

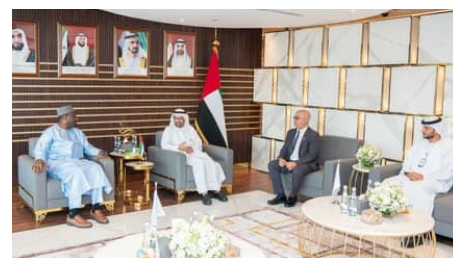
## IIFA and WMCC sign an MoC in Abu Dhabi

In their attempt to foster cooperation and communication relations between them in areas of mutual interest especially with regard to dealing with new developments and calamities that befall the Muslim communities outside the OIC, the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) and the World Muslim Communities Council (WMCC) signed on Thursday 22 Rabi Al-Awal 1443 28 October 2021 a memorandum of cooperation aiming at consolidating the level of cooperation between the two institutions. On the side of the Academy, the memorandum was signed by H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, IIFA Secretary General, and on the side of WMCC, H.E. Dr. Ali Rashid Al Nuaimi, President of the Council, at the Council's headquarters in Abu Dhabi during the Secretary General's official visit to the UAE. This memorandum seeks to enhance cooperation and coordination in supporting and assisting Muslim communities outside OIC Member states and guiding their lives in accordance with the objectives and values of Islam, by monitoring calamities, problems and emerging Fiqh issues, and providing fatwas and appropriate solutions to them, in a manner that meets the interests of these communities and contributes to their integration in their countries. The memorandum of cooperation also aims to organize training courses to train



and mentor muftis, imams, and preachers in Muslim communities, thus contributing to a new generation of religious leaders capable of meeting modern challenges armed with the tolerant spirit of Islam. Under this memorandum, action will be undertaken to promote the values and culture of dialogue and coexistence to contribute to the integration of Muslim communities in their countries and to present the true image of Islam to the world, thus helping to confront islamophobia and promoting the values of tolerance and peace in these communities. The two sides also agreed to publish and translate works and

contemporary scientific research that analyze the phenomenon of anti-religion, hate speech and the grounds of contempt for religious and cultural symbols. They also agreed to publish and translate important heritage books that show the preeminence of Shariah in promoting coexistence, enhancing education, exchanging, and spreading knowledge, as well as raising awareness on issues of Islamic heritage, interfaith dialogue, and coexistence. It is worth mentioning that WMCC was established in 2018 in Abu Dhabi, UAE, and aims at coordinating the efforts of institutions in the countries of Muslim Communities and enhancing their role through encouraging individuals in those communities to play a full role as citizens contributing the development of their countries, correcting the stereotyped image about Islam and Muslim communities, and bridging the cultural gap between human societies.



## IIFA Secretary General visits the Union of OIC News Agencies (UNA)



H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), and his accompanying delegation visited the headquarters of the Union of OIC News Agencies (UNA) in the Jeddah, on Wednesday 14 Rabi Al-Awal, 1443 20 October 2021. Mr. Mohammed Al-Yami, UNA Director General, received and welcomed the Secretary General and his accompanying delegation, praising this first visit of its kind by a Secretary General of the Academy, and expressing at the same time his happiness with the Academy's interest in strengthening cooperation and communication with UNA in order to achieve common ground objectives. On his part, the Secretary General of the Academy thanked the Director General for the warm welcome

and expressed his honor for this visit to UNA headquarters in appreciation of the excellent reputation it enjoys and essential media services it provides to all agencies operating under the umbrella of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). His Excellency also affirmed that UNA and the Academy share many objectives which require close cooperation between them. Therefore, the close and continuous cooperation between the two institutions is extremely important in order to spread the values of tolerance and peace in and outside the Muslim world. H.E. concluded by his hope that UNA will play that expected role of spreading and diffusing the Academy's resolutions and recommendations using its wide reach. On the other hand, Mr. Younus Inayat, Director of Relations and Strategic Development at UNA, gave a detailed presentation to His Excellency the Secretary General and the accompanying delegation of UNA's activities, strategic plan, and objectives, highlighting how to link this plan with the common objectives, and aspects of convergence between the two bodies, in order to reach more Muslims worldwide. At the end of the meeting, the

two parties agreed to continue coordination in order to conclude a long-term strategic partnership that will lead to the signing of a cooperation agreement that defines aspects of collaboration between the two institutions. It is worth mentioning that UNA is a specialized organ of the OIC comprising of all the news agencies of the member states of the OIC, deals with showcasing the common Islamic issues, and produces & distributes media content in several languages. The meeting was attended by Ms. Sarah Amjad, Director of Family and Women Affairs at the Academy, Mr. Mohammed Al-Idrisi, Director of Media and Public Relations, and Mr. Mourad TLiLi, SG's Advisor for Public Relations and Media Affairs; On the UNA's side, Mr. Abdulqader ALZahrani, Production Manager and Acting Director of Administrative and Financial Affairs, and Mr. Salah Mourad, Marketing and Financing Director.



