and educator for generations of students who savored his knowledge. He had a time shortage due to his saturated schedule yet was educated and polite in his manners. Our professor spent a large part of his eternal life in the service of universities, institutes and schools, and concluded his career with excellent and unforgettable services to the International Islamic Fiqh Academy as Secretary General.

His Excellency worked night and day to advance the Academy, improve its performance, serve its causes, defend it and publicize it in events and conferences. May Allah reward him on behalf of the Academy, its members, experts and affiliates with the best of rewards.

Thus, we testify that our Sheikh was a pinnacle of humility in defence of Islam and its nation. He was kind, peaceful to all, tolerant of anyone who dealt with him.



He was full of confidence in his Creator and in his destiny, satisfied with his love for Allah, His Messenger (PBUH) and good deeds.

Yes, my Lord, yesterday we prayed farewell to great renown figures, and now we mourn again our father and teacher, H.E. Professor Khaled Ahmed Babeker, tonight, Tuesday, to join the great men and scholars he longed for. May Allah gather him with them in the Abode of bliss.

On behalf of the members, experts and affiliates of the Academy, and on my behalf, we express our deepest condolences to H.E. Sheikh Saleh bin Abdullah bin

Humaid, President of the Academy, and his assistants for their generous solidarity with Prof. Khaled Babeker and his family, may Allah reward them on the day when neither money nor children will be useful, except for the one who comes to Allah with a sound heart.

We also express our thanks and appreciation for the exceptional care that our late Sheikh received during his treatment in Riyadh, from the wise leadership of the host country, may Allah reward them, in the name of our father and us, and all his admirers, with the best of rewards, and may He preserve security and stability in their country

Finally, we, the children, students and admirers of our Sheikh, must raise our hands, day and night, to beseech the Noble Lord, to have mercy on our father, to forgive him and to welcome him into His vast paradise.

May Allah the Almighty reward everyone for their patience and inspire them, as well as our families and loved ones, with patience and solace for what the Most Merciful has decreed.

Your son, Koutoub Moustapha Sano
Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy.

IIFA Statement on the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's Decision to Allow a Limited Number of Pilgrims for Hajj season this year

Praise be to Allah, Who said: "But whoever disbelieves – then indeed, Allah is free from need of the worlds." Al-Imran 97.

Blessing and peace upon the Messenger of Allah who said:

"There are no days in which a good deed is more pleasing to Allah than these ten days. O People increase during these days tasbeeh, tahmid, tahlil, and takbir" (Ahmed and Tabarani)

The International Islamic Fiqh Academy, with its Presidency, Secretariat, members and experts, as they welcome the Hajj season of 1442 AH, recalls what Allah the Almighty, the Most Sublime, has bestowed upon the Ancient House (Kaaba) of great virtues in all times, for it is the His most beloved place, which is also considered the first in purity, safety, solemnity and stability.

Allah the Almighty said:

"And [mention] when We made the House a place of return for the people and [a place of] security. And take, [O believers], from the standing place of Abraham a place of prayer. And We charged Abraham and Ishmael, [saying], "Purify My House for those who perform Tawaf and those who are staying [there] for worship and those who bow and prostrate [in prayer]." Al-Baqarah: 125

"And [mention, O Muhammad], when We designated for Abraham the site of the House, [saying], "Do not associate anything with Me and purify My House for those who perform Tawaf and those who stand [in prayer] and those who bow and prostrate." Al-Hajj: 26

"In it are clear signs [such as] the standing place of Abraham. And whoever enters it shall be safe." Al-Imran: 97

"Have they not seen that We made [Makkah] a safe sanctuary, while people are being taken away all around them? Then in falsehood do they believe, and in the favor of Allah they disbelieve?" Al-Ankabout, 67

The preservation of these characteristics of the House of Allah is one of the essential duties, just as performing the duty of purification, ensuring safety and security, and glorifying the rituals are some of the most sacred and honourable duties throughout the ages. The perseverance in purifying the House of Allah by washing it, perfuming it, and keeping it free from epidemics, diseases, and filth is based on the provisions of Shariah and the realization of its objectives. It is also a commitment to the most honourable deeds, the best acts of worship, and the highest forms of obedience to Allah the Almighty.



The world is going through an exceptional health emergency due to the unprecedented spread of the coronavirus pandemic, which has spread fear and panic everywhere, killed millions of souls, disrupted traffic and travel between countries, and has widely affected all aspects of life.

Despite the enormous scientific and practical efforts that governments and nations are making to combat this pandemic and prevent its spread, the bitter truth is that the pandemic has not yet been controlled, and it continues to spread in many countries. Its strains mutate, and its waves intensify from time to time.

On the premise that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which Allah the Almighty has honoured by entrusting it with the Two Holy Mosques, has provided the best means of comfort, security and safety for the pilgrims and visitors who come to these blessed lands every year to perform their rituals with ease that surpasses all description, And given the confidence of the Ummah's jurists, scholars, and thinkers, worldwide, in the sincerity and dedication of the wise Saudi leadership to protect and preserve these holy places,

Also given the precision and wisdom that characterized the decision taken by the Saudi leadership to prevent the spread of the pandemic, as a fulfillment of their responsibility before their Lord the Almighty, and following the teachings of our religion, and fulfilling their responsibility before history, The International Islamic Fiqh Academy, with its Presidency, Secretariat and scholars who represent the Ummah with all its

countries and corners, takes this opportunity to reassure the Muslim countries and communities around the world that the decision taken by the Saudi government to allow just a limited number of citizens and residents to perform Hajj in this year 1442 H, is a practical, appropriate, and firm decision.

The Academy also confirms that this decision is wise and in line with the primarily provisions of Shariah and that it realizes its supreme objectives, namely those of preserving religion and human lives. Hence, the proper management of Hajj, which is the fifth pillar of Islam, aims at safeguarding faith and human lives by allowing a limited number of people to perform Hajj this year due to the prevailing health conditions.

Furthermore, the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, which is the world's leading jurisprudential reference for Muslim countries and communities, calls on Muslims around the world to respect this well-established decision and also calls on pilgrims –may Allah aid them in performing this duty appropriately – to fully adhere to the health guidelines and precautionary measures taken by competent authorities during the Hajj.

Finally, the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, with its Presidency, Secretariat, members and experts, takes this opportunity to express its sincere thanks and appreciation for the great and tireless efforts exerted by the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, under the leadership of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, and his loyal Crown Prince, Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense, may Allah sustain them, in the development of the Two Holy Mosques and the services given to pilgrims and visitors.

May Allah reward them in the name of Islam and Muslims with the best of rewards. May Allah bless them and the Saudi people with security, safety, and stability. May Allah accept the Hajj of the pilgrims and make it a commendable effort, forgive their sins, and make their Hajj an ever-blessed act.

Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano
Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy
Jeddah,
Tuesday 5 Dhul Quida 1442
15 June 2021.

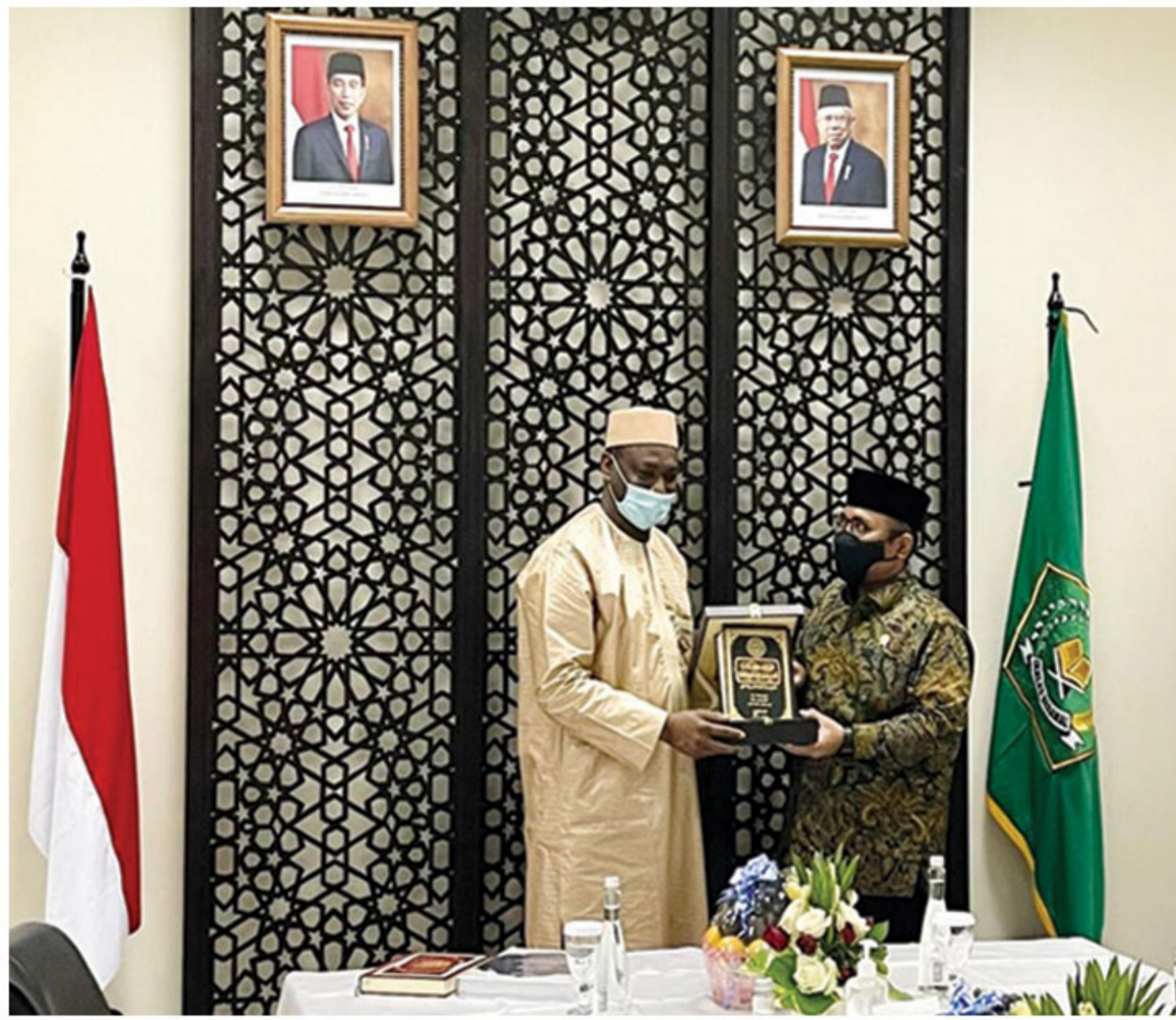
Indonesian Minister of Religious Affairs receives the Secretary General of the IIFA

At the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, represented by H.E. the Minister of Religious Affairs and H.E. the Minister of Finance, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, paid a working visit to Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, during the period from 27 Chawal to 3 Dhul al-Qi'dah 1442 corresponding to 8-13 June 2021.

The Secretary General of the Academy and the accompanying delegation started their visit by meeting H.E. Mr. Yaqut Khalil Qamas, Minister of Religious Affairs and several representatives of Indonesian ministries and governmental departments on Tuesday, 27 Shawal 1442 corresponding to 8 June 2021 at the headquarters of the Ministry of Religious Affairs in Jakarta, capital Republic of Indonesia.

