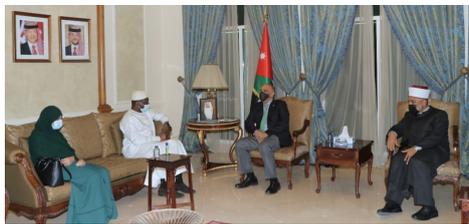


## Jordanian Prime Minister receives the Secretary General in Amman

His Excellency Dr. Bisher Al Khasawneh, Prime Minister of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, received His Excellency Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), on Monday, 2 Dhul Hijjah 1442 corresponding to July 12, 2021, at the Prime Minister's Office in the capital Amman.

The Prime Minister welcomed Prof. Koutoub Sano and congratulated him on his appointment as Secretary General of the Academy. Also he expressed the importance of concerted efforts of all religious institutions in the Muslim World to clarify the true image of Islam as a religion of compassion and tolerance, as well as the need to confront the campaigns against Islam. He praised in this regard the outstanding scientific efforts carried out by the Academy in this field, in addition to the important role it plays to unite the Muslim Ummah and unify its voice. For his part, the Secretary General expressed to the Prime Minister the Academy's thanks and gratitude to His Majesty, the government and people of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for their continuous support for the Academy since its establishment, and assured the Prime Minister of the Academy's constant and unwavering eagerness to spread the culture of moderation, the rejection of fanaticism, and combating extremism and terrorism by promoting tolerance, openness, coexistence, fruitful cooperation



and the desired integration among the Ummah's scholars, noting in this regard that the Academy was able during the past four decades to issue 238 scientific resolutions regarding the various issues of the era, its calamities, and its developments.

His Excellency also made it clear that his visit to the Kingdom comes within the framework of the Academy's relentless endeavor to deepen cooperation, coordination, communication and partnership with the leading scientific institutions concerned with managing religious affairs in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and in order to benefit from the expertise and experiences of the most eminent academic figures in these institutions, noting the Academy's full readiness to organize specialized seminars and hold workshops with Jordanian scientific institutions and centers on all topics and current issues. On this occasion, he referred to the specialized symposium held by the Academy recently to clarify the Islamic ruling on taking Covid-19 vaccines, where the Academy resolved

of taking vaccinations according to Shariah law, as well as the permissibility of compelling the population to take it if the ruler decrees it.

His Excellency concluded his speech by praying for the soul of the late Prof. Abdul Salam Al-Abadi and commending the great services he provided to the Academy over the years both in his capacity as a member of the Council and as Secretary General.

The meeting was attended by His Excellency Dr. Mohammad Ahmad Al-Khalaileh, Minister of Awqaf, Islamic Affairs and Holy Places in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Mrs. Sarah Amjad Hussein, Director of Family and Women's Affairs Department at the Academy, and Mr. Amjad Ibrahim Al-Mansi, Head of Protocol Division at the Cabinet and Protocol Affairs Department at the Academy.



## Secretary General visits the Grand Imam of al Azhar in Cairo



His Eminence the Grand Imam, Sheikh Dr. Ahmed Al-Tayeb, Sheikh of Al-Azhar Mosque, Chairman of the Council of Senior Scholars, and President of the Islamic Research Academy received on Wednesday, 27 Dhu al-Qa'dah 1442 corresponding to 7 July 2021, His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), in the Sheikhdom of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif in Cairo. The Grand Imam began his speech by welcoming His Excellency and congratulating him on his appointment as Secretary General of the Academy, expressing his hope that Allah will grant His Excellency success in carrying out this huge responsibility in a manner that is pleasing to Allah, and in achieving what the Islamic peoples all over the world aspire to, especially with regard to the clarification of Shariah

rulings on issues of concern to Muslims.

His Eminence also expressed his hope that the Academy would continue to play the role expected of it in correcting misconceptions about Islam, combating extremism, fanaticism, and terrorism in all its forms and shapes, as well as carrying out solid and disciplined renewal efforts and bold Ijtihad that is relevant to our era, conscious of the outcomes, and offers solutions to the problems of contemporary life. His Eminence also affirmed the willingness of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif to enhance cooperation and communication with the Academy in all scientific activities and programs that enable Muslims to understand their religion correctly, and to apply the teachings of the true religion to their reality with ease and simplicity. His Eminence concluded his speech by saying that he agrees with the Secretary General on his rational thoughts, his disciplined innovative visions, and the ideas he presents to correct misconceptions, and therefore the Secretary General and the Academy will have the full support of His Eminence in all their projects, activities, and programs.

For his part, H.E. the Secretary General expressed

his great thanks, deep appreciation, and great gratitude to His Eminence the Grand Imam for the warm welcome and good reception, then he presented to His Eminence an overview of the Academy, its vision, mission, goals, activities, and programs. He pledged to His Eminence that he would work relentlessly to strengthen the relations of close cooperation between the Academy and the Sheikhdom on the one hand, and between the Academy and other institutions affiliated with the sheikhdom, such as Al-Azhar University, the Islamic Research Academy, and the Council of Senior Scholars on the other hand. At the end of the visit, His Excellency presented His Eminence with a luxurious copy of the fourth edition of the book of decisions and recommendations of the Academy.



## Egyptian Minister of Awqaf receives the Secretary General in Cairo



His Excellency Prof. Muhammad Mukhtar Gomaa, Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, received His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), on Tuesday 26th of Dhu al-Qa'dah 1442, corresponding to 6th of July 2021 at the Ministry's headquarters in Cairo.

His Excellency the Minister welcomed His Excellency the Secretary General, and thanked him for his visit, praising the significant role played by the Academy and its outstanding efforts in the field of clarifying Islamic rulings on issues of concern to Muslims all over the world, given that it is the reputable international scientific reference emanating from the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). His Excellency expressed the Ministry's welcome to all forms of cooperation, partnership, and coordination between the Egyptian Ministry of Awqaf and the Academy in all fields, especially

with regard to issues of renewal, managing developments and calamities, promoting awareness of the purposes of the Holy Quran and the Noble Sunnah, confronting and refuting extremist ideology, and spreading correct, rational, and enlightened Islamic thought, as well as expressing the greatness, tolerance and leadership of our Islamic civilization.

For his part, the Secretary General of the Academy thanked His Excellency the Minister for the warm welcome, praising the qualitative changes that the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs is witnessing under the leadership of His Excellency, and the special developments in the Ministry's activities and programs keeping pace with the requirements of the era, and in response to the contemporary life challenges. His Excellency the Secretary General expressed the Academy's firm desire to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the Academy and the Ministry, noting in this regard "the Academy is looking forward to concluding a special strategic partnership with the Ministry".