## IIFA Secretary General visits the General Authority of Islamic Affairs and Endowments in Abu Dhabi



H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), and the accompanying delegation, visited the headquarters of the General Authority of Islamic Affairs and Endowments in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, on Thursday 22 Rabi al-Awal 1443 28 October 2021. His Excellency was received by H.E. Mohammed Saeed Al Neyadi, Director General of the General Authority, and his Executive Directors, who welcomed their honorable guest and thanked him for his visit, which confirms the Academy's willingness to build bridges of communication and cooperation with the General Authority and other official religious institutions in the OIC Member states. His Excellency also praised the great support the Authority receives from the UAE leadership and its eagerness to spread Islam's bright

and civilized message and consolidate the values of tolerance, coexistence, and respect for cultural, ethnic, and religious diversity. On the other hand, His Excellency noted that there is a deep intersection between the objectives of both institutions, which makes it easier to strengthen cooperation, coordination, and communication in order to serve Islam and Muslims worldwide. For his part, the Secretary General expressed his deep thanks and sincere appreciation to the leadership and people of the UAE for the warm welcome and hospitality, praising the financial and moral support to the Academy since its establishment to date. His Excellency also expressed his happiness with this visit, which aims to discuss with the high officers of religious affairs in UAE, and with intellectual and academic institutions that work to spread the values of tolerance and peaceful coexistence among societies. His Excellency then added, "It is a matter of joy and pleasure that the Academy's strategic plan includes intellectual and scientific programs and activities that are compatible with the aspirations and programs of the General Authority, in addition to the fact that the General Authority strives to keep pace with the ongoing changes, and to realize the hopes and aspirations of the Emirati society in strengthening the ties of

communication and cooperation with the Academy, and its willingness to host the next Annual Session of the Academy." It is worth mentioning that the General Authority of Islamic Affairs and Endowments in the UAE is a federal authority established in 2006, and deals with all religious matters in the country. The meeting was attended from the Emirati side by the Executive Directors of Islamic Affairs, Endowments, Ifta and mosques, and from the Academy's side by Mrs. Sarah Amjad, Director of Family and Women's Affairs, and Mr. Amjad Ibrahim, Head of the Protocol Division. It is worth mentioning that the General Authority of Islamic Affairs and Endowments in the UAE is a federal authority established in 2006, and deals with all religious matters in the country. The meeting was attended from the Emirati side by the Executive Directors of Islamic Affairs, Endowments, Ifta and mosques, and from the Academy's side by Mrs. Sarah Amjad, Director of Family and Women's Affairs, and Mr. Amjad



## IIFA Secretary General chairs the closing session of AAOIFI 19th Annual Shariah Boards Conference

H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the proceedings of the fourth discussion panel, on the topic of "Fatwa based on another Fatwa in the work of Sharia Boards", of the AAOIFI 19th Annual Sharia Boards Conference, on Wednesday 7 Rabi al-Awal 1443 (13 October 2021). This closing session of the conference was attended by high level scholars and sheikhs, namely H.E. Sheikh Abdullah Al-Mutlaq, member of the AAOIFI Sharia Council, member of the Council of Senior Scholars, advisor at the Saudi Royal Court, member of the Permanent Committee for Scientific Research and Ifta', H.E. Sheikh Prof. Sayed Muhammad Al-Tabatabaei, member of AAOIFI's Board of Trustees, and Chairman of the Supreme Consultative Committee to Work on Completing the Execution of Sharia Rulings of the Kuwaiti Emiri Diwan, H.E. Dr. Abdul Bari Mishaal, Member of AAOIFI's Governance and Ethics Board, Founder and Managing Partner of "Raqaba", H.E. Sheikh Dr. Saad bin Nasser Al-Shathri, member of the Council of Senior Scholars, Adviser at the Saudi Royal Court, H.E. Dr. Walid Hegazi, Member of AAOIFI's Governance and Ethics Council, Managing Partner and Founder of "Hegazi & Partners for Legal Consultations", and H.E. Sheikh Abdul Sattar Al Qattan, Member of AAOIFI's Sharia Standards Committee, and CEO of Shura Consulting. H.E. Prof. Koutoub Sano assumed the honor of moderating the final scientific session, of



which themes revolved around the fatwas issued by Sharia Supervisory Boards of the institutions based on fatwas issued by other Boards and to what extent they are binding, in addition to the issues related to some Sharia Supervisory Boards not disclosing the source of some fatwas that sometimes rely on the fatwas of other boards, or one of its members' opinion without reference to that. The speakers also addressed the issue of "Fatwa based on another Fatwa", its general Sharia criteria, and its impact on the Sharia-compliance of Islamic financial industry in particular, and the extent to which it defies the purpose of collective Ijtihad in the work of Sharia Supervisory Boards in general. The closing session clarified the Sharia ruling on this subject. H. E. Prof. Koutoub Sano, Chairman of the session, commented on the topic of the ongoing discussion noting that the purpose of these Shariah Supervisory Boards is to organize and guide the transactions of Islamic banks and financial institutions so that they perform their work in the most comprehensive manner