The two sides discussed several issues, the most important of which were ways to improve the relations of cooperation, partnership, and coordination between the International Academy of Islamic Fiqh and the major religious institutions of the world's largest Muslim country, which has a population of nearly three hundred (300) million people, and Muslims constitute 90% of its population.

At the top of these institutions are the Ministry of Religious Affairs, the Indonesian Ulama Council, the Nahdlatul Ulama Society, al-Muhammadiyah Association and hundreds of leading universities and scientific institutes in Islamic, human and applied studies and research.



The two sides also discussed the importance of enhancing the participation of Indonesian Sharia scholars and experts in the Academy's sessions, conferences, and seminars, as well as the importance of signing memoranda of understanding and cooperation agreements in order to strengthen the areas of cooperation and formulate a clear operational strategic plan to achieve the desired results within the given time frame.

In his welcome address to the Secretary General of the Academy, H.E. Mr. Yaqut Khalil, expressed his sincere thanks and deep gratitude for His Excellency's visit to Indonesia, as the first Secretary General of the Academy to date. His Excellency also expressed his joy and appreciation for the qualitative changes and developments within the Secretariat General of the Academy since His Excellency took office. His Excellency the Minister also stressed that this visit will be an opportunity to open a new chapter of cooperation and close partnership between the Academy and the Republic of Indonesia,

promising to strengthen the relations between the two parties in various areas of common interest. His Excellency the Minister expressed his Ministry's willingness to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the two parties before the delegation returns to Saudi Arabia, thus confirming the Ministry's willingness to engage in genuine cooperation between the two institutions.

The Secretary General of the Academy expressed his deep thanks and gratitude to the Indonesian government for its invitation and also expressed his great appreciation for the warm welcome and hospitality since his arrival with the accompanying delegation, despite the exceptional health conditions the world is going through. His Excellency also conveyed to the Minister the greetings of the President of the Academy, H.E. Sheikh Saleh bin Abdullah bin Humaid, noting in this regard his willingness to consolidate the relations of cooperation and partnership between the Academy and the Republic of Indonesia, due to its geographical and demographic location, and its scientific heritage within the Muslim world.

His Excellency concluded his speech by assuring the Minister of the Academy's full readiness to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the Academy and his Ministry before the delegation's return. The two parties thus concluded the first historic meeting between the Academy and the Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs, which lasted about an hour, with an exchange of memories.

It should be noted that the delegation accompanying His Excellency was composed of H.E. Dr. Omar Zuhair Hafez, Special Advisor to the Secretary General of the Academy, Mrs. Sarah bint Amjad bin Hussein, Director of Family, Women and Children's Affairs, and Mr. Khalid Al Ahmadi, Head of the Academy's Administrative Affairs Department.

President of Indonesian Ulema Council meets with the Secretary General of the IIFA

As part of the Secretary General's official visit to the Republic of Indonesia to strengthen the relations of cooperation and partnership between the Academy and the prestigious religious institutions and the leading scientific centers of Indonesia, H.E. Miftachul Akhyar, President General of the Indonesian Ulema Council, received H.E. Prof. Koutoub Sano on Tuesday 27 Shawal 1442 corresponding to 8 June 2021, at the Council's headquarters in Jakarta, in the presence of the Council's Executive Committee members.

H.E. Miftachul Akhyar welcomed His Excellency and the accompanying delegation and thanked them for their visit, which is the first of its kind for a Secretary General of the Academy in the Republic of Indonesia and its Council of Ulema. His Eminence expressed his great appreciation for this initiative of the Academy towards the Council, which is sincerely aimed at strengthening the relations of cooperation and coordination with the Council in all fields, especially in the field of fatwas and guidance, as the Council is the highest religious authority in Indonesia, in charge of issuing fatwas and resolving issues concerning the religious affairs of the Republic. Its members consist of more than a thousand Indonesian scholars.

For his part, the Secretary General of the Academy expressed his profound thanks to the President General and the honorable members of the Council for the warm



welcome and praised the Council's efforts to guide public life following the teachings of the Shariah.

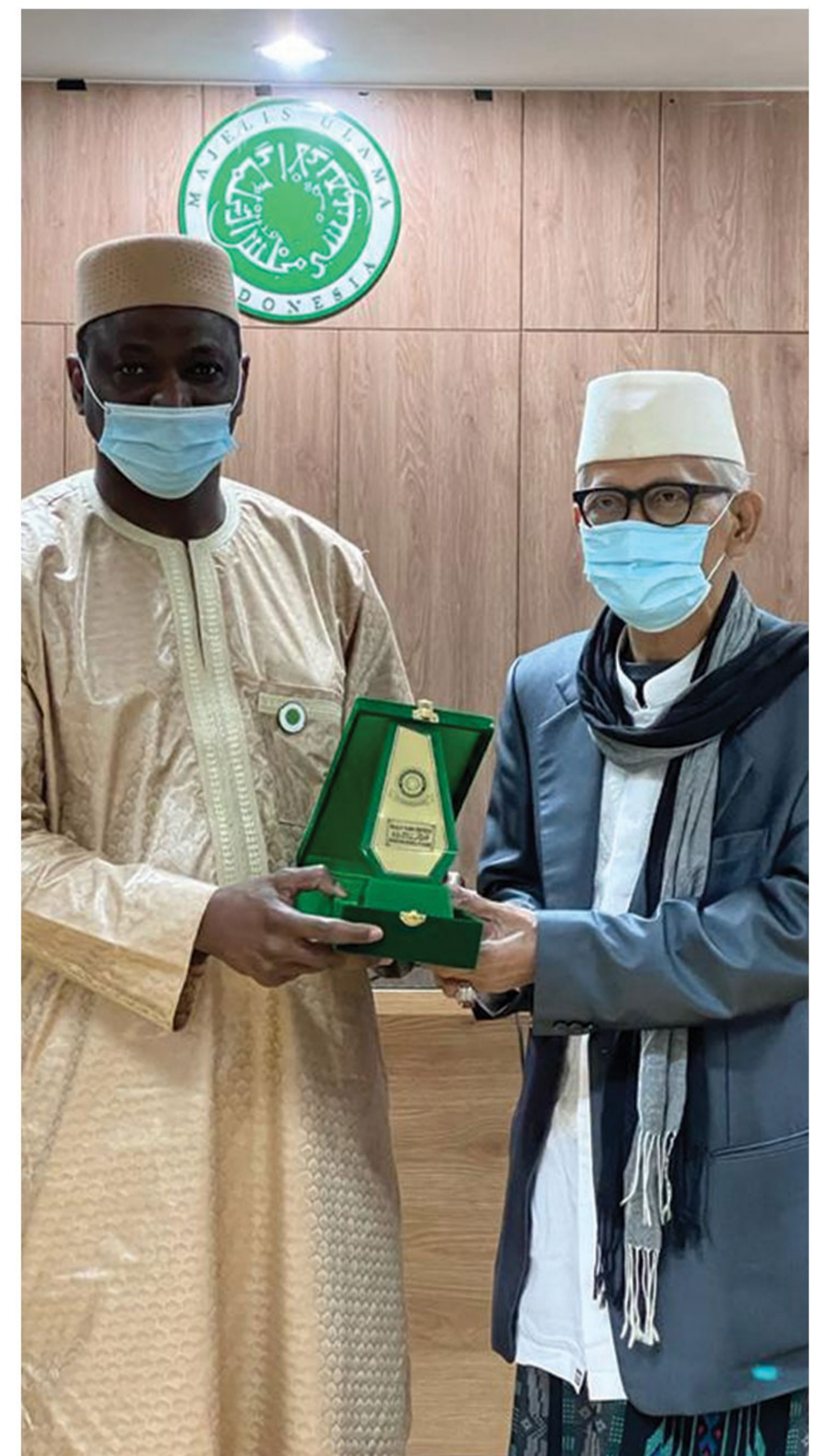
His Excellency also praised the Council for adopting moderation and temperance in its fatwas and jurisprudence, which has had a tremendous impact in combating all forms of extremism and terrorism among Muslims in Indonesia.

On this occasion, His Excellency commended the essential role played by Indonesian scholars in Indonesia, as the most populous Muslim country in the world, calling them in this

regard to actively participate in the Academy's activities and programs, including sessions, conferences and seminars. His Excellency also called on the Presidency and the Council members to make the best use of the Academy's publications and works, especially the resolutions and recommendations containing detailed religious rulings regarding contemporary calamities, developments and problems.

Wishing to provide the Council with the necessary legal, intellectual and administrative support to improve its performance, the Secretary General of the Academy expressed the Academy's full readiness to sign a memorandum of understanding between the two institutions before the delegation returns to Saudi Arabia. Furthermore, His Excellency said his great hope that the Council will approach the Ministries of Religious Affairs and Finance to encourage the Indonesian government to host the next session of the Academy, which is expected to take place in October in Jakarta, in sha Allah.

At the end of the two hours meeting, the two sides exchanging memorial gifts and signed a memorandum of understanding. The meeting was attended by Dr. Omar Zuhair Hafez, Special Advisor to the Secretary General, Mrs. Sarah bint Amjad bin Hussein, Director of Family Affairs, and Mr. Khalid Al Ahmadi, Head of the Administrative Affairs Department at the Academy.



Secretary General of the Academy meets with the Director General of Budget at the Indonesian Ministry of Finance in Jakarta

On behalf of Her Excellency the Finance Minister of Indonesia, Mr. Astra Pramanto Bakhti, Director General of Financial Budget and Secretary General of the Indonesian Association of Islamic Economics, received H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, on Thursday 29 Shawal 1442 corresponding to 10 June 2021, at the headquarters of the Ministry of Finance in Jakarta. His Excellency expressed his thanks to the Secretary General of the Academy and the accompanying delegation for their response to Her Excellency the Minister of Finance's invitation to visit Indonesia during circumstances that prevented her from meeting the delegation due to Her Excellency's mission outside Jakarta. He nevertheless conveyed to them the greetings and thanks of Her Excellency the Minister.

For his part, the Secretary General of the Academy expressed his deep appreciation and gratitude to the Minister and the Director General for the invitation and warm welcome, stressing in this regard the Academy's willingness to build a lasting strategic relationship with the Ministry for the Republic of Indonesia



to become a global reference and an international center for promoting interest in Islamic social finance, like others.

Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, known as a global hub for Islamic banking and financial services, as in the case in Bahrain, Malaysia and the United Arab Emirates, or a global hub of Awqaf, as in the case in the State of Kuwait. His Excellency stated that the human resources, scientific frameworks, and rapid tangible developments witnessed by Indonesia in the current era are critical factor and a valid reason for Indonesia to become the first international center to promote Islamic social finance in research, management and legislation.

The two delegations discussed possible ways and means to strengthen the desired cooperation and partnership between the Academy and the Ministry of Finance in all areas of common interest, especially concerning

the advancement of Islamic banking and financial institutions in ideology, performance and management, through the joint organization of conferences, seminars, courses and holding of seminars and workshops for those interested in Islamic economy in general and Islamic finance in particular.

Based on the fact that the resolutions and recommendations of the Academy are the primary references for Islamic financial institutions and due to the respect and acceptance they enjoy, especially in the field of transactions and contracts, the Ministry of Finance, which is responsible for Islamic financial issues and problems in Indonesia, looks forward to a strategic partnership and close cooperation with the Academy to benefit from the intellectual and legal capacities of its members and experts.

The meeting concluded with the agreement of both delegations to continue the discussion and debate on various issues and challenges of Islamic finance, including its problems and developments.