The two sides discussed many topics and issues of common interest and agreed to prepare a joint cooperation protocol between the Ministry and the Academy in the near future.

At the end of the visit, His Excellency the Minister presented His Excellency the Secretary General with copies of the publications of the Ministry of Awqaf and the Supreme Council of Islamic Affairs. The Secretary General commended these publications for the innovative and enlightened visions they contain that advocate the jurisprudence of reality and provide effective solutions to many contemporary life problems. His Excellency the Secretary General in turn presented to His Excellency the Minister a copy of the fourth edition of the book of resolutions and recommendations of the Academy. The meeting was attended by Mrs. Sarah Amjad Hussein, Director of Family and Women's Affairs Department at the Academy, and Mr. Amjad Ibrahim Al-Mansi, Head of Protocol Division in the Cabinet and Protocol Department at the Academy.

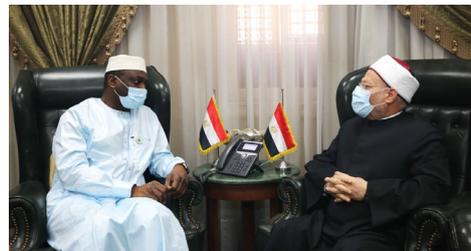


## Grand Mufti meets with the Secretary General in Cairo

His Eminence Professor Sheikh Dr. Shawki Allam, Grand Mufti of the Arab Republic of Egypt received Secretary-General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, His Excellency Professor Koutoub Moustapha Sano on Wednesday morning, 27 Dhu al-Qa'dah 1442 AH corresponding to July 7, 2021 AD, at the headquarters of Dar Al Iftaa in Cairo.

At the beginning of the meeting, His Eminence congratulated His Excellency on assuming the duties of the Secretary-General of the Academy. He also praised the Academy's scientific status and its prominent role in providing the provisions of Sharia with regard to the new issues and calamities, expressing his aspiration to continue and enhance this status, especially after His Excellency assumed the General Secretariat, as he is one of the most prominent scholars of the Islamic jurisprudence."

He also expressed Dar al Ifta's readiness to discuss and enhance aspects of cooperation



and coordination in the field of Ifta with the Academy. Further, His Eminence highlighted the historical stages that the Dar al Ifta went through, and the various tasks it carries out, and the services it provides of Ifta and legitimacy, pointing out that the highest the goals of the Dar are to become an institution of Ifta which is equipped with expertise, and an umbrella for fatwa bodies in the world.

For his part, His Excellency the Secretary-General thanked His Eminence the Mufti for welcoming him and his delegation, and for allowing him the opportunity to visit the well known Egyptian Dar Al-Ifta, which was and still a leading reference for guidance, enlightenment and moderation, as it was and still a role model in the field of fatwas globally. The Dar al Ifta is characterized by its openness to the spirit of the times, and keeping pace with the developments and changes that the world is going through, noting the desire of the Academy to coordinate and communicate with the Dar in order for member states to benefit from its abundant

experience thus the coordination and collaboration with institutions of Ifta within the member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation is one of the most important goals of the Academy as it is stipulated in its statute. Accordingly, His Excellency concluded his speech by saying, "Indeed, the status of the Academy as the supreme jurisprudential reference for Ummah requires that it has to open up, coordinate with all institutions of fatwa, and strive to achieve intellectual convergence and knowledge integration among Muslims scholars".

At the end of the meeting, the advisor to the Mufti of the Egyptian Republic, Dr. Ibrahim Nejm, presented an overview of the General Secretariat for the role and advisory bodies, explaining that the secretariat includes research departments, a department for conferences and initiatives, the Global Ifta Index, and the ifta Support Center, and includes a center for studies of extremism.



## Ministry of Awaqf of Jordan and the Academy sign an MoU in Amman



His Excellency Dr. Mohammad Ahmad Al-Khalaileh, Minister of Awqaf, Islamic Affairs and Holy Places in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, received His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), on Sunday, 1 Dhu Al-Hijjah 1442 corresponding to July 10, 2021, at the Ministry's headquarters in the capital, Amman.

His Excellency the Minister welcomed His Excellency the Secretary General of the Academy and thanked him for working relentlessly to strengthen relations of cooperation and partnership between the Academy and prestigious Jordanian scientific institutions, led by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and Holy Places, stressing in this regard the full support of the Jordanian government to the efforts of the Academy in all fields, especially with relation to promoting moderation and combating extremist ideologies, fanaticism and terrorism, and correcting misconceptions about Islam and Muslims.

For his part, His Excellency the Secretary General of the Academy renewed the Academy's

condolences represented by the presidency, the General Secretariat, and members and experts of the Academy to the leadership and people of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan over the passing away of His Excellency Prof. Abdul Salam Al-Abadi.

Then His Excellency the Secretary General indicated that this visit comes within the framework of the Academy's firm desire to establish a sustainable scientific partnership with the leading scientific institutions and centers in the member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), in order to achieve intellectual convergence and knowledge integration between the jurists and scholars of the Ummah.

In order to achieve this, the two sides signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to enhance cooperation in common areas, especially in the dissemination of Islamic knowledge and culture and the preservation of Islamic heritage. It also aims to exchange sources of knowledge, education, and publications issued by the two parties, as well as to represent each officially in meetings related to joint cooperation.

Commenting on the signing, Dr. Al-Khalaileh said: "The ministry welcomes the signing of the MoU to exchange experiences between the ministry and the Academy, which is an important Islamic institution, providing fatwas and legal advice, in addition to holding courses and seminars that provide benefit to religious institutions. The ministry will work to exchange

expertise and experiences with the Academy in a drive to promote and develop its work".

Prof. Koutoub Sano, on the other hand gave the following statement:

"The Academy looks forward to benefiting from the expertise of the Ministry of Awqaf, through this MoU, which will set out the framework of cooperation, such as holding more seminars and dialogues. A joint specialized committee will be formed to determine aspects of cooperation and methods of implementation as envisaged in this MoU". His Excellency also added that Jordan has presented a wonderful model in the area of combating extremism, fanaticism, terrorism, and spreading peace and moderation.

At the end of the meeting, the two parties exchanged souvenirs, where His Excellency the Secretary General presented to His Excellency the Minister a luxurious copy of the book of the fourth edition of the book of resolutions and recommendations of the Academy, and His Excellency the Minister presented the Ministry's shield and some publications of the Ministry.



## Jordanian Supreme Judge welcomes the Secretary General in Amman



His Eminence Sheikh Abdul-Hafidh Al-Rabtah, Supreme Judge of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, received Professor Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), on Sunday, 1 Dhu al-Hijjah 1442, corresponding to July 11, 2021, in his office in the capital Amman.