and in full consistency with the teachings of Sharia, which guarantees their success, prosperity and development in a way that serves the welfare of Muslims worldwide. To achieve this, the Sharia Boards should select scholars who fulfill the conditions of Ijtihad in order to avoid the infiltration of people who do not fulfill these conditions. His Excellency also clarified the importance of highlighting the legal proofs that the Boards adopt in their fatwas, as there is a subtle difference between Taqlid (imitation) and Ittiba (following). Taqlid is taking the word of someone whose statement is not an argument without knowing the evidence for his statement. As for Ittiba, it is taking the word of someone whose statement is not an argument, but after knowing the evidence for his statement. Therefore, it is necessary for Shariah Supervisory Boards to identify the proofs for the fatwas they rely on from other boards, so their acceptance of those fatwas after knowing their evidence is Ittiba, not Taqlid, because Taqlid is reprehensible and is inappropriate for those who have reached the grade of Ijtihad. His Excellency concluded by commending the distinguished Sheikhs participating in the session for their accurate scientific and legal analysis to guide Islamic financial institutions' work for the benefit of the Ummah and its economic success. At the end of the session, His Excellency thanked all participants and congratulated AAOIFI for the conference's success, wishing them further progress and prosperity.

## IIFA and Sudan's Fiqh Academy sign an MoC



Within the framework of strengthening cooperation, partnership and coordination between the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) and many scientific institutions active in the field of legal studies and scientific research inside and outside the Muslim world, and based on the Academy's objectives, which provides for the encourage of collective Ijtihad in contemporary life issues and problems with a view to providing solutions stemming from Sharia, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, signed an MoC with H.E. Dr. Abdel Rahim Adam Muhammad Suleiman, President of the Sudanese Islamic Fiqh Academy, on Tuesday 06th of Rabi al-Awal 1443H 12 October 2021. The MoC aims at establishing a broad strategic partnership in the field of enhancing academic and

research activities of both institutions, especially in the study of Islamic Fiqh, and of calamities and phenomena in the fields of theoretical and applied natural sciences, through scientific research and valuable Fiqh studies and applying them to today's reality by expressing the appropriate Sharia opinion with suitable solutions. The MoC also aims at strengthening cooperation, continuous communication, and coordination between both institutions in the areas of organizing conferences, symposia, workshops, coaching and mentoring, as well as in exchanging brochures and publications and representing each other in joint conferences and symposia of mutual interest. Under this MoC, the two parties agreed to form a specialized committee to determine the aspects of cooperation between them and the ways and mechanisms of implementation as stipulated in the MoC. It should be noted that this MoC's duration is for three years starting from its signature and would automatically be renewed unless one of the parties expresses its wish to terminate it. The MoC was signed following a series of meetings and negotiations between Dr. Abdelfattah Abinauf, Director of Planning and External Relations Department, and Dr. Abdel Rahim Adam Muhammad Suleiman, President of

the Sudanese Islamic Fiqh Academy, in Khartoum, Sudan, to finalize the terms of the memorandum. Commenting on the MoC, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Sano said: "We hope that this memorandum will mark the beginning of a new phase in the solid cooperative relations between the IIFA and the Sudanese Fiqh Academy in order to coordinate efforts and provide effective solutions to contemporary life problems, and to all issues that concern Muslims worldwide. The Sudanese Fiqh Academy will find from us all the support and encouragement to enable it to clarify the Sharia rulings on the issues and problems that concern Muslims in the Republic of Sudan". It is worth mentioning that the Sudanese Islamic Fiqh Academy was founded in 1998 instead of the Iftaa Council, and it is an independent national authority comprising of forty members most of them are renowned Fiqh and Usul scholars.



## Secretary General visits Consulate General of Jordan

On Thursday 15 Rabi Al-Awal 1443 (21 October 2021), H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), paid an official visit to the headquarters of the Consulate General of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in Jeddah. His Excellency and his accompanying delegation were received by the Consul General of Jordan, H.E. Mr. Jaafar Mohammed Jaafar and H.E. Mr. Rami Mashhour Al-Kharabsheh, Deputy Consul General. H.E. Consul General welcomed His Excellency the Secretary General, expressing his joy at receiving the delegation of the Academy, stressing his honor to meet His Excellency again, and the willingness of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to build bridges of communication and cooperation between the Academy and the Jordanian religious and academic institutions, especially in relation with religious issues and strengthening the values of tolerance and peaceful coexistence between religions. For his part, H.E. the Secretary General also expressed his happiness with this visit and his eagerness to meet H.E. the Consul