H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano delivers a lecture on the Structure of Contextual and Contemporary Jurisprudence at Nahdlatul Ulama Society in Jakarta

H.E. Prof. Saeed Aqil Siraj, Executive President of the Indonesian Nahdlatul Ulama Society, received H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, on Wednesday 28 Shawal 1442, corresponding to 9 June 2021, at the Society's headquarters in Jakarta.

His Eminence, the Executive President of Nahdlatul Ulama, expressed his deep thanks and appreciation to His Excellency for his visit and his generous approval to give a public lecture on "the Structure of Contextual and Contemporary Jurisprudence", commending in this regard the academic position of His Excellency among those who have known him closely or read some of his books on Ijtihad, Ifta and Islamic finance. His Eminence also assured His Excellency that Nahdlatul Ulama adopts an approach of moderation and temperance in Ijtihad and ifta; and rejects all forms of extremism and terrorism. He also highlighted the achievements of the Society, which is the largest Islamic organization in the world, with more than 20,000 institutes, dozens of universities, hospitals, rehabilitation, and training centers throughout the Republic of Indonesia, which is a home of 300 million citizens, of which nearly 90% are Muslims.

His Eminence concluded his speech by expressing the Society's willingness to cooperate and establish partnerships with the Academy, especially concerning raising the scientific and intellectual level of the Fatwa and the Advisory Committee within the Society. Then, His Eminence opened the floor for His Excellency to give the public lecture on the Structure of Contextual and Contemporary Jurisprudence and its Benefit on the Ummah.



He told His Excellency that between 15 and 20 million people listened to his lecture via the Society's television and social networks.

For his part, the Secretary General of the Academy expressed his profound thanks and appreciation for the warm welcome and hospitality and praised the outstanding scientific efforts and remarkable practical achievements that the Society has made and continues to make since its foundation nearly a hundred years ago. His Excellency also congratulated the Executive Director and the Executive Council members for their keen interest in education and purification, which have had the most significant impact on preserving the Islamic identity in the Indonesian archipelago, which counts more than seven thousand islands. His Excellency presented a brief overview of the Academy, its history, vision, mission, and objectives, and endorsed cooperation and coordination with the Society, especially in promoting moderation, Ijtihad, and Ifta on contemporary calamities and developments.

His Excellency, then, started by presenting the lecture's terminology, which discussed the importance for the faqih (Muslim jurist) to drain his scientific and intellectual

energy to achieve a solid, flexible, and consistent understanding of legal texts. His Excellency also explained that one of the most important characteristics of Shariah is that of the flexibility, capacity, comprehensiveness, and stability and that these characteristics as a whole confirm the eternal nature of Shariah and its applicability for every time and place. In other words, without the flexibility of the texts of the Shariah and the breadth of its provisions, it would not have the strength today to explain legal provisions suitable for the issues and problems of contemporary life.

Thus, Islamic jurisprudence, which is an authentic understanding of Shariah texts, is contextual jurisprudence based on the consideration of contexts, clues, and signs. It is a realistic jurisprudence as it is based on an accurate understanding of the texts and a sober recognition of the facts to choose the ruling appropriate for each incident according to time and place. This jurisprudence is characterized by avoiding the abandonment of ready-made rulings affected by time and place on facts that differ in time and place. This jurisprudence also aims to prevent the importation of fatwas intended to be used in different events and different realities and environments. Moreover, His Excellency pointed out that there are fixed rulings that do not change with time and place and are characterized by being stated in definitive texts in terms of significance and proofs, known as the fundamentals and constants on which all Muslims agree. His Excellency called for not neglecting these rulings under the pretext of revivalism and Ijtihad, as they do not require a new Ijtihad for understanding for their clarity and plainness, and which also include the foundations of belief, the pillars of Islam, the pillars of faith and Ihsan, the virtues, and boundaries and higher purposes of Shariah.

His Excellency concluded his lecture by inviting the Nahdlatul Ulama Society to move forward by pursuing their emphasis on education, learning and purification, describing these three as the safety valve, the basis of stability, and ensuring progress and development at all times and places.

Secretary General of the Academy meets with Senior Officials of the Central Bank of Indonesia and members of the IIEA in Jakarta

In response to the invitation of the Indonesian Minister of Finance to the Secretary General of the Academy to visit Jakarta to discuss ways and means of improving cooperation and communication between the Academy and Indonesian Islamic financial institutions, the Central Bank of Indonesia organized a consultative meeting with H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, on Thursday 29 Shawal 1442, corresponding to 10 June 2021, at the headquarters of the Central Bank in the capital of Indonesia, Jakarta

At the beginning of the meeting, His Eminence Mr. Anwar Bashori, Director of the Islamic Economy Department at the Central Bank of Indonesia, and the Secretary General of the Indonesian Islamic Economy Association welcomed the Secretary General of the Academy and the accompanying delegation and thanked them for responding to the invitation of the Minister of Finance and the President of the Indonesian Islamic Economy Association. On his part, Her Excellency, the Finance Minister, sent her greetings and thanks to the Secretary General, as well as her apologies for not being able to attend this meeting, given her official meetings outside the capital.



His Excellency then expressed his aspiration to establish a lasting partnership between the Academy and the Indonesian Ministry of Finance, the Central Bank of Indonesia and the Indonesian Islamic Economy Association to advance Islamic economy and finance in Indonesia and to push forward Islamic financial institutions that have started to pave their strong way in a country with an estimated population of 300 million, of which Muslims constitute about 90% of the population. There is, therefore, an urgent need to strengthen the Islamic financial industry, develop the performance of its institutions and enable them to keep pace and participate in economic growth and social welfare. To achieve this, the Academy should provide intellectual and legal support by cooperating in the joint organization of conferences, seminars, and round tables on contemporary Islamic finance's various themes and issues.

For his part, the Secretary General of the Academy thanked the Indonesian Minister of Finance, the Governor of the Central Bank, and the Indonesian Islamic Economic Association members, welcoming their invitation and supporting their efforts in strengthening the Islamic financial industry in Indonesia. His Excellency praised the outstanding developments witnessed by the Islamic financial industry in Indonesia due to the unprecedented support of the Minister and the administrative staff working with him, including the members of the Association.

Aiming for further development and progress, His Excellency suggested to the Ministry and the Association that the Republic of Indonesia should take the initiative to consider Jakarta as the capital of Islamic social finance in the world, following the benchmark of other cities known today as the capital of Islamic finance and Awqaf, such as Manama, Kuala Lumpur and Dubai and Kuwait.



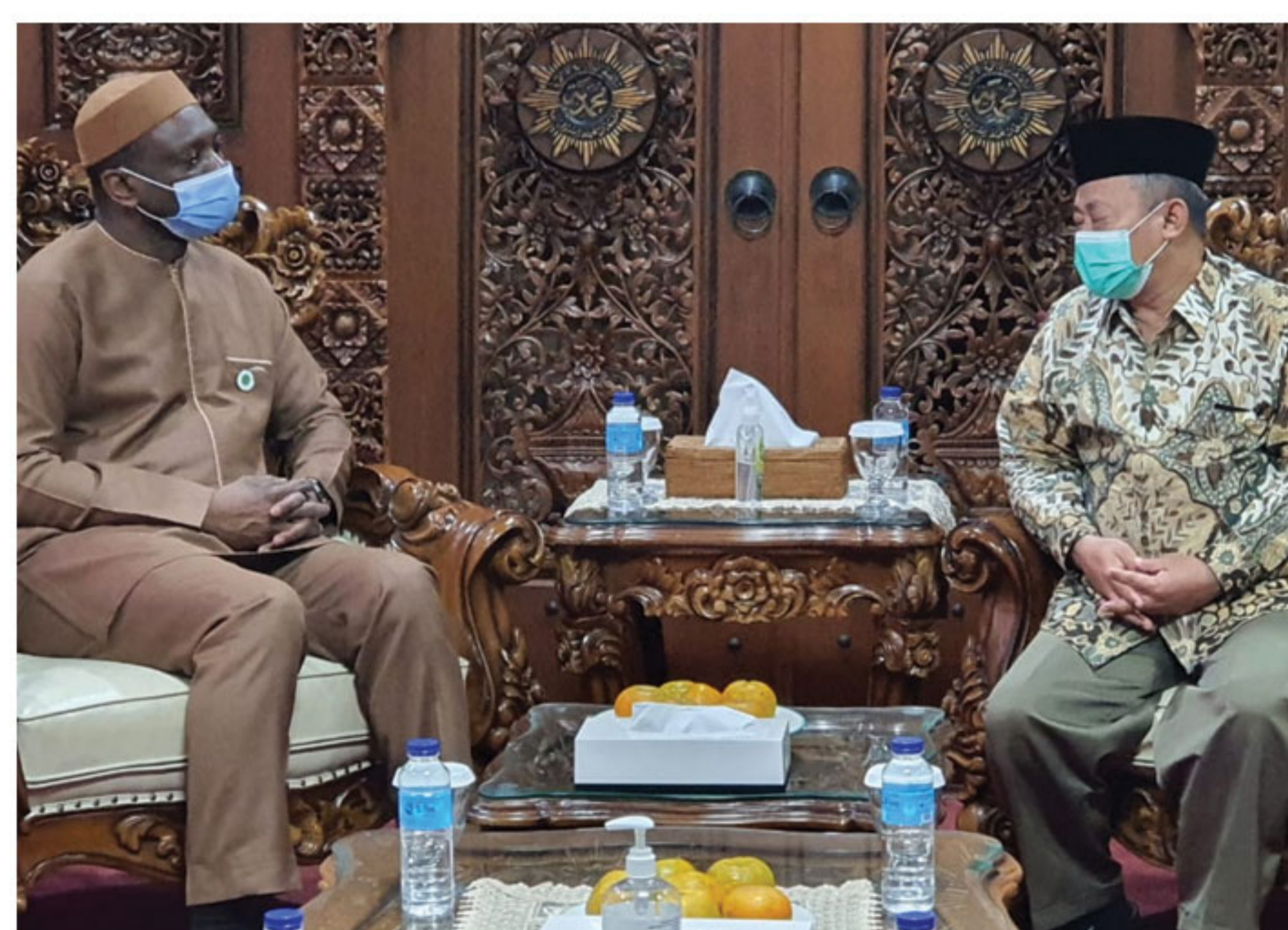
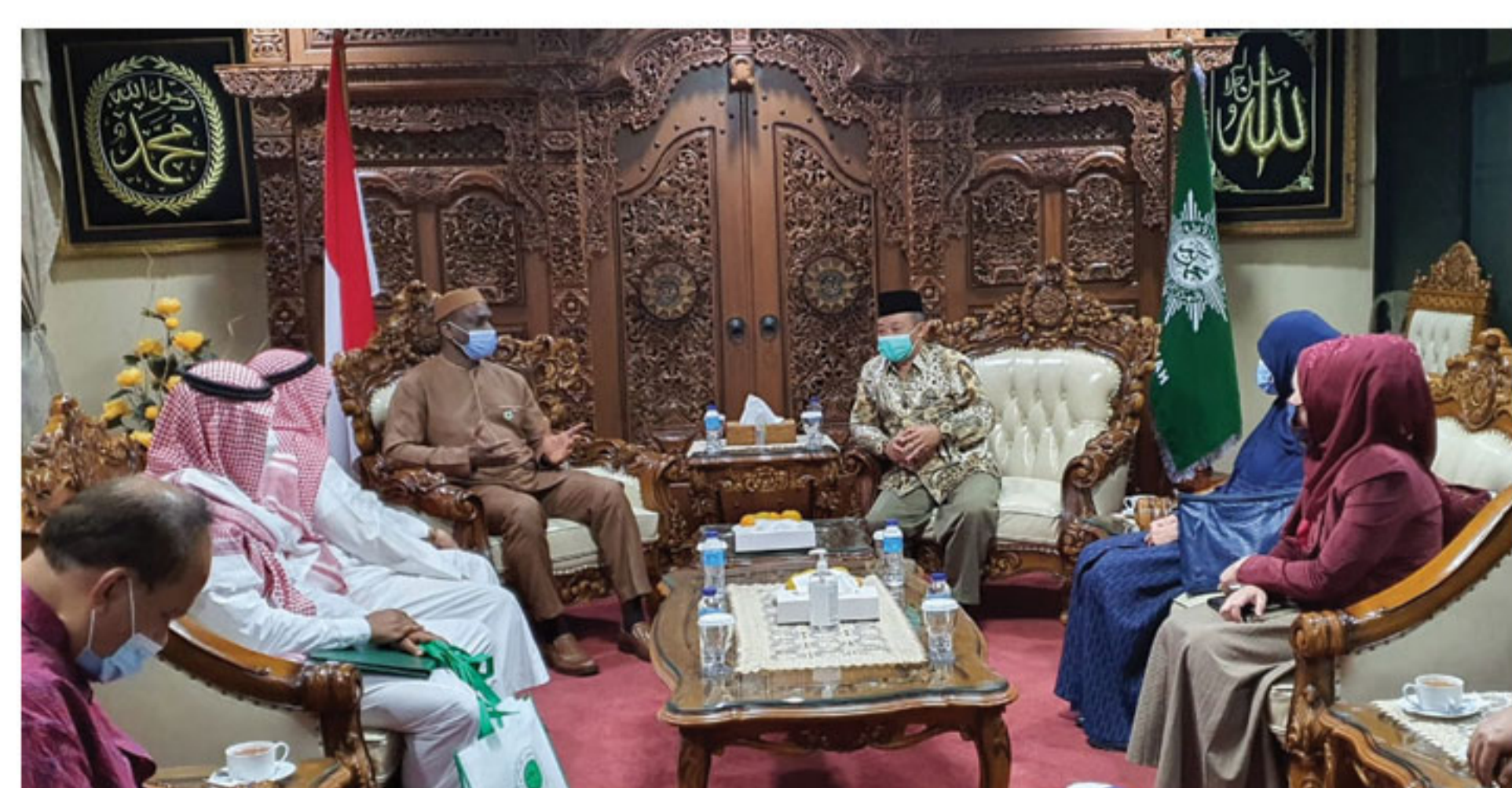
His Excellency concluded his speech by reiterating the Academy's approval to participate in the activities of the Islamic Sharia Week, which the Indonesian Islamic Economics Association will organize in October this year. He stressed that this major event will be a special opportunity to kick off Jakarta as the new capital of Islamic social finance.