At the beginning of the meeting, His Eminence welcomed His Excellency, thanked him for this visit, and then praised the significant scientific role played by the Academy in issuing resolutions and recommendations that are accurate and comprehensive, as well as spreading a culture of moderation and tolerance, which makes His Eminence looking forward to strengthening ways of cooperation and coordination with the Academy.

For his part, His Excellency the Secretary

General expressed his thanks and appreciation to His Eminence the Supreme Judge for the warm welcome and expressed his happiness in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan's preservation of this historical function under this glorious old title. He also expressed the Academy's full readiness to enhance cooperation and communication with this department, which is the first reference for Muslims in civic matters and issues such as marriage, divorce, alimony, inheritance, etc....

His Excellency concluded his speech by expressing to his Eminence the Academy's readiness to cooperate with Jordanian scholars in general and the judges of his department in particular to study the latest developments and calamities related to the topic of the family,

and to issue the appropriate decisions and recommendations.

It is worth mentioning that the meeting was attended by His Excellency the Minister of Awqaf, Islamic Affairs and Holy Places, Dr. Mohammad Al-Khalaileh, the Director of Sharia Courts, Sheikh Saud Al-Salameen, the Head of Sharia Appeals of Amman Dr. Samer Al-Qubaj, the Director of the Technical Office Dr. Ashraf Al-Omari, and the Director of the Judicial Inspection Dr. Samih Al-Zoubi. The meeting was also attended by Mrs. Sarah Amjad Hussein, Director of Family and Women's Affairs Department at the Academy, and Mr. Amjad Mustafa Al-Mansi, Head of Protocol Division in the Cabinet and Protocol Department at the Academy.



## President of al Azhar University welcomes the Secretary General in Cairo



His Excellency Prof. Mohammad Al-Mahasawi, President of Al-Azhar University, welcomed His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), and his accompanying delegation on Wednesday, 27 Dhu al-Qa'dah 1442 corresponding to July 7, 2021, at the headquarters of the University's presidency in Cairo.

His Excellency, the President of the University, began the meeting by congratulating His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Sano on his appointment as Secretary General of the Academy, expressing his full confidence in His Excellency's intellectual ability and vast experience to advance the Academy and achieve the hopes placed on this prestigious institution. His Excellency also made it clear that the Al-Azhar institution, spares no effort in providing scientific and intellectual support to all institutions in the world in general, and to IIFA in particular, through the participation of Al-Azhar University scholars with their various specializations in the Academy's conferences and symposia, pointing out that cooperation between Al-Azhar University and the Academy

is not new, but rather old since the establishment of the Academy forty years ago.

For his part, His Excellency the Secretary General of the Academy expressed his sincere thanks and appreciation to His Excellency the President of the University, the Vice Dean of Al-Azhar, the Vice Presidents of the University, the Deans of Faculties, and Senior University Officials, for the warm reception and excellent welcome, noting in the meantime the distinguished scientific position and the ideological leadership of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif in the field of spreading knowledge, thought and culture all over the world.

His Excellency also took this opportunity to express his aspiration to conclude a solid and sustainable strategic partnership between the Academy and Al-Azhar University, in order to sustainably benefit from the distinguished scholars of Al-Azhar in the various activities and programs of the Academy. His Excellency also expressed the Academy's readiness to sign a cooperation agreement soon between the two institutions to deepen the bonds of



communication and coordination.

The meeting was attended by Dr. Mohamad Abdul Rahman Al-Dhawini, Vice-Dean of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif, Dr. Mahmood Siddik, Vice President for Graduate Studies and Research, General Supervisor of the University Hospitals Sector at Al-Azhar University, Dr. Mohammad Al-Sherbiny, Vice President for Education and Student Affairs, Dr. Mohammad Fikri Khedr, Vice President of the University for the Girls' Branch, Dr. Abdo Ibrahim, Dean of the Faculty of Arabic Language in Cairo, Mr. Majdi Abdel Aziz, Secretary General of the University, Dr. Abdullah Al-Najjar, former Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, member of the Islamic Research Academy, and Major General Ayman Al-Dardiri, Head of the Central Administration of University Campuses and Security at the university.

The meeting was also attended by Prof. Abdullah Mabrook Al-Najjar, member of the Academy in Cairo, Mrs. Sarah Amjad Hussein, Director of Family and Women's Affairs Department at the Academy, and Mr. Amjad Mustafa Al-Mansi, Head of Protocol Division in the Cabinet and Protocol Department at the Academy.

## Secretary General visits Wold Islamic Sciences & Education University in Amman



His Excellency Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustapha SANO, Secretary-General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, visited the World Islamic Science and Education (W.I.S.E) in Amman Monday, 2nd of Dhu al-Hijjah 1442, corresponding to 12th of July 2021.

At the beginning of the meeting, the President of the University, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ali Al-Khalayleh, welcomed His Excellency, and thanked him for visiting the university. He then presented to His Excellency a comprehensive overview of the university, its faculties and programs, pointing to the uniqueness of the university in establishing faculties specialized in teaching the four Sunni sects. He also expressed the university's desire to build relations of cooperation and communication with the Academy in order to benefit from its decisions and recommendations, and to enable university professors to participate in the activities and

programs of the Academy such as conferences, seminars and workshops.

For his part, His Excellency thanked His Excellency the President of the University for welcoming him and the accompanying delegation. He also congratulated His Excellency and his assistants on the rapid development and great expansion of its faculties and programs.

His Excellency then praised the establishment of private colleges to teach the four Sunni sects in depth and focus in order to preserve the cultural and intellectual heritage of the nation, and to prepare a generation that rejects extremism, extremism and extremism in thought and behavior, as well as promoting a culture of moderation and an approach of moderation based on acceptance of the other, and respect for the right to disagree. His Excellency took this occasion to highlight the scientific importance and the cognitive value of the Amman Message, which was unanimously agreed upon by jurists and experts of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy in one of its previous sessions, as it is a comprehensive, comprehensive, and solid scientific thesis that includes an advanced and mature formulation of the principles and foundations of dealing between followers of the reputable Islamic schools of thought followed

by Muslims around the world.

Then His Excellency concluded his speech by saying: "I was keen to visit this promising university in appreciation of its educational value, and in pride in its great mission of attracting intelligent students from all over the world to prepare and qualify them resolutely. extremism and extremism."