General to express his thanks and gratitude for the good preparation and coordination of the recent visit of the Secretary General to Jordan, in the best of conditions and which resulted in several important meetings with the most prominent Jordanian scholars and state officials, led by H.H. Prince Ghazi Abdullah II for Religious Affairs, the Prime Minister, H.E. Dr. Bishr Al-Khasawneh, H.E. Dr. Mohamed Al Khalaila, minister of Awqah, Islamic Affairs & Holy Places, H.E. The Supreme Judge, Sheikh Abdelhafidh Al Rabta, H.E. the Grand Mufti, Sheikh Abdelkarim Al Khasawna, and the president of the International Islamic University. H.E. Prof. Sano added that the visit culminated

in signing a memorandum of cooperation with the Ministry of Awqah, Islamic Affairs & Holy Places, and the possibility of signing further strategic agreements with the various religious and academic institutions working in the field of Iftaa, Fiqh, and developments & calamities. His Excellency also praised the distinguished scientific level he noticed during his visit to Islamic institutions and centers in Jordan and expressed the Academy's readiness to provide all scientific and moral capabilities to support the efforts of Jordanian scholars. The Secretary General of the Academy was accompanied in this visit by Mr. Mondher Al-Chouk, Director of Cabinet and protocols at the Academy, Ms. Sarah Amjad, Director of Family and Women Affairs, Mr. Mourad TLiLi, Adviser to the Secretary General for Public Relations and Media Affairs, and Mr. Amjad Ibrahim, Head of Protocols.



## IIFA and Department of Islamic Affairs and Charitable Activities sign an MoC in Dubai



Within the framework of strengthening cooperation, partnership and coordination between the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) and the official institutions inside and outside the Muslim world, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, IIFA Secretary General, and H.E. Dr. Hamad Al Sheikh Ahmed Al Shaibani, Director General of the Department of Islamic Affairs and Charitable Activities in Dubai, UAE, signed a memorandum of cooperation on Monday 26 Rabi Al-Awal 1443 corresponding to 1 November 2021. This MoC aims to establish a strategic partnership in the field of supporting the scientific research, capacities, and facilities of the two institutions and fostering

excellence in the development, dissemination, and application of knowledge in enriching the lives of people and societies, in addition to dealing with contemporary jurisprudential issues regarding fatwas and charitable work in order to clarify Shariah positions on contemporary life problems. The MoC also aims to enhance cooperation and continuous communication, strengthen coordination between the two institutions in organizing conferences and symposia, workshops, and training, exchanging publications, and representing each other in joint conferences and symposia of mutual interest. Following this MoC signing, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, expressed his sincere thanks and appreciation to the Emirati government and people for their tremendous support and generous care to the Academy since its inception forty years ago, noting in this regard the "close relationship between the Academy and the Department of Islamic Affairs and Charitable Activities, which previously hosted two of the Academy's twenty-four sessions in the Emirate of Dubai". His Excellency also expressed his great pleasure with the prosperity and excellent organization that he and the accompanying delegation noticed in

the activities and programs of the department, as well as the creativity characterizing the department's performance, congratulating on this occasion the Director General, Dr. Hamad Al Shaibani and his team for excellence and proficiency. His Excellency also expressed his aspiration for the Academy's Member states to benefit from the Department's expertise, especially in the field of virtual fatwas, smart mosques, Holy Quran Smart Memorization, and charitable work development. Under the terms of the MoC, the two parties have agreed to form a specialized committee that will meet twice a year to determine the aspects of cooperation between them and the means and mechanisms of implementation provided for in this MoC. It should be noted that this MoC's duration is one year from the date of its signature and is automatically renewed unless a party expresses the wish to terminate it.



## The Secretary General participates in the 20th Annual Conference on Islamic Family Law in Jakarta



At the invitation of Sharif Hidayatullah Islamic University in Indonesia, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), participated on Tuesday 20 Rabi Al-Awal 1443 corresponding to 26 October 2021, in the first plenary session of the Islamic Family Law Conference, as part of the 20th annual conference on Islamic Studies. In his speech, His Excellency thanked the organizers for giving due attention to this vital aspect of Muslim life and stressed the importance of such specialized scientific conferences for researching and studying laws related to the Muslim family because of their profound impact on social fabric cohesion and granting all family members, especially women, with all their rights as ordered by Sharia, the Noble Qur'an, and Sunnah. During his speech, His Excellency touched on the importance of revisiting some concepts and a set of Ijtihads that have been woven around issues related to Muslim women, starting with the marriage of underage girls,

moving on to the importance of documenting marriage and divorce, to custody issues, and ending with female genital mutilation, and women taking on the judiciary and public mandates. His Excellency mentioned that there is a confusion between Sharia provisions and many customs and traditions that are considered legal provisions, and the case that they are traditions and customs that should be scrutinized by Sharia and its purposes. He pointed in this regard to the importance of correcting several suspicions and clarifying some circumstantial Ijtihad that permitted some practices that have become harmful and unacceptable, as in the case of underage marriage which has been proven to have more harm than benefit and shouldn't be justified at all. In addition, female genital mutilation should be stopped as it causes severe harm to women, the prevention of qualified women from assuming the judiciary should be revised, and other imposed issues of Ijtihad should also be revised and overturned. His Excellency added that Sharia has preserved women's economic rights for centuries, as it enabled them to inherit at a time when women were marginalized and did not obtain their most basic material and moral rights. Sharia also considered the importance of the role of women within the family, urging that they be given a good education and proper upbringing so that they can raise distinguished generations that serve the Ummah and carry the enlightened message of Islam. His