The meeting was attended by H.E. Omar Zuhair Hafez, Special Advisor to the Secretary General, Mrs. Sarah Amjad Hussein, Director of Family and Women Affairs, and Mr. Khaled Al Ahmadi, Head of Staff Affairs at the Academy.

Central Council of Al-Muhammadiyah Association of Indonesia receives the Secretary General of the Academy in Jakarta

H.E. Mr. Haider Naseer, Executive Chairman of the Central Council of the Indonesian Al-Muhammadiyah Association, accompanied with the Central Committee's members, received Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, and the accompanying delegation on Thursday, 30 Shawal 1442 corresponding to 11 June 2021, at the headquarters of Al-Muhammadiyah Association in Jakarta.

His Excellency, the Executive Chairman of the Association, started his speech by expressing his thanks, appreciation, and gratitude to the Secretary-General of the Academy for his visit to the headquarters of the Association and for meeting with the members of the Central Committee to discuss ways to improve cooperation between the two organizations. He pointed out that the Association, which has more than 30 million registered members, believes in diligence, renewal and openness, and rejects dependence, imitation and exclusion. It also has hundreds of hospitals, clinics, universities, dozens of banks and more than five thousand schools and institutes and is very active in charity and social work. The Association adopts the method of preaching through good behaviour and good deeds instead of limiting itself to empty words, making it popular among intellectuals and thinkers of all kinds.



He also noted the free medical services have been provided by the Association during the coronavirus pandemic, and tens of thousands of people infected by Covid-19 were treated and many families were provided with subsidies during the pandemic.

Her Excellency explained that there is an important and influential place for women scholars and thinkers within the Association under the women's wing named "Aisha Association", as they raise awareness, educate, and fight reactionary ideas that try to exclude women from active participation in social, political, economic and intellectual life. It also fights against the thoughts and allegations of feminist movements that try to erase social values and principles under the pretext of freedom and liberation.

Therefore, the Association looks forward to cooperating closely with the Academy in terms of academic support and legal advice to clarify the Shariah provisions on contemporary calamities and problems. It also hopes to support the Academy in organizing specialized seminars and training courses.

On his part, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Sano expressed his sincere thanks to H.E. Mr. Haider Naseer, Executive Chairman of Al-Muhammadiyah Association and the Central Committee's members, commending the tremendous educational efforts and social services provided by the Association for more than a hundred years. His Excellency also praised the great importance the Association attaches to education, primarily vocational and academic education, such as running more than a hundred universities and hundreds of hospitals is certainly no small task.

His Excellency pointed out that the Academy considers Ijtihad as a permanent legislative source that no one can close or open because Allah and His Messenger (PBUH), have legislated and encouraged it. Allah has set aside two prizes for those who struggle hard and render a right judgment, and one prize for those who struggle hard and issues a wrong judgment. Therefore, the Academy bases its Shariah resolutions regarding contemporary calamities and problems on a genuine Ijtihad and fully believes in the importance of revival with its rules and methods. His Excellency concluded his speech by emphasizing the willingness of the Secretariat General of the Academy to cooperate with the Association, especially with the thinkers and scholars who are members of the women's wing called "Aisha Association" to participate in the Academy's sessions, conferences, and symposiums. He also affirmed that the Academy was ready to jointly organize specialized seminars and workshops for women thinkers and scholars within the OIC Member States.

It should be mentioned that His Excellency was accompanied at this meeting by Dr. Omar Zuhair Hafez, Special Advisor to His Excellency, Mrs. Sarah Amjad Hussein Bediwi, Director of Family, Women, Children and Elderly Affairs, and Mr. Khalid Al Ahmadi, Head of Administrative Affairs of the Academy.

IIFA and Indonesian Ulema Council sign a Memorandum of Understanding in Jakarta



One day after signing a cooperation agreement between the Academy and the Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs, the Academy signed an important Memorandum of Understanding with the Indonesian Ulema Council on Sunday morning 3 Dhoul al-Qi'dah 1442 corresponding to 13 June 2021 at the Council's headquarters in Jakarta.

H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General

of the Academy, and H.E. Sheikh Miftah Al-Akbar, President General of the Indonesian Ulema Council signed the agreement in a ceremony where several members of the Council were present, including the members of the Executive Committee of the Council. Some of the latter followed the signing ceremony via satellite communication.

This agreement represents the conclusions of discussions

held between the two parties regarding strengthening cooperation and coordination in various fields of common interest.

This memorandum also represents the concrete launch of a promising strategic partnership between the Academy and the Indonesian Ulema Council, the highest Islamic authority in the country, and the first reference for fatwas and legal consultations in Indonesia.

Within the framework of this memorandum, the two parties agreed to maintain integrative and collaborative relations and achieve intellectual and scientific convergence between the scholars and jurists of the Ummah. The two parties also agreed on the joint organization of conferences, seminars, and round tables on the topics and problems of contemporary life and the preparation, exchange, and translation of research and scientific studies and publications.

It is worth mentioning that the Indonesian Ulema Council brings under its umbrella many leading Indonesian Islamic organizations, such as Nahdlatul Ulama Society, Al-Muhammadiyah Association, Shariat al-Islam Society, Arab Islamic Society and others. Its former president, Sheikh Maruf Amin, is the current Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia.

Rector of Sharif Hidayatullah University receives the Secretary General of the Academy at the University City of Jakarta

Professor Mrs Amany Lubis, Rector of Sharif Hidayatullah Islamic University, received Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, and the accompanying delegation on Friday 30 Shawal 1442 corresponding to 11 June 2021, at the university headquarter in the capital Jakarta.

The university rector extended a warm welcome to the Secretary General and the delegation and expressed her great pleasure for this historic visit. She also expressed her great appreciation for the tremendous role of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy in the Muslim world in clarifying Shariah provisions on issues of interest to Muslims worldwide.

Her Eminence then presented a brief overview of Sharif Hidayatullah University in terms of its establishment, objectives, faculties, and graduates, which is the largest Islamic university in Indonesia, with about forty thousand students in twelve faculties of Shariah, law, medicine, and engineering. She concluded her speech by expressing the University's willingness to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Academy for which cooperation and coordination would be enhanced in scientific and intellectual fields, such as the joint organization of conferences, seminars and round tables, and the preparation of research and study, as well as the participation of university professors in the Academy's activities.

On his part, the Secretary General of the Academy expressed his sincere thanks to the Rector of the



University, in particular, and to its deans and personnel, for the warm reception, praising the outstanding scientific status of this prestigious university, and appreciating its enormous contributions to Indonesia, as thousands of specialists in legal, linguistic and scientific studies graduate from this university every year. His Excellency commended the development and progress witnessed by the university at all levels since Her Eminence assumed the university's rectorate and governorship, which confirms that efficiency and professionalism are keys to success. He also commended the competent administrative staff and the distinguished teaching structure that guide this university in its success.

His Excellency concluded his speech by expressing the Academy's approval to sign a memorandum of understanding with the university at the end of this meeting, noting that a draft of this protocol has been prepared earlier.

The meeting concluded with the signing of MoU by His Excellency with the Rector of the University to

represent a serious start for the cooperation relations and partnership between the two institutions, as the Academy will soon recruit a good number of eminent professors for its coming sessions and conferences. The two parties also committed to working on organizing conferences and symposia on various contemporary issues and problems.

After the end of the visit, the Secretary General of the Academy had the honor to deliver the Friday sermon at the university's mosque in Arabic and English.



IIFA and Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs sign a Cooperation Agreement

The International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) and the Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs signed a cooperation agreement on Friday, 1 Dhu al-Qa'dah 1442 corresponding to June 11, 2021, at the Ministry's headquarters in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia. The Academy was represented by His Excellency Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, the Secretary General, and the Ministry was represented by His Excellency Professor Qamar El-Din, Director General of Islamic Affairs at the Ministry. This agreement marks the beginning of a new era of the strategic



partnership between the Academy and the Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs, representing nearly three hundred million Muslims. It also represents a successful start to building close and promising cooperation relations between the Academy and the well-established Indonesian religious institutions, especially the Indonesian Ulema Council, the major religious associations, and the leading scientific and educational institutions in fields of Shariah, jurisprudence, humanities and applied studies.

Under this agreement, the two sides agreed to organize conferences, symposia jointly, and workshops on various contemporary issues, prepare research and scientific studies, and exchange publications.

It is worth noting that seventy-five years have passed since the establishment of the Ministry of Religious Affairs in Indonesia, making it one of the oldest religious affairs ministries in the Islamic world.