The meeting was attended by the Vice-President of the University, Prof. Dr. Muwaffaq Miqdadi, the Assistant President of the University, Dr. Haroun Al-Qudah, and the deans of the faculties of the four sects at the university. The meeting was also attended by the Director of Family and Women's Affairs at the Academy, Mrs. Sarah Amjad Hussein, and the head of the Protocol Department of the Academy, Mr. Amjad Ibrahim Moustapha.



## Grand Mufti of Jordan receives the Secretary General in Amman



His Eminence Sheikh Abdul Karim Khasawneh, Grand Mufti of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, welcomed Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), on Monday 2 of Dhu al-Hijjah, 1442, corresponding to July 21, 2021, at the headquarters of Dar Al Iftaa in the capital, Amman.

At the beginning of the meeting, His Eminence expressed his special thanks and great appreciation to His Excellency for the visit. He also congratulated him on his appointment as Secretary General of the

Academy to succeed the late Prof. Abdul Salam Al-Abadi.

His Eminence also expressed his great appreciation for the scientific efforts of the Academy in the field of ifta, guidance, and direction to Muslim peoples all over the world, noting in this regard the readiness of the Jordanian Dar Al-Ifta to strengthen relations of cooperation and partnership with the Academy, especially with regard to clarifying the appropriate Shariah rulings in the contemporary life problems, novelties, and jurisprudential calamities of interest to Muslims.

His Eminence concluded by expressing his eagerness to receive all the resolutions and recommendations issued by the Academy in the last forty years as well as all the scientific publications it issued.

For his part, His Excellency the Secretary General expressed his heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation to His Eminence the Grand Mufti for the warm reception and excellent welcome, praising the great role played by Dar Al Ifta in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to preserve the purpose of the order of the Ummah, and to combat extremism and fanaticism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as promoting



moderation and tolerance in thought and behavior. His Excellency also assured His Eminence that the Academy welcomes all forms and aspects of cooperation and communication between the two institutions and promised to provide him with all the resolutions and recommendations issued by the Academy as well as all the scientific publications. His Excellency concluded by inviting the Jordanian Dar Al Iftaa to attend the coordination symposium organized by the Academy before the end of this year gathering all Iftaa institutions in the member states and worldwide to foster cooperation and communication between them.

At the end of the visit, the two parties exchanged souvenirs and His Excellency gave His Eminence the fourth edition of the book of resolutions and recommendations of the Academy.

## Secretary General participates in a Panel Discussion on the Islamic Financial Transactions

His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), participated along with His Excellency Dr. Mohammed Al-Khalaileh, Minister of Awqaf, Islamic Affairs and Holy Places in Jordan, in a panel discussion on Jordanian TV on “Challenges of Contemporary Financial Transactions”, on Monday, 2 of Dhul-Hijjah 1442H corresponding to 12 July of 2021G. The two participants discussed a number of issues of contemporary financial transactions, especially Awqaf issues and their challenges, the purposes of investment according to Islamic jurisprudence, and the new scientific topics that graduate students should be urged to study.

His Excellency began his intervention by giving an overview of the Academy, highlighting the historical pioneering role it played in the emergence of contemporary Islamic banking and finance. This role is evident in the reliance of contemporary Islamic banks and financial institutions in carrying out activities and projects on the decisions and recommendations issued by the Academy over the period of four decades.

In addition, these decisions and recommendations still represent to this day the first reference to direct the activities of these banks and institutions, which means that the greatest credit for the growth of Islamic banking and finance sector goes undisputedly to the Academy. As for the purposes of investment in Islam,



His Excellency summarized them in what Imam Ibn Ashour concluded, which is to observe the purposes of justice, growth, circulation, clarity, and stability. His Excellency clarified the importance for the jurist, the mufti, and the mujtahid to refer to these purposes when explaining the Shariah ruling in both old and new financial contracts and transactions.

Then His Excellency mentioned many topics suitable as subjects for master's and doctoral theses in the field of cotemporary financial transactions, the most important of which are topics related to Islamic social finance through authentication, editing and investigation, and these institutions consist of Zakat institution, Awqaf, Wills, Atonement and Vows, and others. We are much in need today to prepare serious scientific studies that address the foundations of the advancement and development of these institutions, and improve their performance,

and make them effective institutions to combat poverty and destitution in society. His Excellency clarified that the Wills institution is the most in need, of those social financing institutions, for authentication, editing and investigation of many of its issues and problems so that it becomes a hub to achieve the objectives of growth and circulation.

His Excellency Dr. Al-Khalaileh addressed the Awqaf institution and its developments, and the importance of taking care of its advancement and enabling it to keep pace with the challenges of the times. He also spoke about the importance of the monetary waqf and the need to pay attention to it in the current era. The symposium was well received and welcomed by those interested in contemporary Islamic finance, which is witnessing a tremendous development similar to the important technological developments in the world.



## Secretary General talks to Abu Dhabi TV about the History of Hajj



On Sunday, 24 of Dhu al-Qa'dah 1442 corresponding to July 4, 2021, Abu Dhabi TV hosted His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), in the program "This Evening", to talk about the rituals of Hajj and the decision of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to limit the performance of Hajj in 2021 to Saudi citizens and residents in KSA only.

His Excellency clarified the consistency of that decision with Shariah and its purposes by saying: "There is no doubt that Islamic Shariah has major determinants and high purposes with regard to preserving the faculties and necessary interests, foremost of which is keeping the purposes of preserving lives and preserving religion, which has been achieved in this particular decision. As it is known, organizing the pilgrimage in itself is considered to preserve the purpose of religion, and to limit its performance

to a small number in order to avoid the spread of the epidemic, and to preserve people's lives is an achievement of the purpose of self-preservation, because we know for sure that complete control of this global epidemic has not been achieved yet. And as we all know, the world is still living in exceptional circumstances because of the pandemic, and therefore, this decision is correct, wise, and insightful.

Then His Excellency explained that the Academy's issuance of this statement expresses a moral commitment to what is dictated by the duty to explain the shariah rulings in calamities and issues that concern Muslims. This is because "the Academy, as the first international legal shariah reference for the member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and for Muslim societies, must carry out this urgent legal and intellectual duty, in order to ward off the suspicions that arise about this decision that conforms with the Shariah provisions and purposes, and therefore, everyone who trusts the Academy worldwide should respect this decision, and there is no need to undermine it."

Then His Excellency spoke about painful historical events that prevented Muslims from Performing Hajj in the past, and one of the worst of these events was the assault of the Qarmatians on pilgrims in the eighth

of the month of Dhu al-Hijjah 317H corresponding to 908G, and their violation of the sanctity of the sacred mosque as they killed approximately thirty thousand pilgrims that year and stole the Black Stone, which remained with them for twenty two years.