Excellency also spoke about the importance of Sharia rulings in preserving women's moral dignity and physical sanctity. Hence, it is not permissible in Sharia to assault her verbally or physically, neither it is permissible to practice some social customs that are detrimental to her, as in the case of physical distortions to which she is exposed. His Excellency also emphasized the necessity of filter regional customs and traditions with the teachings and purposes of Sharia. Also participated in the session, Dr. Farid Shuaib, Head of Civil Law Department at the International Islamic University in Malaysia, Dr. Eka Srimulyani, Professor of Psychology at Sharif Hidayatullah Islamic University in Indonesia, and Dr. Euis Nurlaelawati, Professor of Islamic Family Law at Sharif Hidayatullah Islamic University.



## Secretary General visits Mohammed bin Zayed University for Humanities

H.E. Dr. Hamdan Musallam Al Mazrouie, Chairman of the Board of Trustees and president of Mohammed bin Zayed University for Humanities, received H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), on Wednesday 27 Rabi al-Awal 1443 03 November 2021 at the University's headquarters in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. H.E. President of the University started his speech by welcoming his guest and accompanying delegation, expressing his pleasure for this visit, which confirms His Excellency's willingness to strengthen cooperation and partnership between the Academy and the leading scientific institutions within the OIC Member states. He also expressed his high appreciation for the distinguished intellectual contributions of the Secretary General in the field of rationalizing religious discourse, disseminating the values of moderation, tolerance, and peaceful coexistence, and promoting national belonging and the commitment to the requirements of citizenship, rejecting all forms of extremism, fanaticism, and violence. His Excellency noted that Mohamed bin Zayed University strives to prepare a balanced, distinguished, and positive generation of youth who carry the Ummah's concerns, and work to advance its institutions in line with the wise directives of the Emirati leadership that Allah has bestowed on this blessed country. His Excellency concluded his speech by expressing the



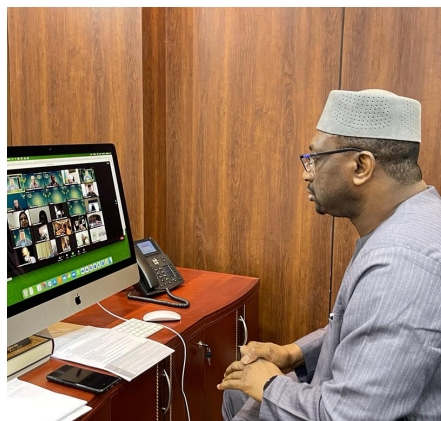
university's readiness to cooperate closely with the Academy by signing a cooperation agreement in scientific and research fields of common interest and exchanging knowledge resources and publications. On his part, the Secretary General of the Academy expressed his sincere thanks and appreciation to the President of the University for the warm welcome, praising the generous support and distinguished care that the Academy receives from the wise leadership of the UAE, and commending the UAE's hosting of three sessions of the Academy. His Excellency also expressed his great appreciation to the UAE, for bearing the cost of preparing the most giant scholarly encyclopedia on Fiqh and Usul maxims in Islamic history, known as the Zayed Encyclopedia of Fiqh and Usul Maxims, expressing on this occasion the Academy's

eagerness to reprint the encyclopedia after its complete revision, to enable scholars and researchers across the globe to benefit from this eminent scientific treasure. His Excellency also expressed his aspiration to sign a cooperation agreement between the two institutions soon in order to strengthen communication, integration, and cooperation. His Excellency concluded his speech by inviting the President of the University, the Chancellor, and the two Vice-Chancellors to visit the Secretariat General of the Academy in Jeddah to prepare a general framework for the revised edition of the Zayed encyclopedia and to continue discussing ways of strengthening cooperation and coordination between the two institutions. The meeting was attended by Dr. Khaled Al Dhaheri, University Chancellor, Dr. Saif Al Shaali, Vice-Chancellor for Development and Investment, and Dr. Khalifa Al Dhaheri, Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Also present from the Academy were Mrs. Sarah Amjad, Director of Family Affairs, Mr. Khaled Al Ahmadi, Head of the Administrative Affairs and Training, and Mr. Amjad Al Mansi, Head of the protocols.