International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT) hosts a lecture by H.E. Prof. Koutoub Sano on Reform and Renewal

At the kind invitation of the Regional Office of the International Institute of Islamic Thought in Southeast Asia, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy delivered a lecture entitled "Introduction to Reform and Renewal" on Sunday, 25 Shawal 1442 corresponding to 6 June 2021. This lecture was held within the framework of the institute's training and leadership program called the Summer Camp.

His Excellency started his lecture by expressing his thanks for the esteemed outreach efforts made by the founding generation of the International Institute of Islamic Thought, led by the great thinkers Dr. Abdul Hamid Abu Suleiman, Dr. Ahmed Totonji, Dr. Hisham Al-Talib, Dr. Omar Kasouli, Mr. Anwar Ibrahim and those who have been involved in the development of the Institute, and passed away before them to the House of Abode, Allah willing, such as Dr. Ismail Al-Farouqi, Dr. Jamal Barzanji, Dr. Taha Jaber Al-Alwani, Dr. Mona Abu Al-Fadl, Hamad Hajj Belkacem and others. These thinkers understood very early on that the complex crises that the Islamic Ummah and the whole world are currently suffering from are essentially an intellectual crisis, while the other economic, political, cultural and educational crises are in fact repercussions and manifestations of the original crisis, which is the crisis of the Muslim mind, as the title of one of Dr. Abu Suleiman's books published in the beginning of this century indicates. His Excellency used it to refer to the fact that the International Institute of Islamic Thought is a reference for reform and renewal thinking at the level of institutions inside and outside the Muslim world.

His Excellency then addressed the analysis and approximation of the meaning of the terms reform and renewal, stressing the importance of knowing the meaning of these two terms before entering into the conference details. Meanwhile, he stressed that the term reform is the opposite of the terms: corruption and corruptibility, and also means that reform is a serious attempt to eliminate corruption, the fact, and end corruption, the result. In other words, corruption and corruptibility are an emergency that is not original and must be removed and eliminated in order to bring things back to their natural state before corruption can infiltrate them, for example, lying is corruption, laziness is corruption, and cheating is corruption, etc.



The elimination of these corruptions is called reformation, i.e. the return of everyone to what they were before, i.e. justice, honesty, work, etc.

It is a disease and an evil that must be cured, and its remedy is reform. As for renewal, it is a matter of eliminating corruption and continuing the march of development to become again what it was in the beginning. Thought, character and behavior are affected by corruption as are clothes, house and home, and restoring all these to their original state is called renewal.

As for the cause of wear and tear, it is due to the house owner who neglects maintenance and fails in his duty to repair. Therefore, reform and renewal are complementary, closely related and intertwined.

If we look at the reality of the Ummah and the world, we see that reform is necessary because of the abundance of corruption in all its forms. There is corruption in the economy, in human society and in politics. There is corruption in thought, behavior and morals, and there is no stability, security or prosperity without reform. It is necessary to renew thought and methodology to be able to resist, overcome and repel corruption.

Then, His Excellency clarified that the work of a person who advocates reform is similar to that of a doctor, because the reformer is in fact a doctor, and it is known that the doctor does not provide a

medical prescription before examining the patient and determining the type of disease and the appropriate medicine for him, therefore, the reformer must do with the same task as the doctor, starting with identifying the reality of corruption, its cause and its roots in order to determine the appropriate treatment for it, taking into account the degree of time necessary for effective treatment.

Therefore, any reform that does not proceed from this approach, will not bear fruit and will not be successful. His Excellency also mentioned the importance for the reformer to have a lot of knowledge, dreams, wisdom and firmness, stressing that science is the basis of reform and renewal and that no one can practice it if he is not aware of the reality of corruption, its degree and its roots. He cannot determine the appropriate treatment if he is also ignorant, and in this regard must be patient and not rush, just like a doctor who gives the patient a medicine in prolonged doses.

His Excellency also explained that the word of the Almighty: "Invite to the way of your Lord with wisdom and good instruction, and argue with them in a way that is best." relates the most important pillars of reform, the foundations of dawah, and the pillars of renewal. The reformer's commitment, renovator and caller to wisdom, good exhortation and argument with kindness is a safety valve, a guarantee and a sign of success. Therefore, it is necessary for all those who want to carry out this eternal divine mission to adhere to these foundations and start from them to achieve the desired goals and objectives of reform, renewal and dawah.

His Excellency concluded his lecture by reiterating the call not to import ready-made solutions and to abandon experiments on contradictory facts. There is no more detrimental to reform, change and renewal than the scourge of generalization and abandonment, haste and haste. Be like a doctor if you want to be a successful reformer, and a brilliant one. Get to know the facts in which you live, know the means of reform and renewal available, and above all know the reality of corruption, its roots and causes, and then arm yourself with the aforementioned foundations. Thus, His Excellency concluded his one-and-a-half-hour lecture by answering questions asked by the participants from Southeast Asian countries.

At the Annual Islamic Awqaf Conference, the Secretary General of the Academy calls for a Better Awareness of Monetary Waqf



H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy participated on Thursday 7 Dhul al-Qi'dah 1442 corresponding to 17 June 2021, in the third session of the Islamic Awqaf Conference organized by the Makkah Chamber of Commerce and Industry under the slogan "Make a Waqf...that lasts forever!". In the opening session, His Excellency spoke about the importance of Waqf and its place in Islam, stressing that it is one of the eternal and most significant aspects of Islam, and pointed out that poverty is a severe social disease and an economic problem; this is why Shariah has established multiple specialized institutions to deal with this disease. Among the most important of these renowned institutions are Zakat, Awqaf, Wills, Compensation, and Vows, known in the present era as Islamic social finance. His Excellency also stated that the advancement of these institutions requires more studies and scientific

research to develop their performance and modernize the bodies that supervise them to make them effective and competent.

His Excellency noted that the themes of this year's session of the Islamic Conference on Awqaf are to be welcomed and appreciated, as they will provide practical treatments and mature scientific recommendations to improve the governance mechanisms of Awqaf, achieve the organization and development of these institutions, as well as to improve the awareness of society about their religious, social, economic, and developmental importance. He said that it is also hoped that this session will come up with a good set of scientific solutions and practical and organizational measures to face the challenges, calamities and developments facing Awqaf soberly.

His Excellency concluded his speech by calling for the promotion of awareness, attention, and care for monetary Waqf of all types and forms, as it is a qualitative leap in diversifying the fields of Awqaf to include Waqf in money as well as Waqf of rights, profits, and also to include Waqf in cash, temporary, and permanent.

Regarding the Waqf of money, His Excellency explained that it has multiple forms, and one of its most important contemporary forms is the financial investment Waqf, which is intended to endow certain sums of money to a financial investment institution for a certain period in order for this institution to invest this money speculatively or jointly. This will make profits paid to Awqaf banks determined by the Waqf to finance the construction of a mosque or a hospital, or else.

Another contemporary type of Waqf of money is what is called today the Waqf of cash loan, in which money is placed in special Waqf Funds in order to lend it to those who need productive capital, so that they take what they need from the money in these funds on the condition that they return it as per the agreement, so that the funds lend the same money again for other people in need, without the Waqf or the doers having a conditional return of this loan. Some banking institutions practice this type of loan called credit banks, but most take on a conditional and pre-determined interest. This is forbidden as it is unanimously forbidden usury, and it is interest on debt like any loan that brings a conditional profit, which is called bank interest or usurious interest.

For about an hour, His Excellency answered the participants' questions regarding the applications of the monetary Waqf and its importance in the current era.



International Islamic University of Malaysia (IIUM) hosts the Secretary General of the Academy at the International Symposium on Cultural Intelligence and the Future of Education

H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, participated in the International Symposium entitled Cultural Intelligence: Towards Promoting Institutional Excellence, on Monday 4 Dhul al-Qi'dah 1442, corresponding to 14 June 2021, via video conference.

At the beginning of his speech, His Excellency pointed out that cultural intelligence is one of the current issues that deserves to be studied and researched further. He stressed the importance of cultural intelligence in achieving integration and coexistence based on mutual respect, tolerance, and openness. The power of this type of intelligence lies in the ability of the individual to establish distinct relationships with other bearers of a culture different from his or her own, through his or her untiring quest for understanding, appreciation, and respect for the culture of the other, rising above and refraining from monopolizing the other's culture, depreciating it or underestimating it.

The diversity and the plurality of cultures are among Allah's graces and signs, for the Almighty said: (O mankind, indeed We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you. Indeed, Allah is Knowing and Acquainted.) Al-Hujurat 13. The Almighty also said: "And of His signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth and the diversity of your languages and your colors. Indeed in that are signs for those of knowledge." Al-Rum 22.

The first verse is seen as a confirmation and consolidation of the supreme and ultimate goal of human diversity and cultural pluralism, which is knowledge, integration and communication. As for the second verse demonstrates that the language plurality and differences,

as well as the cultural plurality and difference, is a sign of Allah in creation. Therefore, the discourse on cultural intelligence is an important discourse in the search for a better knowledge of the importance of cultural pluralism and how to use it in a positive way.

This topic becomes more important as it confirms the failure of arrogant attempts of some to apply globalization to everything in life, especially culture; however, in reality, it is in no way possible to globalize culture, which is an essential part of the intellectual and sensory formation of the human being, because culture is the expression of the intimacy that characterizes societies. Its globalization is nothing but the domination over the other and the miserable imposition of a limited and coercive culture. On the contrary, we must make the most of the pluralism of cultural and ethnic diversity, as proof of the Creator's greatness and power, to achieve integration, rapprochement, coexistence, and tolerance among human beings at all times and places.

His Excellency pointed out that it is not surprising that the proponents of cultural globalization have

failed because their call is based on contempt, arrogance, and complacency, while the world is more than ever turned towards tolerance, acceptance of the other and coexistence. He also indicated that the desired education today should be a balanced education that combines the spiritual and physical sides, the theoretical intellectual side and the practical behavioural side, and the concern for the things of this world and the preparation for the hereafter.

The more balanced is education, the more it paves the way for a greater youth generation characterized by moderation, integrity, equality, and coexistence. It rejects arrogance, domination, depreciation, and corruption on earth. A balanced education gives the learner humility, modesty and the ability to treat well those who differ with him in belief and culture, as well as the ability to seek aspects and areas of integration with the other and coexist with him, in order to work together in the development of the universe and achieve happiness and stability for all mankind.

His Excellency concluded his speech by praising the International Islamic University of Malaysia for adopting the principle of integrating science and knowledge and balancing between body and mind through the formulation of balanced programs that makes the learner proud of his or her religion and culture, recognizes the other's right to life, respects his religion and culture, and open to the other who is different in his thinking and culture. He will also be able to engage positively with the societies in which he lives based on his firm belief that the world and the hereafter are complementary and not mutually exclusive, and that the soul and the body are mutually supportive and not mutually exclusive, and that cultures are equal and that there is no preference for one culture over another, for there is no culture superior and better than another.

The Consul General and Permanent Representative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the OIC visits the Academy

H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, received in his office at the Secretariat General of the Academy on Tuesday 12 Dhul Qi'da 1442 corresponding to 22 June 2021. H.E. Mr Jaafar Muhammad Jaafar, Permanent Representative and Consul General of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the OIC.

At the beginning of the meeting, H.E. Mr Jaafar Muhammad Jaafar congratulated the Secretary-General on his assumption of duties at the Academy, succeeding the late H.E. Prof. Abdulsalam al-Abbadi, may Allah have mercy on him, former Secretary General of the Academy, and former representative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. He also commended the intellectual efforts and good effects of the Academy, as well as the importance of its mission, especially in explaining the legal provisions on issues and problems of interest to Muslims worldwide.