In addition, His Excellency indicated that in the past, Muslims were unable to perform Hajj due to epidemics and diseases that spread in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, such as the "Indian" epidemic and the "Al-Mashiri" epidemic.

His Excellency concluded his intervention by expressing the thanks of the Muslim Ummah all over the world to the government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the great services and distinguished facilities that exceed all description, as well as the great care and attention it gives to the holy places through development and modernization, which made Hajj easier than ever in history.



## Secretary General participates in the Conference of Building Peace on Youth Engagement with Religion and Faith



His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), participated in the discussion panel of the Second Peacebuilding Conference, which was organized by the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum in cooperation with the "Religions for Peace" organization, on Thursday 19 Dhul-Hijjah 1442 corresponding to July 29, 2021.

His Excellency spoke about the centrality of religion and faith in human life as they are part of our nature, and it is not possible for a person to live without religion or faith, even if some claim that they do not believe in a religion or belief, as this in itself is a religion. Therefore, the right direction is to interact

with religions, respect beliefs, and accept the principle of coexistence, as that interaction leads to the rejection of all kinds of violence, discrimination, and exclusion in the name of religions and beliefs. His Excellency also made it clear that young people today are blessed with the gift of technology and social media that have enabled them to access and research religions and beliefs, and therefore, they should use them in the best way to learn about the noble values and the great principles that religions call for.

He also indicated that interaction with religions and beliefs is manifested through respect for religions, and belief in common human values represented in the values of brotherhood, love, compassion, kindness, and tolerance.

His Excellency also stressed at the end of his intervention that the greatest danger facing young people today is the exploitation of religions and beliefs for authoritarianism and aggression, extremism, terrorism, spreading hatred, violence, and rejection of the other, when in fact religions and beliefs do not call

for any of these crimes and aggressions. Therefore, positive interaction with religions and beliefs is the only correct approach that will make the world a better place for all of us. His Excellency called on the youth by saying: "The world watches you with anticipation and eagerness, and is following all your actions, reactions and behavior towards each other, and the extent of your belief in these values and principles, as everyone is free to choose the religion that he or she wants. Beware of forcing anyone to convert to a religion or belief, and beware of using a religion or belief to justify transgressions and attacks on people, honor and properties".



## Director General of the Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Makkah Region welcomes the Secretary General in Jeddah



His Excellency Ambassador Mazen bin Hamad Al Himali, Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Branch in Makkah Al-Mukarramah Region, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, received on Tuesday 17 Dhul-Hijjah 1442 corresponding to July 27, 2021, in his office in Jeddah, His Excellency Professor Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA). The Ambassador welcomed His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Sano and assured him of the utmost care and special status that the Academy enjoys from the leadership of the headquarters country, and that the Ministry branch will provide all

the necessary support to the Academy and its staff in order for it to perform its duties and carry out its tasks in the best possible conditions. For his part, His Excellency the Secretary General of the Academy expressed his heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the warm reception, praising on this occasion the great moral and material support of the government of the headquarters country for the Academy, which greatly contributed to facilitating the work of the General Secretariat and enabling it to carry out its role with ease and efficiency.

His Excellency also seized the occasion and informed his host on new strategic plan issued

by the Academy which includes a clear presentation of its vision, mission, goals, and values, as well as the various activities and programs it intends to implement during the next five years.

His Excellency called upon His Excellency the Ambassador to give the Academy the necessary support to succeed in implementing this plan. His Excellency concluded his speech by briefing his host on the outstanding achievements of the Academy lately thanks to the continuous support of the headquarters country and inviting him to visit the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the Academy in Jeddah.



## Abu Dhabi TV hosts the Secretary General to speak about the Hajj Season for year 1442/2021



His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano commended the tremendous efforts made by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to secure a successful pilgrimage season for the year 1422/2021.

His Excellency said during the TV interview that took place on the first day of Eid Al Adha:

“In the past, explaining that in ancient times pilgrims were suffering harsh conditions, and they faced great difficulties, both in terms of the means of transportation they used to reach Mecca, or the means they used to commute between the holy sites. Therefore, a famous saying prevailed, which was: “The one who goes to Hajj is missing, and the one who returns from it is born again”.

This saying is a clear expression of the dangers, hardships, and sufferings the pilgrims were going through, as well as a reference to those turbulent security conditions that the pilgrims had to go through on their way to

Mecca, to the point where Muslim jurists established the condition of “road security” among the conditions for the obligation of Hajj.

His Excellency also explained that “pilgrims used primitive means of transportation, including camels, mules, and donkeys, and some of them walked the whole distance, spending days, months, and years, and that the convoys of pilgrims were often attacked by bandits. As for their movement between the holy sites, it was also a fold of suffering and hardship, as they were exposed to the scorching sun, rain, floods, and hurricanes that occurred during some Hajj seasons”.

His Excellency concluded by saying that “by the grace of Allah and then with the dedication of the country that Allah honored by serving the Two Holy Mosques, all these difficulties have disappeared, as pilgrims come to the Holy Land via planes and locomotives and move between the holy sites by modern means of transportation that provide comfort and ease. As for security, it has become prevalent at all levels, which has made Hajj easier and more comfortable today than at any time in history”.

As for the ethics of Hajj, His Excellency clarified that the Hajj has ethics and morals, as it has rules and conditions, and pointed



out that Allah’s Saying: “Hajj is [during] well-known months, so whoever has made hajj obligatory upon himself therein [by entering the state of ihram], there is [to be for him] no sexual relations and no disobedience and no disputing during hajj.” (Al -Baqarah:197), is an honest summary of the most important ethics and morals that the pilgrim should have, namely: complete avoidance of arguments, discussions, disputes, backbiting, gossip, corruption among people, preoccupation with talking about worldly matters, and the need to stay away from all forbidden things, and the necessity of being patient, compassionate, calm, dignified, gentle with the weaker person, and avoiding pushing and shoving. It is also very important to adhere to the regulations, precautions, and procedures that have been put in place to provide comfort, security, and safety for pilgrims so that they can perform their duty with comfort and ease.

## UAE Consul General visits the Secretariat General in Jeddah

His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), received at his office in Jeddah His Excellency Consul Nasser bin Huwaiden Al Ketbi, Consul General of the United Arab Emirates to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on Thursday, 19 Dhul-Hijjah 1442 corresponding to July 29, 2021.

His Excellency the Secretary General welcomed his honorable guest, thanking him for this important visit, which expresses the keenness of the United Arab Emirates and the member states to consolidate the bonds of cooperation and communication with the Academy.

His Excellency took advantage of the occasion by giving the Consul General a brief overview of the establishment of the Academy, its objectives, ambitions, and hopes attached to it by the member states.