## Secretary General inaugurates Indonesian International Conference on Islamic Social Finance

H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), inaugurated on Tuesday 20 Rabi al-Awal 1443 26 October 2021, International Conference on Islamic Social Finance from a Fiqh Perspective under the slogan of Promoting Indonesia as a Global Hub for Islamic Social Finance. The welcome address of the conference was presented by Dr. Marsudi Syuhud, Chairman of the Indonesian Ulema Council, who praised the role played by the Academy through partnership with co-organizers in holding this important conference, in addition to the Academy's scholars participating in the conference, led by H.E. Prof. Koutoub Sano, which represents a real boost to the conference, and an enrichment of the discussions and ideas in order to consolidate the concept of Islamic social finance and make it an effective means to serve Islamic economy in Indonesia and other Muslim countries. In his speech, the Secretary General of the Academy expressed his happiness to participate in this conference by delivering the opening speech. He also expressed his pleasure in the partnership that brought the Academy together with the Indonesian Ulema Council and the Central Bank of Indonesia to organize this



event, wishing for more cooperation and coordination with the relevant authorities within OIC Member states, so that they may benefit from the scientific expertise of the Academy and its vast capabilities to achieve their goals and serve Muslims around the world. His Excellency also called on scholars and researchers in Islamic finance and economics to give Islamic social finance its due diligence and scrutiny because of its profound impact on our societies and the economic solutions it can provide to many chronic problems such as poverty, diseases, and ignorance. His Excellency added that Islamic

social finance institutions include some well-established institutions in Islam, such as the Zakat, Waqf, charities, vows & penances, and wills, noting in this regard the importance of using these institutions to combat poverty and ensure a fair redistribution of wealth that includes all segments of society, especially those marginalized, who are in urgent need of support and assistance. His Excellency pointed out the importance of the Republic of Indonesia's project to promote Islamic social finance by enhancing interest in it, developing its institutions and disseminating its importance, in a drive to demonstrate Indonesia's position among OIC Member states, a position that qualifies it to be a global center for this type of financing and a beacon guiding the rest of Muslim countries to provide radical solutions to the problems of poverty and destitution that is sweeping the Muslim world and communities everywhere. His Excellency went on to say that Indonesia's social infrastructure and its human and natural resources qualify it to play this role. Also participated in this opening session, H.E. Dr. Marouf Amin, Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia, and H.E. Dr. Zain Al-Tawhid Saadi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Religious Affairs.

## IIFA and University of Sharjah sign an MoC



As part of International Islamic Fiqh Academy's (IIFA) endeavor to achieve intellectual convergence and knowledge integration among the leading scientific institutions in the OIC Member states, and following the desire to benefit from the expertise and competencies of prominent and prestigious universities and scientific institutes inside and outside the Muslim world, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, the Secretary General of the Academy, and H.E. Prof. Hamid Majul Al Nuaimi, Director of the University of Sharjah, signed a strategic cooperation agreement between the two institutions on Thursday 29 Rabi al-Awal 1443 04 November 2021 at the University's headquarters in the Emirate of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates. This MoC aims to build a strategic partnership to mutually

benefit from both institutions' scientific and research capabilities and the joint study of contemporary issues and problems in view to guide and rationalize them. It also aims to jointly organize conferences, symposia, workshops and trainings, exchange publications, and represent both parties in conferences and symposia in areas of mutual interest. Following the signing, the Secretary General of the Academy expressed his happiness with the university's remarkable development and rapid progress and his joy at the scientific results achieved by the university in recent years in scientific research. His Excellency noted that this agreement will be an opportunity to attract researchers from the university's various faculties and institutes to participate in the Academy's sessions, symposia, and conferences, as well as a model for integration and convergence between the Ummah's jurists and experts in the study of contemporary life problems scientifically and objectively. His Excellency added that the Academy looks forward to closer scientific and research cooperation with the faculty members' research teams in order to benefit their ideas and expertise that would contribute to the adoption of appropriate resolutions. His Excellency also pointed out that the university, with its advanced research capacities in various disciplines, can positively contribute, through its experts, researchers, and faculty members,

to various medical, scientific, social, financial, and economic issues that fall within the scope of the Academy. Pursuant to the terms of the memorandum, both parties have agreed to form a specialized committee to define the aspects of cooperation between them and the methods and mechanisms of implementation as envisaged in the memorandum itself. This committee enjoys the authority to request the assistance of any person it deems appropriate to implement the terms of the agreement. The signing ceremony of the memorandum was attended by Prof. Awad Al-Khalaf, Acting Director of Al Qasimia University and Dean of the College of Shariah and Islamic Studies at the University of Sharjah, and Dr. Tariq Merabetin, Director of the University's External Relations Office. Also present from the Academy were Mrs. Sarah Amjad, Director of Family and Women's Affairs, Mr. Khaled Al Ahmadi, Head of the Administrative Affairs and Training, and Mr. Amjad Al Mansi, Head of the Protocols.