On his part, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Sano greeted the Consul and thanked him for his visit.

He then praised the merits of H.E. Prof. Abdulsalam al-Abbadi, may Allah have mercy on him, who passed



away while serving the Secretariat General of the Academy, and spoke about their unique relationship and how he was loved and respected ever since they got to know each other during the Academy's sessions and seminars. His Excellency also spoke of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan's particular position and the vital role in the establishment, advancement, and development of the Academy through the qualitative participation of Jordanian scholars in the Academy's activities.

His Excellency reiterated the continuation and follow-up of the administrative and structural reforms initiated by H.E. Prof. Abdulsalam al-Abbadi. He also spoke about what the Academy is doing to spread the culture of moderation and temperance, as well as its continuous efforts in correcting misconceptions about Islam on many topics and issues; foremost among them are the issues related to the participation of Muslim women in various aspects of social, political, economics, and intellectual life. On this occasion, His Excellency recalled that the Secretariat General of the Academy has recently established an independent department for the family, women, children, and the elderly in order to ensure the effective and solid participation of women jurists and experts in the Academy's activities and programs as well as the adoption of resolutions and recommendations on problems and

novelties related to the family and women.

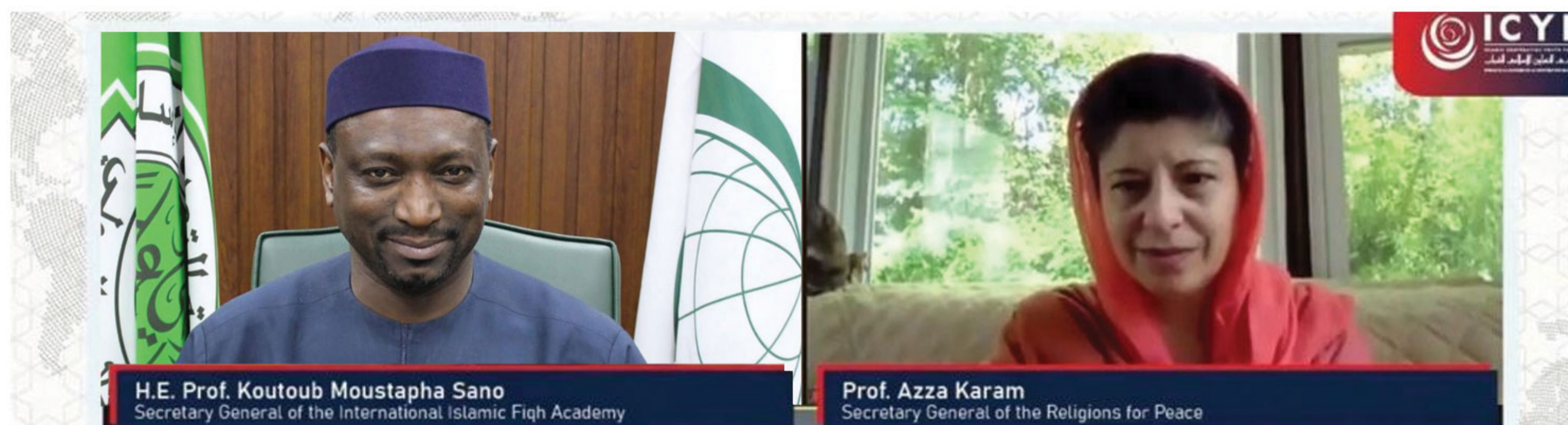
Furthermore, His Excellency said that for the first time in the Academy's history, about fifty women jurists and experts from the Member States of the Academy has approved to participate to give research in the 25th Session of the Academy, which will be held in October, in sha Allah.

On the other hand, the Permanent Representative of Jordan welcomed the working visit that His Excellency will pay to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in the coming days, assuring His Excellency that the Kingdom warmly welcomes His Excellency and the accompanying delegation. He also informed His Excellency that arrangements for the visit have been made and that they will continue to follow the developments to ensure the success of this upcoming visit and achieve the desired objectives.

The meeting was attended by Dr. Ayman Muhammad Abdul Karim, Advisor to the Secretary General for Information and Finance, Mr. Mourad Al-Tlili, Advisor to the Secretary General for Media Affairs, Mrs. Sarah Amjad Hussein, Director of the Family Department, Mr. Amjad Al-Mansi, Head of the Protocol Division, and Mr. Saad Al-Samar of the Information Technology Division.



Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum hosts the Secretary General of the Academy in its Annual Program of the Diplomacy Academy



As part of its annual program of the Diplomacy Academy, the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum hosted on Friday 8 Dhul al-Qi'dah 1442 AH corresponding to 18 June 2021, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, and H.E. Prof. Azza Karam, Secretary General of Religions for Peace, during the second session on faith and diplomacy.

The Secretary General of the Academy began his speech by explaining the importance of faith in human life and society as a fundamental source of guidance and direction, and for being the first reference for distinguishing the good from evil in ideas and opinions, and in acts and actions.

His Excellency explained that the greatest goal of successful diplomacy is to improve cooperation, integration, and communication between peoples and resolve differences and conflicts between them. Therefore, diplomacy as a tool and methodology of treatment must be based on and inspired by faith to know the effective means that must be employed to achieve its objective. In other words, since faith is a source of noble virtues and high morality such as honesty, mercy, kindness, righteousness, integrity and others, successful diplomacy must start from these virtues and morals and abide by them when mediating and bringing people together and settling disputes and conflicts.

Therefore, today's world urgently needs calm diplomacy that evokes the values of honesty, kindness, mercy, justice and moderation in negotiation and communication; for the more diplomacy adheres to these values, the more happiness, stability, and security are achieved, so unrest and instability are reduced, conflicts and disputes disappear, and vice versa. This means that the absence of these diplomatic values and virtues makes it rigid diplomacy that does not achieve the desired goal but rather becomes a cause of disputes, unrest and conflicts between peoples and nations.

For her part, Prof. Azza Karam spoke about the importance of concerted efforts and integration of forces of all religions to end conflicts and disputes, noting that the desired stability is the stability of all, and the desired security is the security of all. She stated that some peoples and nations cannot enjoy security and safety without those of other peoples of the world; therefore, it is necessary to fight against calls and slogans that call for racism, intolerance, and segregation among peoples.

Both speakers answered questions from the participants for nearly two hours, and the session received an excellent reception and a distinguished follow-up.

The Ambassador and the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Uganda to the OIC visits the IIFA headquarters

His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), received on Tuesday 19 Dhu al-Qa'dah 1442 corresponding to June 29, 2021, in his office at the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the Academy in Jeddah, His Excellency Mr. Isaac Biruma Sibulime, Ambassador of the Republic of Uganda to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Permanent Representative of Uganda to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), who came specially from Riyadh to greet His Excellency and express the support of the Government of the Republic of Uganda to the Secretariat General of the Academy.

His Excellency the Ambassador began his speech by extending his congratulations and well wishes to His Excellency the Secretary General of the Academy on the occasion of assuming the duties of Secretary General of the Academy, and the achievements made during the past few months that have become the subject of appreciation in the diplomatic circles. His Excellency the Ambassador also reviewed with the Secretary General the conditions of Muslims in Uganda, and he specifically mentioned and expressed his appreciation for the role His Eminence the late Sheikh Anas Abdel Nour Kalisah, was doing as a member of the Council of the Academy for the Republic of Uganda. Sheikh Kalisah passed away months ago after a long life spent in the service of Islam and Muslims in Uganda and beyond. He also assured His Excellency that the Ugandan government had nominated another member to represent it in the Academy's Council. Then he wished His



Excellency success in his mission, which he described as fabulous and challenging, stressing that His Excellency will find all the support and assistance from the Ugandan government.

For his part, His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano welcomed His Excellency the Ambassador and his colleague Mr. Mugadde Habib, Head of Economic and Political Affairs Department at the Embassy, appreciating and thanking His Excellency for bearing the trouble of traveling from Riyadh to Jeddah to visit the General Secretariat of the Academy. His Excellency also spoke about the virtues of His Eminence the late Sheikh Anas Abdel Nour Kalisah, may God have mercy on him, and the strong and unique fraternal relationship that he had with him, as he was a great brother, advising and compassionate, and a supporter of His Excellency in the various sessions of the Academy. Then he assured His Excellency that the General Secretariat of the Academy welcomes the new member nominated by the Republic of Uganda, and the embassy will be informed of the decision of the Bureau committee in the coming days.

Then the Secretary General presented to His Excellency an overview of the Academy and its activities and programs, and its efforts to combat extremism, fanaticism, and terrorism by promoting moderation, temperance, coexistence, and tolerance among followers of different religions, cultures and civilizations.

His Excellency also made it clear that the Academy members are among the best and trusted scholars of the Islamic nation. The most important objectives of the Academy are to strengthen the bonds of cooperation and communication with the member states of the OIC through signing joint cooperation agreements, and the joint organization of conferences and specialized seminars on specific topics and issues related to those countries. His Excellency concluded his speech by briefing His Excellency on issuing the first-ever IIFA strategic plan, which includes the most important activities and programs that the Academy intends to implement during the next five years.

For his part, the Ambassador expressed his country's welcome to cooperate with the General Secretariat of the Academy,



describing the Academy as a renowned, impartial intellectual organization acceptable to all member states of the OIC and Muslim societies around the world, which puts it in a favorable position to serve the member states in their war against terrorism, extremism, and intolerance away from any interactions whether ethnic or political. The Academy, he added, is distinguished by its ability to defend the ideal image of Islam and refute all accusations that are unjustly attached to it. His Excellency assured the Secretary General that Muslims in the Republic of Uganda live with followers of other religions in peace, security, and stability.

At the end, His Excellency the Secretary General reiterated his heartfelt thanks and great appreciation to the Ambassador and his accompanying delegation for the visit, wishing them a safe journey back to Riyadh and presented them with souvenirs from the Academy.

From the Academy side, the meeting was attended by Dr. Ayman Abdel Karim, Media & Financing Advisor to the Secretary General, Mr. Mourad TLiLi, Media & Public Relations Adviser to the Secretary General, Mrs. Sarah Amjad Hussein, Director of Family, Women, Children and Elderly Affairs Department, and Mr. Amjad Mustafa, Head of the Protocol Section.

Secretary General meets with the Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Somalia to the OIC

In an effort to enhance cooperation and communication between the General Secretariat of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) and the permanent delegates of the member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), and in order to identify the aspirations and expectations of the member states from the Academy in order to serve the issues of Islam and Muslims around the world, His Excellency Professor Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, visited on Wednesday, 20 of Dhu al-Qa'dah 1442 corresponding to June 30, 2021 AD, the headquarters of the delegation of the Federal Republic of Somalia in Jeddah, where he and the accompanying delegation, were received by His Excellency Ambassador Abdul Razzaq Abdi, Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Somalia to the OIC and his deputy Dr. Abdul Rahim Othman Alami.



His Excellency the Ambassador welcomed the Secretary General and extended his thanks and deep appreciation to him for this visit, which is the first ever by a Secretary General of the Academy to the delegation of the Federal Republic of Somalia. The visit also appreciates the Ambassador's visit to the headquarters of the Secretariat General of the Academy a few months ago.