His Excellency also expressed to His Excellency the Consul, the Academy's great thanks and great gratitude for the continuous support it has received from the United Arab Emirates since its establishment to this day, praising in this regard the United Arab Emirates' hosting a number of annual



sessions of the Academy, as well as its financing of the largest contemporary jurisprudential encyclopedia, called "Zayed's Encyclopedia of Fiqh Maxims", which consists of 42 volumes.

His Excellency the Secretary General seized this opportunity to inform his honorable guest about the intention of the Academy to reprint Zayed's Encyclopedia in a revised modern edition, after consultation with Zayed Charitable and Humanitarian Foundation.

For his part, the Consul General expressed his pleasure and honor to visit the Academy and his thanks and gratitude to His Excellency the Secretary General for the warm welcome, stressing the readiness of the United Arab

Emirates to provide all means of support and encouragement to the Academy to carry out its tasks in the best way, and to achieve its goals, programs, and projects. He also expressed his commitment to support strengthening cooperation and partnership relations between the Academy and the UAE scientific institutions and centers. Finally, he expressed the UAE's aspiration for the upcoming visit of IIFA's Secretary General to the United Arab Emirates in the near future. The meeting was attended by Mrs. Sarah Amjad Hussein, Director of Family Affairs at the Academy, and Mr. Mourad TLiLi, Advisor to the Secretary General for Media and Public Relations at the Academy.



## Head of the Political Affairs of the Indonesian Embassy visits the Secretariat General in Jeddah

His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), received His Excellency Mr. Pof Yusuf Arifin, Head of the Political Affairs Department of the Indonesian Embassy in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on Wednesday 25 Dhu al-Hijjah 1442 corresponding to 04 August 2021 at the headquarters of the Academy in Jeddah.

During the meeting, His Excellency the Secretary General of the Academy expressed his happiness with this honorable visit and thanked the State of Indonesia for strengthening cooperation, communication, and partnership with the Academy. His Excellency mentioned that he had noticed this during his recent visit to Indonesia, where he met with the Minister of Religious Affairs and a number of eminent religious and scientific figures. His Excellency also took advantage of the occasion by giving his guests an overview of the Academy's activities and programs and its recently developed strategic plan to enable all member states to benefit from the Academy's services and programs. In this context, His Excellency called for working together to activate Indonesia's role



within the Academy and also expressed his hope that Indonesia would soon become an international center for Islamic social finance.

For his part, the Head of the Political Affairs Department expressed his pleasure and honor to visit the Academy, and his thanks and gratitude to His Excellency the Secretary General for the warm welcome. He also assured His Excellency of his keenness, since assuming his duties at the embassy at the beginning of this year, to consolidate the bonds of cooperation, communication, and partnership with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and its subsidiary organs, especially the International Islamic Fiqh

Academy. The beginning of this cooperation was the coordination and organization of the Secretary General's visit to Indonesia and the good impact this visit had on Indonesian officials, especially His Excellency the Minister of Religious Affairs, in addition to senior religious and scientific figures and prestigious Islamic societies. His Excellency added that his country is striving to activate its full role within the Academy's Council and to make full use of the Academy's scientific capabilities and academic expertise. He also expressed his country's endeavor to participate in all the scientific activities of the Academy and its aspiration to contribute with researchers and employees representing it within the General Secretariat of the Academy.



## 9th Monthly Meeting of the Staff of the Academy



As a follow up for the series of periodic administrative meetings held by the General Secretariat of the Academy with the aim of enhancing communication and coordination between the various departments of the General Secretariat in general and among its personnel in particular; working towards strengthening brotherly ties, exchange views and proposals; and following up on new work in order to identify the difficulties that prevent the ability to some departments to accomplish some of their activities and programmes; His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano chaired the ninth monthly meeting of the Staff on Sunday 24 of Dhu al-Qa'dah 1442 corresponding to July 4, 2021 at the headquarters of the General Secretariat in Jeddah.

His Excellency began the meeting by welcoming everyone, and thanking them for their commitment to attend the meetings. Then His Excellency spoke about the most important things that came in the first meeting of the Bureau of the Academy for the year 2021, which was held on the morning of Sunday 24th of Dhu al-Qa'dah 1442 corresponding to July 4, 2021. His Excellency also conveyed to the attendees what their Excellencies, the Chairman and

members of the Bureau, expressed as thanks and appreciation to His Excellency the Secretary-General of the Academy and his staff for the distinguished activities and programs carried out by the General Secretariat of the Academy and they deeply appreciated efforts made in order to advance the Academy and improve its performance despite the impact of the Covid-19 on all walks of life.

Then His Excellency indicated that the General Secretariat of the Academy did prepare a detailed report on the most important activities and programs that it organized after the last meeting of the Bureau, and that report included informing the members of the Bureau of the cooperation agreements signed by the General Secretariat of the Academy, and the recommendations of seminars and forums held by the General Secretariat, as well as a financial report on Contributions and arrears of countries members.

Then His Excellency spoke about the importance of distributing work among the departments of the Academy, in order to avoid pressure, to ensure flexibility and flow, and to avoid routine and bureaucracy that lead to work delays. He also called upon all staff to work harder in order to execute the works on time and raise efficiency within the scope and requirements of work to advance the level of performance in general.

His Excellency stressed the need to adhere to the application of the activities and programs as stated in the strategic plan, and to strive for their implementation in order to reach the aspirations of this plan.

His Excellency reminded everyone of the necessity of focusing efforts on the work of the Academy during the working hours, considering

that this is a great responsibility before God, and the reason for deserving the salaries, which are in fact wages for what each one does during the working hours. Which means that conducting a private work during working hours, or the lack of dedication in performing the tasks assigned to each of them, shall result to be no eligible for the salaries. This is due to the Prophetic hadith in the Musnad of Imam Ahmad which states: "Every meat that grows from forbidden things, the fire is more appropriate."

His Excellency also clarified that the work done by the members of the Academy falls within the responsibility of spreading and serving the sciences of the Qur'an and Sunnah, and therefore they deserve the two rewards, one from God and another from the Academy in the form of monthly salaries.

Then His Excellency listened to the views and suggestions of the attendees regarding suggestions of improvement and problems that they might be facing within the Academy, and several decisions were issued by the meeting, the most important of which were as follows:

- Assigning the task of translating the content of the Academy's website and social media to the advisor of His Excellency the Secretary-General for Media and Public Relations.
- Assigning the head of the translation department to translate all the data of the Academy and the scientific and official documents related to the Academy.
- Expressing thanks and appreciation to the head of the Information and Communications Technology Department for his effort in reprinting a number of colorful publications and brochures in an elegant manner in a short time and at a low cost.