## IIFA Researcher, Dr. Mohammed Shuaib, releases a New Book on the Corona Pandemic

The Secretariat General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) congratulates Dr. Mohammed Mustafa Shuaib, Head of the Studies and Fatwas Division at the Academy, on the release of his new book: *The Shariah Ruling on Epidemics and Diseases –Emerging Coronavirus (Covid-19) as a Model*, recently published by Al-Mufakirun Publishers at the Arab Republic of Egypt. The book discusses the definition of disease, epidemic, pandemic, and the most important ways to prevent the emerging coronavirus and other viruses and diseases, whether the prevention is material and individual, or spiritual and religious, and Islam's position on infection, rulings on medication, and ending the life of terminally ill patients – also known as mercy killing or

euthanasia. This book also discusses how to wash, shroud, and bury the dead during the epidemic with fear of infection, the ruling on closing mosques and suspending public prayer as a precaution against infection, and how to perform acts of worship during the epidemic, such as public prayer, Friday sermon, Umrah, Hajj, and other forms of worship. The book



also showed the seriousness of spreading rumours, especially in times of crisis and disorder, the rules of investigation and verification in spreading news, the prohibition of monopolies and exploitation of people's needs, especially in times of epidemics, and many more issues detailed in the book. In addition, his book contains several stances on the current pandemic, lessons learned from it, and an appendix containing the recommendations of the IIFA Medical Symposium on Corona, held at the beginning of the pandemic. Once again, the Secretariat General of the Academy congratulates Dr. Mohammed Shuaib for his new achievement and wishes him more success in all his future endeavors.

## 12th Monthly Meeting Staff

H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the twelfth monthly meeting of the Academy's personnel on Sunday 26 Safar 1443 03 October 2021. His Excellency began the meeting by welcoming the attendees, commending their outstanding efforts over the past year, as this meeting marks one year since His Excellency took office as Secretary General of IIFA on 1 October 2020. His Excellency emphasized that what the Academy accomplished during this short period would not have been possible without the grace and help of Allah, then the cooperation between the Academy's personnel, as well as the careful planning of various programs, activities,

and projects, in addition to the effective implementation by the different departments. His Excellency also spoke about the symposium that the Academy will organize this month in cooperation with the Central Bank of Indonesia on Islamic social financing and gave his instructions to the research and conferences departments to do what is necessary for this symposium's success. The meeting resulted in several decisions, notably:

- Convert all internal Academy correspondence to an electronic format using the latest technology and save ink and paper resources.
- Contact the OIC to obtain the 2021 Accounting Program that the Academy needs to manage its budget effectively.
- Ask all employees to provide the Personnel

Affairs Division with their updated CVs and copies of their latest academic certificates.

- Provide the cleaners with access to the main entrance of the Academy to improve their mobility and facilitate their work.
- Improving the general appearance of the Academy's ground floor, in the same way as the first floor.



## 23rd Periodic Meeting of Divisions Heads



On Thursday 08 of Rabi al-Awal 1443 14 October 14, 2021, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the twenty-third periodic meeting of the divisions heads of the Academy, at the Secretariat General headquarters. His Excellency opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees, stressing the

importance of implementing and activating the decisions of the periodic meetings and the need for cooperation and coordination between all employees in order to achieve the Academy's objectives and to realize its activities and events to the fullest. His Excellency also reminded everyone of the moral duty when performing the tasks entrusted to each of us. His Excellency informed the attendees that the Financial Control Committee had completed its work, noting that the Secretariat General is waiting for the detailed report from the Committee to benefit from it in improving the administrative and financial procedures. He also noted that the Committee had left some practical directives and proposals to enhance transparency and integrity in all transactions. His Excellency concluded with thanks and appreciation to the Department of

Administrative and Financial Affairs for good preparations to receive the committee and facilitate its task. His Excellency also informed the attendees that the design of the new site for the Academy is nearing completion. The meeting issued several decisions, namely:

- Create a procurement committee to monitor all contracts and financial transactions of the Academy in order to realize financial integrity and transparency.
- Create an inventory committee to monitor the warehouses and their contents in order to conserve the Academy's properties.
- Design the monthly newsletter and the quarterly magazine internally and training more employees on how to do so, in order to guarantee continuity.

## 24th Periodic Meeting of Divisions Heads

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## 47th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors

H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the forty seventh weekly meeting of the directors of the Academy's departments on Monday 27 Safar 1443 (04 October 2021), at the headquarters of the Secretariat General in Jeddah. His Excellency opened the meeting by welcoming the directors, and thanking them for their regular attendance, noting that we are close to holding the fifty-second meeting, which marks the end of a full year of directors' meetings, and therefore, His Excellency assigned the Planning Department to collect all the outcomes and decisions of these meetings to evaluate the extent of commitment to implementing what was issued by them, and to measure the success degree of all the departments concerned so that they can correct any shortcomings in the future and to enhance their performance and its quality.

In the same context, and on the occasion of the first anniversary of His Excellency's assumption of the Academy's leadership, he expressed his heartfelt thanks to all employees for their sincere efforts to carry out their work to the best of their ability, and the commitment to implement the terms of the strategic plan so that the Academy could perform the tasks entrusted to it and achieve its objectives of serving Muslims worldwide. His Excellency also urged everyone to continue to exert the necessary effort and performance for the success of the various events and activities that await the Academy in the last quarter of this year. The meeting discussed several issues and resulted in several notably:

- Request the Cabinet Affairs Department to communicate with Member states that do not have representative members and urge them to nominate new members

before the 25th Annual Session is held during the first quarter of next year.