The Ambassador also assured His Excellency of the Federal Republic of Somalia's full readiness to strengthen cooperation and partnership between the Academy and the leading and reputable Somali scientific institutions, especially with regard to combating extremist ideology, terrorism, fanaticism, and armed terrorist groups that kill innocent civilians and attack lives and properties. For his part, His Excellency the Secretary General praised the continuous support that the Academy has received from the Federal Republic of Somalia since its establishment, noting in this regard the distinguished role played by Somali scholars and thinkers in the Horn of Africa, in terms of their appreciated efforts in the field of combating all forms of extremism and terrorism, and His Excellency affirmed the full readiness of the Academy to provide all forms of intellectual and legal support to the government and people of Somalia, especially in the field of combating dangerous ideas that fuel terrorism and spread extremism, and call for wanton aggression against people, honor, and public and private property. His Excellency also expressed the Academy's firm desire to hold



international conferences, specialized seminars, and organize workshops in Somalia to cooperate with eminent Somali scholars to refute these destructive and alien ideas to Islam.

At the conclusion of the visit, His Excellency Ambassador Abdul Razzaq Abdi reiterated his thanks and appreciation to the Secretary General and looked forward to more meetings and encounters to discuss various ways and means to spread tolerance, moderation, and moderation, and temperance inside and outside the Islamic world.

Before leaving, His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Sano wrote a note in the protocol book to commemorate his visit to the headquarters of the Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Somalia in Jeddah.

Minister of Guidance Hajj and Endowments of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan holds a Virtual meeting with the Secretary General of IIFA

His Excellency Sheikh Muhammad Qasim Halimi, Minister of Guidance, Hajj and Endowments of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, held a virtual consultative meeting on Wednesday, 20 of Dhu al-Qa'dah 1442 corresponding to June 30, 2021, with His Excellency Professor Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA).

His Excellency the Minister began his speech by expressing his great thanks, appreciation, and gratitude to His Excellency the Secretary General of the Academy for the blessed and successful efforts of the Academy in spreading true Islam, correcting concepts, and promoting moderation and temperance, noting in this regard that the Academy is almost the only shariah international reference that is respected and accepted by all scholars and jurists from all over the world. He pointed out that the Academy's decisions and recommendations are well accepted by scholars and thinkers around the world and expressed in particular his great appreciation and admiration for the knowledge and intellectual capacity of His Excellency the Secretary General of the Academy, who is also

respected and appreciated by scholars and jurists in the Muslim world.

Then His Excellency the Minister expressed to the Secretary General the desire of the Afghan government for the Academy to play a major role in achieving reconciliation in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan by organizing a conference or symposium that brings together the senior scholars of Afghanistan to discuss achieving the desired reconciliation between the conflicting parties. The minister concluded his speech by expressing his confidence in the ability of the Academy to achieve this request in the shortest possible time.

For his part, His Excellency the Secretary General of the Academy greeted His Excellency the Minister, and thanked him for this valuable initiative, which is at the core of the Academy's mandate, especially with regard to achieving intellectual convergence and enhancing cooperation, communication, and rapprochement among the nation's scholars. The Secretary General also confirmed the Academy's firm stance to preserve blood, lives, and properties based on strong evidence from the Holy Quran and the Noble Sunnah.



The Secretary General meanwhile welcomed the initiative of His Excellency the Minister, promising him the Academy's readiness to play a prominent role in achieving reconciliation and peace between the conflicting parties in the near future.

The two sides agreed to continue their meetings in the coming days to further discuss ways to materialize the initiative as soon as possible.

Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the OIC receives the Secretary General of the IIFA

Within the series of meetings with the Permanent Representatives of the OIC Member States, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, paid a courtesy visit to the headquarters of the Representation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the OIC on Thursday 21 Dhul al-Qi'dah 1442, corresponding to 1 July 2021.

His Excellency was received by Ambassador Dr. Saleh bin Hamad Al-Suhaibani, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the OIC, and Ambassador Mazen Al-Hamali, Director General of the Makkah Al-Mukarramah Branch of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who attended part of the meeting. H.E. the Ambassador began his speech by welcoming His Excellency and the accompanying delegation, noting in this regard the rapid changes and developments that have taken place at the Academy, since His Excellency took office as Secretary General. His Excellency also welcomed the contacts established by His Excellency with the accredited academic institutions of the headquarters country in order to strengthen cooperation and partnership between the Academy and these renowned institutions and organizations. His Excellency explained that he is closely following all the administrative procedures related to the headquarters agreement that will be signed between the Academy and the competent authorities of the headquarters country.

For his part, the Secretary General of the Academy expressed his warm thanks and gratitude for the great welcome given to him and the accompanying delegation. His Excellency also expressed his thanks, gratitude



and deep appreciation for the generous support, special attention, and continuous interest that the government receives from the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, and his loyal Crown Prince, HRH Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, may Allah protect them.

His Excellency pointed out that the achievements and results obtained by the Academy are thanks to Allah the Almighty, then the great financial and moral support that the Academy has enjoyed since its inception four decades ago from the government and people of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia through the provision of a secure and integrated headquarters for the Secretariat General of the Academy which is the most significant proof of this, as well as unlimited logistical support, and a large contribution to the annual budget of the Academy.

The Secretary General of the Academy took this honorable opportunity to inform His Excellency of the most important achievements of the Academy in recent months and the recent visits that His Excellency has made to some of the member states of the organization. His Excellency also informed Ambassador

Dr. Shaibani of creating new departments that follow the ongoing reforms and developments within the Secretariat General of the Academy.

He also informed His Excellency of the publication of the first five-year strategic plan of the Academy since its establishment, which includes a detailed formulation of the activities and programs that the Academy intends to implement over the next five years.

His Excellency concluded his speech by reiterating his heartfelt thanks and inviting His Excellency to convey to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, the most sincere thanks, highest appreciation and gratitude of the Academy including its presidency, Secretariat General, members, experts and officials, and to his loyal Crown Prince, HRH Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, may Allah protect them, as well as to the esteemed local authorities who ensure that the Academy can perform the tasks entrusted to it by Muslim world leaders.

For his part, Ambassador Al-Suhaibani wished His Excellency and the International Islamic Fiqh Academy much success and progress, stressing that the Headquarters State will continue to support the Academy at all levels.



US Consul General and Special Envoy to the OIC visits the Secretary General of the Academy



Mr. Ryan Gliha, Consul General and Special Envoy of the United States of America to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, accompanied by Ms. Kholoud Kandil, Deputy Director of the Political and Economic Department of the Consulate, paid a courtesy visit to H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, on Thursday 21 Dhul al-Qi'dah 1442 corresponding to 1 July 2021, at the Academy's headquarters in Jeddah.

Mr. Ryan expressed his sincere thanks and gratitude to the Secretary General of the Academy for welcoming him and his companion Ms. Kholoud, noting that this visit could be his last to the Secretariat General of the Academy. This is due to the end of his official tenure as Consul General of the United States in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as well as the special envoy to the OIC. Also he expressed his appreciation and admiration for the remarkable changes and developments in the Secretariat General of the Academy, at the administrative, scientific, and intellectual levels, since His Excellency took office a few months ago. He equally expressed his appreciation for the important role played by the Academy in the fight against extremist ideologies, terrorism, renunciation of violence and fanaticism, praising in this regard what he heard directly from the Secretary General as a clear and frank

scientific position against many harmful and disgraceful practices against women in some societies, such as female genital mutilation and child marriage. The Consul General then took the opportunity to express his aspiration to strengthen the cooperation and communication relations between the General Secretariat of the Academy and the United States through the new Consul General and Special Envoy who will arrive in Jeddah in early August. He concluded his conversation by wishing His Excellency and the Academy success in carrying out the promising activities and programs contained in its strategic plan.

For his part, the Secretary General of the Academy greeted Mr. Ryan and his colleague and thanked them for this visit which shows the appreciation of the Consulate General and the American diplomatic mission towards the Academy. He also confirmed the sincere desire to strengthen the cooperation and communication between the General Secretariat of the Academy and the United States of America. His Excellency praised the great concern to enhancing the ties and stronger cooperation and communication between the Academy and the American institutions which are interested with the topics and issues covered by the Academy such as the intellectual discourse and inter religious dialogue. His Excellency expressed his regret to see Mr. Ryan leave at this time, after having left a good trace and a beautiful memory to all those who have known or met him, wishing him full success in his new missions in the United States. He also assured of his full commitment to fight the extremism, terrorism, and violence, as well as his determination to correct the preconceived ideas around many issues especially those retro perceptions and wrong ideas related to women status and participation in different fields of life. Further he expressed the total rejection of all forms of the violence and abuse against woman be physical, moral psychological

and material. Indeed the Academy has already issued resolutions on these issues and topics, condemning, and denouncing all forms of violence and abuse committed in the name of Islam such as female genital mutilation, stressing the fact that Islam does not tolerate any form of humiliation or psychological and physical abuse of woman. His Excellency also affirmed to the Consul General the Academy's willingness raise Muslim communities' awareness over the importance of respecting the principles of citizenship in their country, and the need to abide by the laws and regulations in force while preserving their religious duties, as there is, in fact, no significant conflict between religious affiliation and loyalty to the country in which a Muslim may reside. It is therefore necessary to correct the concepts that imply a conflict between the two parties because Islam does not stand against belonging to a country while preserving one's faith and religion. His Excellency concluded his speech by stressing that the Academy will move forward to strengthen the relations with the new Consul General and with all American universities and scientific centers interested in dialogue and coexistence. The meeting was attended by Dr. Ayman Abdel Karim, Financial Advisor to the Secretary General, Mr. Mourad Al-Tlili, Media Advisor to the Secretary General, Mrs. Sarah Amjad Hussein, Director of Family and Women's Affairs, and Mr. Amjad Mustafa, Head of the Protocol Department.



Departments Directors Meetings

Firstly: The 33rd Meeting

The 33rd weekly meeting of the directors of the Academy's departments was held on Tuesday, 06 Dhul al-Qi'da 1442, corresponding to 16 June 2021.

His Excellency opened the meeting by praying mercy and forgiveness to the late Secretary General of the Academy, H.E. Prof. Ahmed Khaled Babeker, who passed away last week in Riyadh.

His Excellency also thanked the delegation that was sent on behalf of the Academy to attend the funeral of the deceased and to present their condolences, which had a great impact on relieving his family, who in turn expressed their sincere thanks to the Academy and its staff for their generous support during this tragic event.

His Excellency also spoke about his visit to Indonesia, which achieved the desired objectives of consolidating relations with the Member States and presenting the Academy's mission in Indonesia, which no former Secretary General of the Academy had ever visited there before. His Excellency met with several high officials and scholars, headed by His Excellency the

Minister of Religious Affairs, and the President General of the Indonesian Ulema Council, and the President of Sharif Hidayatullah University, which is the largest university in Indonesia. Together they discussed ways to strengthen cooperation and coordination and to sign joint cooperation agreements concerning ifta and muftis, and to translate some books into Indonesian.

Several decisions were taken during this meeting, notably:

- To Translate the strategic plan into French according to the new structure of the departments' activities, and coordinate each activity's planning, and printing the new version in the form of a brochure.
- To Translate all agreements by the Secretariat General of the Academy into the three languages of the OIC.
- To send copies of the fourth edition of the resolutions to Sharif Hidayatullah University, and to the Indonesian Ulema Council and ask them to translate it into Indonesian language to reach largest number of the Indonesian public.