## 36th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors

His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the thirty sixth weekly meeting of the directors of the Academy's departments on Sunday 04 Dhu al-Hijjah 1442 corresponding to July 24, 2021. His Excellency opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees, then spoke about the senior officials he met during his official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt, headed by the Grand Imam, Professor Ahmed

Al-Tayeb, Sheikh of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif, His Excellency Prof. Mohammad Mukhtar Gomaa, Minister of Awqaf, His Eminence Prof. Shawqi Allam, the Grand Mufti of the Republic, and His Excellency Prof. Mohammad Al-Mahasawi, President of Al-Azhar University, and the deans of its faculties and professors. During these visits, scientific discussions and debates took place on ways to enhance cooperation between the Academy and the leading scientific institutions in the Arab Republic of Egypt.

His Excellency expressed his thanks and

appreciation to the Egyptian authorities for their warm reception and hospitality.

His Excellency also spoke about his visit to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, during which he met with His Excellency Prime Minister Dr. Bisher Al-Khasawneh in his office, and His Excellency Dr. Mohammad Al-Khalaileh, Minister of Awqaf Islamic Affairs and Holy Places. During this visit, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Academy and the Ministry. the Secretary General also met with His Eminence the Mufti, His Eminence the

Supreme Judge, and His Excellency the President of the World Islamic Sciences and Education University. His Excellency indicated that these visits achieved their planned objectives. The meeting reached several decisions, notably:

- Develop an integrated concept for a scientific forum between the Academy and the Ifta authorities in the member states of the OIC in order to strengthen partnership, cooperation, and coordination.
- Organize a specialized symposium on encrypted digital currencies.



### 37th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors

His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), held the thirty seventh weekly meeting of the directors of the Academy's departments on Monday 16 Dhul-Hijjah 1442 corresponding to July 26, 2021, where he opened the meeting by congratulating the attendees on the blessed Eid al-Adha. Then His Excellency spoke about the importance of reviewing the contents of the annual strategic plan, in order to ensure that the activities and programs contained therein are implemented according to the specified deadlines. And to achieve this, His Excellency directed the Planning Department to review its provisions and communicate with the departments to find out what has been implemented. He also called on everyone to make more effort to achieve the contents of the plan. The meeting reached several decisions, notably:

- Organizing a specialized symposium on cryptocurrencies in order to clarify the shariah provisions related to them.

- Sending all the Academy's publications (strategic plan, statutes of the Academy and the Waqf Fund, information brochures, newsletter) to members, experts, consulates, and permanent delegations to OIC.

- Start preparing a regular magazine containing the most important activities and

programs that have been organized during the past months, provided that the time period for each issue is six months.

- Develop an integrated concept for organizing and holding specialized seminars outside OIC member states.



### 38th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors

His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the 38th weekly meeting of the directors of the Academy's departments on Monday 23 of Dhul-Hijjah 1442 corresponding to August 2, 2021, at the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the Academy in Jeddah.

At the beginning of the meeting, His Excellency welcomed the attendees and thanked them for their appreciable efforts to achieve the vision, mission, and objectives of the Academy, as well as to raise its performance to the highest levels. His Excellency also requested to start preparing from now on for the next sessions (26-27-28) to ensure that they are held on time, and to ensure their success at all levels.

Then His Excellency directed the concerned departments to start preparing for the organization of an economic jurisprudence seminar on encrypted digital currencies, and to expedite the invitations to specialized jurists and economists to present their research on the subject.

He also directed to start preparing for a consultative symposium between the



Academy and the Fatwa authorities in the Muslim world and worldwide in order to strengthen the bonds of communication, cooperation, and partnership with them. The meeting discussed a number of issues and reached several decisions, notably:

- Contracting with a specialized company to update and preserve the audio-visual archive of the Academy since its inception to the present day.

- Preparing an exclusive list of the names of fatwa authorities in the Muslim world and worldwide and their contact information, in order to invite them to participate in a symposium to be held.

- Sending a call for papers to a number of jurists and specialized economists on the topics of the economic jurisprudence symposium on encrypted digital currencies.

#### GENERAL SUPERVISOR:

**PROF. KOUTOUB MOUSTAPHA SANO**  
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE IIFA

#### DIRECTOR OF THE INFORMATION:

**MR. MUHAMMAD WALID AL-IDRISI**

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## 17th Periodic Meeting of Divisions Heads



His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), presided over the seventeenth periodic meeting of the heads of divisions in the Academy on Thursday, 5 Dhu al-Hijjah 1442 corresponding to July 15, 2021. His Excellency started the meeting by giving a brief on his official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and the details of the meetings he held with high officials in the two countries, notably with the Grand Imam, Professor Ahmed Al-Tayeb, Sheikh of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif, His Excellency Prof. Mohammad Mukhtar Goma, Egyptian Minister of Awqaf, His Eminence Prof.

Shawqi Allam, the Grand Mufti of Egypt, and His Excellency Prof. Mohammad Al-Mahasawi, President of Al-Azhar University. The Secretary General also met with His Excellency the Jordanian Prime Minister Dr. Bisher Al-Khasawneh, His Excellency Dr. Mohammad Al-Khalaileh, Jordanian Minister of Awqaf Islamic Affairs and Holy Places, His Eminence the Mufti, His Eminence the Supreme Judge, and His Excellency the President of the World Islamic Sciences and Education University. His Excellency then spoke about the outcomes of the meetings he held in both countries.

His Excellency concluded his speech by

expressing his thanks to the Egyptian and Jordanian permanent delegations to the OIC for facilitating communications with the authorities in their respective countries. He also thanked Mr. Amjad Ibrahim Al-Mansi, Head of the Protocol Division at the Academy, and Ms. Sarah Amjad Hussein, Director of the Family Affairs Department, for their appreciated efforts to make these visits successful.

Then His Excellency proceeded to discuss with the divisions heads the items on the meeting's agenda. The meeting reached a number of decisions notably:

- Organize two specialized seminars, the first on the importance of Islamic values within the family, and the second on the sanctity and danger of atonement in Islam.
- Publish the biographies of the deceased members of the Academy in the monthly newsletter in recognition of their great efforts in service of the Academy and the Ummah over the period of four decades.
- Translate and publish the Academy's statements into English and French.
- Republish the resolutions and recommendations of the Academy based on the final approved and revised version.
- Publish Hajj related resolutions.