- Remind all departments to submit their annual reports to the Planning Department no later than mid-October.
- Instruct the Administrative Affairs Department to contact the General Real Estate Authority in Saudi Arabia to obtain an alternative warehouse to the current one.
- Request the Conferences Department to contact specialized researchers to participate in the Islamic Social Finance Symposium to be held by the Academy soon in partnership with the Central Bank of Indonesia.



SUPERVISION GENERALE

PROF. DR. KOUTOUB MOUSTAPHA SANO

Redaction

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## 48th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors



H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the forty-eighth weekly meeting of the directors of the Academy's departments on Monday, 05 Rabi Al-Awal 1443 (11 October 2021), at the headquarters of the Academy. His Excellency opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees and thanking them for their regular attendance. His Excellency then talked about the latest updates on the arrangements and preparations for the cryptocurrency symposium scheduled for early November. His Excellency informed

the attendees of the approval of the Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the Academy to hold this symposium in presence. On this occasion, His Excellency expressed his sincere thanks to the branch of the Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Makkah region for the facilities it provided to help the Academy to implement its programs and activities, stressing the importance of maintaining a solid relationship with all government sectors in the headquarters country. His Excellency also referred to the official visit he will make to the United Arab Emirates at the end of this month, as part of a series of visits to the Member states of the Academy. These visits are aimed at strengthening cooperation, communication, and coordination with official bodies of common interest within the Member states, as well as signing cooperation agreements with these bodies, and providing the intellectual and legal support needed by those countries and Muslim communities. His Excellency then discussed the decisions of

the previous meeting, in order to determine the extent of their execution. Several decisions were issued by this meeting, notably:

- Request the Conferences and Seminars Department to expedite sending a copy of the cryptocurrency seminar research papers to all participants inside and outside Saudi Arabia.
- Request the Media and Public Relations Department to prepare an introductory film about the Academy to be shown at the symposium's opening.
- Instruct the Research and Studies Department to prepare an introductory booklet for the symposium, including an introduction to the Academy and an introduction to the Islamic Affairs and Charitable Activities Department in the Emirate of Dubai.

## 49th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors

H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the forty-ninth weekly meeting of the departments directors of the Academy's departments on Monday 10 Rabi al-Awal 18 October 2021, at the headquarters of the Secretariat General in Jeddah. His Excellency opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees then spoke about the importance of proper preparation for the upcoming symposium on cryptocurrencies in this November, which is the first in presence seminar since the Corona pandemic started. His Excellency also called for the formation of specialized committees to deal with various issues related to the symposium. Based on the principle of transparency, justice, and equal opportunities, His Excellency reminded everyone that the appointment of directors of departments and heads of divisions will be on an annual basis and according to job



performance, which means the possibility of renewal, transfer, and replacement, as well as providing better opportunities for employees to gain experience. His Excellency also thanked Mr. Saad Al-Samar for his efforts in designing and printing the eleventh issue of the Academy's newsletter. The meeting discussed the previous meeting's decisions, and their follow-up. Several decisions were issued by this meeting, notably:

- Create a scientific committee to review the research papers submitted

for the cryptocurrency symposium and ensure their review before printing.

- Create a media committee to handle the technical aspects, prepare the symposium's brochure, print materials, and record the proceedings of the symposium sessions in audio and video.
- Create a guest relations committee to handle all matters related to hospitality, visas, flights, and the follow-up with the VIPs.
- Create a financial committee to manage financial matters related to bill payments and incentives.
- Appoint Dr. Abdel-Fattah Abnaouf as editor-in-chief of the Arabic newsletter.

## 50th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors

H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the fiftieth weekly meeting of the directors of the Academy's departments on Monday, 19 Rabi al-Awal 1443 (25 October 2021), at the headquarters of the Academy. His Excellency opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees and thanking them for their regular attendance, then talked about his upcoming visit to the United Arab Emirates, where His Excellency will deliver a lecture on tolerance and peaceful coexistence in societies in Islam on behalf of the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on the OIC's Honorary Day, which is part of agenda of the Dubai International Expo. During his visit, his Excellency will also seek to strengthen relations of cooperation and strategic partnership with some competent authorities having mutual interests with the Academy. His Excellency also spoke

about the topic of the Academy's upcoming scientific symposium on cryptocurrencies to be held on 8th November, where he was briefed on the latest developments from the specialized committees in charge of preparing this symposium. Then His Excellency recorded his thanks to Dr. Muhammad Mustafa Shuaib, Head of the Studies and Fatwas Division, for his efforts in drafting the biographies of the late scholars and experts who served the Academy. The meeting discussed the previous meeting's decisions and their follow-up. Several decisions were issued by the meeting, notably:

- Develop an integrated vision for the consultative symposium of the heads and secretaries of Ifta bodies in the Member states and Muslim communities to inform participants of the time, place, and date of its convening, and presenting the concept to the Secretariat General early next year in a sufficient time to avoid any delays.

•Preparing the edited version of the Academy's newsletter by the Media Department and handing it over to the Editor-in-Chief for review and proofreading.

- Editing the news in the three languages at the end of each week in preparation for its inclusion in the newsletter.