Secondly: The 34th Meeting

The thirty-fourth weekly meeting of the Academy's department directors was held on Monday 12 Dhul Qi'dah 1442, corresponding to 21 June 2021.

The Secretary General of the Academy opened the meeting by welcoming the participants and then spoke about the proposal he made to the State of Indonesia regarding Islamic social finance, which is part of Islamic social representation, and includes non-profit financial institutions in Islam, such as the institutions of Zakat, Waqf, Wills, Compensations and Vows.

His Excellency explained the importance of this type of Islamic financing, which has not received its due share of research and study, hence the urgency to consolidate this field, formulate its legal provisions and develop the wealth that emanates from it.

His Excellency affirmed the readiness

of the Academy to cooperate and participate in this field, which was welcomed and requested to be included in the twenty-fifth session, along with two other topics, including digital currencies and fatwas of halal concerning food, medicine, cosmetics, perfumes, etc. The meeting resulted in several decisions, notably:

- Preparing a booklet containing all the resolutions and recommendations issued by the Academy regarding family, women, children and the elderly, to be presented at the eighth ministerial conference for women in Cairo.
- Organize a visit to the permanent representations of the Republic of Pakistan, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Federal Republic of Somalia and the Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Jeddah.
- Upload the scientific lectures and audio-visual contents of the Academy online.

Thirdly: The 35th Meeting

His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, held on Tuesday the 19th of Dhu al-Qa'dah 1442 corresponding to June 28, 2021, the thirty fifth weekly meeting of the directors of departments in the Academy.

His Excellency opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees and praising their efforts. His Excellency then spoke about the importance of adhering to the principles and values of doing good, perfection, piety, and righteousness, linking these principles and values with modern administrative principles, and with positive actions that achieve public good and collective benefit in the work environment. He also recalled the importance of cooperation, support and collaboration between departments and employees. His Excellency addressed the Directors reminding them that the annual leave is the right of every employee, which they can take whenever they wish, and therefore they should make the procedure and process easy and accessible to them.

Then the meeting discussed the agenda items and resulted in a number of decisions, notably:

- Expedite the sending of sufficient copies of the statute of the Waqf Fund in the three languages, Arabic, English, and French, to His Excellency the Secretary General of the OIC in order to send them to the member states of the Organization.

- Re-produce and update the corporate video of the Academy, in 3 different time formats as soon as possible.
- Update the members and experts' information database, in order to send to them the Academy's monthly newsletter and various publications.
- Sending the statement issued by the Academy regarding the Hajj of this year 1442/2021 with translation into English and French to His Excellency the Secretary General of the OIC, and the permanent delegates of the member states of the Organization.
- Arranging a courtesy visit to the permanent delegates of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Somalia, and Pakistan, in appreciation of their visit to the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the Academy.
- Providing an integrated plan of how to benefit from placing the scientific lectures on the Academy's social channels, as well as preparing the material available in the scientific tapes in preparation for placing it also on the Academy's social channels for the public benefit.
- Develop the themes and an integrated plan for a symposium, to be held after the Hajj season, on encrypted and non-encrypted digital currencies and calling for papers from economists and legal scholars.

The 8th Monthly Staff Meeting



H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, chaired the eighth monthly meeting of the Academy's personnel on Sunday 25 Shawal 1442, corresponding to 6 June 2021.

His Excellency opened the meeting by welcoming the participants, reminding everyone of the importance of sincerity in work and observance of Allah the Almighty in all the tasks we perform. He also prayed to Allah the Almighty to keep away from humanity the current pandemic due to its disastrous effects.

His Excellency then discussed the meeting agenda after approving the previous minutes and then listened to the participants' views and suggestions

regarding the improvement of organizational performance and providing the necessary equipment to Academy's employees so that they can best perform the tasks entrusted to them. The meeting resulted in several decisions, notably:

- To send the translation of the fourth edition of the Academy's Resolutions and Recommendations in English to Publishers in its final form to be reviewed and finalized before the Academy's Bureau meeting scheduled during June.
- Prepare a complete conception of the regulations in force at the OIC regarding VAT to enable staff to benefit from this this headquarters-approved arrangement.

His Excellency Dr. Al-Othaimeen chairs the meeting of IIFA's Bureau

His Excellency Dr. Yousef bin Ahmed Al-Othaimeen, Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), and Chairman of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy's (IIFA) Bureau, presided on Sunday 24th of Dhu'l-Qa'dah 1442 corresponding to July 4, 2021, Via video communication, over the first meeting of the Bureau Committee of the Academy for the year 2021. The meeting was attended by His Excellency Sheikh Dr. Saleh bin Abdullah bin Humaid, Advisor at the Royal Court, member of the Council of Senior Scholars, imam and khatib of the Grand Mosque, President of the Academy, Vice-Chairman of the Bureau, His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, and Secretary of the Bureau. The honorable members of the Bureau also participated in the meeting, namely Sheikh Muhammad Taqi Al-Othmani, Sheikh Dr. Abu Bakr Al-Dokouri, and Sheikh Prof. Ajil Al-Nashmi.

His Excellency Dr. Yousef bin Ahmed Al-Othaimeen, Secretary General of the OIC, opened the meeting by expressing his great thanks and great appreciation to the distinguished members for their participation and continuous support for IIFA, praising the great role played by the Academy in spreading the culture of moderation and tolerance, and combating extremism, fanaticism, terrorism, and violence. He also noted the great and appreciated efforts the Academy is making in strengthening cooperation and coordination between the fatwa bodies and the Shariah councils in OIC member states. He also expressed, on this occasion, his happiness and pride in the great achievements and tangible results that the Academy has achieved recently since the new Secretary General of the Academy, Prof. Koutoub Sano, assumed his duties.

His Excellency concluded his opening speech by calling on OIC member states to continue supporting the Academy, especially its Waqf Fund, expressing his great thanks and appreciation to His Excellency Dr. Bandar Hajjar, President of the Islamic Development Bank Group, for his efforts to sign a cooperation agreement between the Academy and IsDB, whereby it will undertake the investment and development of the fund assets in an effort to provide a stable source of financing for the Academy's activities and programs.



For his part, His Excellency Sheikh Dr. Saleh bin Humaid, President of the Academy, expressed his great thanks and great appreciation to His Excellency the OIC Secretary General, Dr. Youssef Al-Othaimeen, for his continuous support to the activities and programs of the Academy. He also expressed his gratitude to the members of the Bureau for their attendance and active participation in support of the efforts of the Academy. He then praised the results and achievements of the Academy under the leadership of His Excellency the Secretary General and his assistants, pointing out that the content of the report of the General Secretariat of the Academy, submitted for this meeting, is the most certain evidence and the greatest proof of that.

The meeting then discussed the items on the agenda of the meeting presented by His Excellency the Secretary General of the Academy, who began by extending his deepest condolences and sympathy on behalf of the Academy, its presidency, general secretariat, members, and experts to the family of the late former Secretary General of the Academy, H.E. Dr. Khaled Ahmed Babaker, who passed away a couple of weeks ago in Riyadh. His Excellency the Secretary General then expressed, on behalf of the General

Secretariat of the Academy, the most sincere thanks and gratitude to the Headquarters State (KSA), its leadership and people, for the distinguished medical care it provided to the deceased, who passed away while being treated at the National Guard Hospital in Riyadh at the expense of the headquarters state, praising in the meantime and thanking His Excellency Sheikh Dr. Saleh bin Abdullah bin Humaid, the President of the Academy, for his blessed efforts who intervened with the wise leadership of the headquarters to secure excellent medical treatment for the deceased.

Then His Excellency the Secretary General presented the meeting's items, which included the approval of the minutes of the previous meeting of the Bureau, the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Academy's Waqf Fund, and the briefing of the members of the Bureau on the recommendations and declarations of the specialized scientific symposia and forums organized by the General Secretariat of the Academy since the last meeting of the Bureau, as well as the cooperation agreements and memoranda of understanding signed by the General Secretariat of the Academy with the different ministries, councils, and scientific institutions. The meeting agenda also included a discussion of the nominations submitted by the member states for the new members of the Academy's Council, where the Bureau approved two of the four nominations based on the membership conditions stipulated in the Academy's statute.

The meeting concluded with presenting a summary report on the Academy's financial report, focusing on informing the members of the contributions of countries to the current budget of the Academy and the arrears of some member states.

At the end of the meeting, His Excellency the Chairman and the members of the Bureau expressed their great satisfaction and deep appreciation for the achievements of the General Secretariat of the Academy at all levels, despite the conditions of the Corona pandemic that affected all aspects of life. They all expressed their appreciation to His Excellency the Secretary General of the Academy and were pleased with the stable financial situation of the Academy recently as a result of the successful efforts made and are still being made by the General Secretariat of the Academy in collecting the arrears and contributions from the member states, which enabled it to achieve a surplus in this year's budget.

Divisions Heads Meetings



Firstly: The 15th Meeting

His Excellency opened the 15th ordinary meeting of the divisions' heads by thanking participants for their dedication in carrying out their tasks and their concern to implement the activities and programs within the time limit, stressing at the same time the importance of referring to the minutes of the periodic meetings, whether weekly, bi-monthly, or monthly, in order to implement the instructions entrusted to them in each department. He also stressed the importance of writing the minutes of these meetings in order to document and ensure an effective follow-up.

His Excellency then reviewed the most important results of his recent visit to Indonesia with a delegation from the Academy, with the aim of strengthening cooperation and communication with Indonesia.

In this regard, he pointed out that the Academy delegation discussed with the Indonesian authorities the procedural and logistical details related to the 25th session to be held in the Republic of Indonesia in sha Allah depending on the international circumstances relating to the Corona pandemic. Then, His Excellency discussed the items on the agenda of the meeting. The meeting took several decisions, notably:

- Calling for contributions by Indonesian researchers, men and women, to submit their papers to the next session of the Academy.
- Update the electronic version of the Academy's resolutions and recommendations on the website.
- Allocate a page in the monthly newsletter to publish the brief biographies of the Academy's members.

Secondly: The 16th Meeting

His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, presided over the sixteenth periodic meeting of the divisions' heads of the Academy on Thursday 1st July 2021, where he started by welcoming the attendees, and pointing out the importance of adhering to the schedule of the periodic meetings in order to achieve the objectives of the strategic plan. He also highlighted the importance of cooperation and flexibility among all the staff to carry out the work of the Academy in the best possible way.

His Excellency also spoke about the results of the visit he made with the delegation accompanying him to the headquarters of the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in Jeddah and his meeting with His Excellency Ambassador Dr. Saleh Al-Suhaibani, the KSA's permanent representative to the OIC. HE also mentioned the visit of the American Consul and Special Envoy of his country to the OIC, to the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the Academy.

After that, His Excellency moved to consider the items on the meeting's agenda and discussed with the heads of the divisions the topics concerning them. The meeting resulted in a number of decisions, notably:

- Confirmation of posting the fourth edition book of the decisions of the Academy on the website of the Academy.
- Publishing the biographies of the scholars of the Academy, both those deceased and those still among us, in the monthly newsletter of the Academy by order of seniority.
- Summarizing the news of the periodic administrative meetings of the Academy published in the monthly newsletter into three main headings: a report on the weekly meetings of the heads of the departments, a report on the bi-monthly meetings of the heads of divisions, and a report on the monthly meetings of the staff of the Academy.
- Assigning Mr. Walid Al-Hadrami to compile the biographies of the late scholars of the Academy.
- Begin the process of translating the Academy's statements published on its official website into English and French.

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