## 18th Periodic Meeting of Divisions Heads

His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), presided on Thursday, 19 Dhu al-Hijjah 1442 corresponding to July 29, 2021, the eighteenth periodic meeting of divisions heads at the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the Academy.

His Excellency began the meeting by welcoming the attendees, congratulating them on the blessed Eid al-Adha, praying to Allah to accept from everyone the good deeds, and to return this happy occasion to the Muslim Ummah with blessings and delights.

Then His Excellency reminded everyone of the importance of adhering to the values of the Academy, especially the value of discipline, which requires the necessity of respecting the times of the meetings and making sure to attend them on time or to apologize in advance if one can't make it. His Excellency also referred to the need to carry out a weekly review of the strategic plan programs, and the coordinating department of the activities to submit periodic reports on what has been implemented, and the delay in implementation thereof, with an explanation of the reasons behind any delay.

Then His Excellency proceeded to discuss the items on the agenda of the meeting with the heads of divisions.

The meeting resulted in the issuance of a number of decisions, notably:

- Starting preparations to hold a specialized symposium on the importance of Islamic values within the family, and another symposium on the sanctity of atonement in Islam.
- Dividing the contents of the upcoming monthly newsletter into two halves, the first of which focuses on the recent visits to the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan by His Excellency, while the second deals with an introduction of the late distinguished scholars who served the Academy.
- Translating the Academy's resolutions into English and French and then uploading it to the website.
- Updating the social media accounts of the Academy on a daily basis.
- Expedite the sending of all publications of the Academy to the General Secretariat of the OIC, subsidiary and specialized organs, members and experts, ministries of Islamic affairs, embassies and consulates, presidents of universities, and institutions with which cooperation agreements have been concluded, with the need to prepare a detailed report on what is being sent.



## Death of a Scholar, a tribute to Sheikh Khalil Al-Mays of Lebanon

{{And We will surely test you with something of fear and hunger and a loss of wealth and lives and fruits but give good tidings to the patient (155) Who, when disaster strikes them, say, "Indeed we belong to Allah, and indeed to Him we will return" (156) those are the ones upon whom are blessings from their Lord and mercy. And it is those who are the [rightly] guided (157).}} Al Baqarah 155-157

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It is indeed the eternal fact of life that the Creator, the life-giving and the death-giving, from time to time, gives us some fear, hunger, and a lack of money, lives, and fruits, in the hope that we reap his rewards and the good tidings he reserved to the patient.

Many honorable scholars and great jurists have indeed passed away during the past few months, and as soon as our tears begin to dry up, and our hearts begin to calm down from grief over the separation of those great ones, we mourn again the departure of other great scholars, may Allah have mercy on them all. Here we are today bidding farewell to another eminent jurist who spent eighty years of his blessed life, educating generations, guiding nations, guiding those who seek, giving ifta to those who ask, and reconciling between the warring parties. He was never apprehensive of misfortunes, never tired of reconciling one another, and he never got tired of bringing the two sides closer together.

Twenty years have passed since I first met



our great Sheikh. He was always smiling, eloquent, thoughtful, great in contemplation, loving the Arabic language, advocating the unity of Muslims, keen on reunification, and devoted in his endeavor to unify the voice of the Ummah. I testify that in all the sessions of the Academy in which he participated, he was always insistent, and reminded us of the need to take refuge in the rich heritage of the Ummah, and the importance of holding onto the abundant intellectual heritage in order to be acquainted with its treasures, and to make the most of it when trying to manage the calamities and developments of contemporary life. I also bear witness that he was a believer in innovation and disciplined ijthihad that is open to the age. Above all, he was constantly asking about the conditions of Islam and Muslims across the

globe, and on every great interest in the affairs of Muslims.

As he has responded to the inevitable call of our Lord, and today he joined a group of people, scholars, and jurists, whom he loved and they loved him, we raise the palms of humility to the Honorable Lord that he accepts him among the prophets, the truthful, the martyrs, the righteous, and those are good companions. We also pray to the One and Only Allah to have mercy on our deceased, the bereaved of knowledge and chivalry, and inspire us, his family, students, and admirers' patience, solace, and contentment with what the Most Merciful has decreed.

Finally, our dear Sheikh, our great teacher, and teacher of generations, your Academy, of which you were one of its pillars, presents – on behalf of its members, experts, and affiliates – their deepest condolences to your family, to the people of the Beqaa, to the people of Lebanon, to the people of the Levant, and to the whole Muslim Ummah. We pray to the Almighty to have mercy on you, pardon you, forgive you, and unite us with you on the Day of Judgement in the abode of bliss, in a seat of truth with a powerful Lord.

{We belong to Allah and to Him we shall return}.

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Your admirer/ Koutoub Moustapha Sano  
Secretary General of the International  
Islamic Fiqh Academy

## Côte d'Ivoire Consul General visits the Secretariat General in Jeddah



His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), received His Excellency Ambassador Somaila Bamba, Consul General of Côte d'Ivoire in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and his accompanying delegation on Monday, 30 Dhul Hijjah 1442 corresponding to August 9, 2021, at his office in Jeddah.

His Excellency the Secretary General welcomed his honorable guest, thanking him for this important visit, expressing his thanks and appreciation to Côte d'Ivoire for its support for the Academy since its establishment to this day.

His Excellency gave an overview to the guest and his companions of the Academy's activities

lately and what has been accomplished at all levels and referred to the prestigious position and the great respect that the Academy enjoys globally, especially in the field of promoting moderation, fraternity and peaceful coexistence between peoples and religions.

His Excellency added that a number of member states organized the Annual Session of the Academy in order to benefit from the outcomes of these sessions in addressing some of the local issues that concern them in addition to other issues of concern to Muslims around the world. His Excellency also expressed his aspiration that Cote d'Ivoire would host one of the Academy's sessions in the near future.

For his part, His Excellency the Ambassador expressed his pleasure and honor to visit the Academy and thanked His Excellency the Secretary General for the generous welcome he and his accompanying delegation received, stressing his keenness to establish strong and sustainable relations with the Academy and to benefit from it in tackling many local issues that preoccupy his country. His Excellency also expressed his admiration and appreciation for the important developments

witnessed by the Academy at all levels since His Excellency assumed his duties as Secretary General of the Academy.

His Excellency concluded by expressing his desire to invite His Excellency the Secretary General to pay an official visit to Côte d'Ivoire before the end of this year in order to promote cooperation and communication ties between the Academy and scientific institutions working in the field of promoting tolerance, fraternity, and peaceful coexistence between religions. He also expressed his happiness for Côte d'Ivoire to host one of the upcoming sessions of the Academy the date of which will be determined during the Secretary General's upcoming visit to Côte d'Ivoire.

