

## IIFA mourns His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, may Allah shower mercy his soul



“And give good tidings to the patient, who, when disaster strikes them, say, “Indeed we belong to Allah, and indeed to Him we will return.” Al-Baqarah: 154-156 “And it is not [possible] for one to die except by permission of Allah at a decree determined. And whoever desires the reward of this world – We will give him thereof; and whoever desires the reward of the Hereafter – We will give him thereof. And we will reward the grateful.” Aal-Imran: 145 The International Islamic Fiqh Academy received the news of the passing of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, to his Lord today, Friday, 12 Shawwal 1443, corresponding to May 13, 2022, with hearts filled with absolute faith in Allah’s decree and predestination and souls

submitted to His will and His inevitable fate. On this sad occasion, the International Islamic Fiqh Academy’s Presidency, General Secretariat, members, experts, and staff offer their sincere condolences to the government and people of the United Arab Emirates, praying to the Noble Lord to have mercy on the deceased, to forgive him, to accept him in the heavens, to welcome him in his vast gardens, and to reunite him with those whom Allah has blessed among the prophets, the truthful, the martyrs, and the righteous. Indeed, these are the best companions. We ask the Almighty to grant His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President of the United Arab Emirates, Prime Minister, Minister of Defense, and Governor of Dubai, and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy

Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, and all the relatives, friends, and loved ones of the deceased, as well as his admirers, the Emirati people, and the Ummah, patience, consolation, and satisfaction with the decree of Most Merciful. The International Islamic Fiqh Academy will be eternally thankful to His Highness for the kind care and ongoing support from the United Arab Emirates. May Allah the Almighty sustain its security, stability, and prosperity, and protect its authorities and people. May Allah multiply your rewards, forgive your loss and comfort you in the greatest manner possible. To Allah we belong and to Him we shall return.

Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano  
Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy  
Jeddah

## Secretary General presents IIFA’s Condolences to UAE’s Consul General in Jeddah



On Saturday, 13 Shawwal 1443H corresponding to 14 May 2022G, His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), visited the Consulate General of the United Arab Emirates in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, to offer his and the Academy’s sincere condolences to the government and people of the United Arab Emirates, on the occasion of the passing of Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates,

on Friday 12 Shawwal 1443H corresponding to 13 May 2022G. His Excellency seized this sad occasion to express the Academy’s great thanks and permanent appreciation for the generous support and care that the Academy enjoyed from His Highness, may God have mercy on him, and place him in his vast gardens, and gather us with him in the gardens of bliss in a seat of sincerity with the Merciful Lord. His Excellency also expressed his great gratitude and great appreciation to the government of the United Arab Emirates for its generous care and great support of the Academy, asking the Almighty to have mercy on the deceased, and to preserve the UAE’s security, unity, stability and prosperity. For his part, His Excellency Mr. Nasser bin Huwaiden Al Ketbi, Consul General of the United Arab Emirates in Jeddah, expressed his deep thanks and appreciation to the Secretary General of the Academy and the accompanying delegation for the condolences and kind words he heard from His Excellency, stressing that the

United Arab Emirates will continue to strengthen cooperation with the Academy under the leadership of His Excellency. At the end of the visit, His Excellency recorded a message in the mourning book. His Excellency was accompanied during the visit by Mr. Mohamed Al-Mondher El-Chouk, Director of Cabinet and Protocol Affairs at the Academy, and Mr. Mohamed Adnan Al Fehri, Director of the Department of Administrative and Financial Affairs at the Academy.



## Sudanese Minister of Religious Affairs and Awqaf visits IIFA

On Tuesday, 16 Shawwal 1443H corresponding to 17 May 2022G, His Excellency Dr. Abd al-Ati Ahmed Abbas, Minister of Religious Affairs and Awqaf of the Republic of Sudan, and his accompanying delegation visited the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) in Jeddah. He was received by Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy. His Excellency the Minister thanked the Secretary General of the Academy for the kind reception and warm welcome, and expressed his great pleasure at visiting the Academy, this great scientific edifice of which the entire Muslim Ummah is proud. He also expressed his personal pride, and that of the ministry's delegation, in the solid and fruitful relations of cooperation with the Academy, and the importance of benefiting from the capabilities and expertise of both parties in all areas of common interest. In this context, His Excellency presented a number of proposals that serve Islam and Muslims, not only in Sudan, but in the entire Muslim world. He also expressed his aspiration for His Excellency the Secretary General's visit to Sudan to learn closely about the issues and concerns of the Sudanese Muslims and thus support and enhance the efforts of the Sudanese Ministry and Government in this regard. For his part, His Excellency the Secretary General welcomed His Excellency the Minister,



and thanked him for this generous visit, which confirms the depth and strength of relations of cooperation, coordination and communication between the Academy, the Ministry and the leading scientific institutions in Sudan, which culminated a few months ago with the signing of a memorandum of cooperation between the Academy and the Sudanese Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Ministry. His Excellency also seized the opportunity to express the importance of initiating the implementation of the provisions of the memorandum in order to achieve the objectives stipulated in it. Then His Excellency presented his guest with a brief summary of the Academy's vision, mission, objectives, five-year strategic plan, and its various activities and programs. His Excellency also indicated that the Academy has

called for papers from a number of distinguished Sudanese researchers to contribute research papers in the upcoming Session of the Academy. The meeting was attended from the side of the Ministry by Mr. Ahmed Sirr Al-Khatem, Director of Hajj and Umrah Department, Dr. Mohamed Abdel-Wahab, Executive Director of Hajj and Umrah, Eng. Ahmed Al-Mubarak, Director of Information Technology, and Mr. Abdel Aziz Al-Sadiq, Director of Media and Public Relations. On the side of the Academy, Mr. Mohamed Al-Mondher El-Chouk, Director of Cabinet and Protocol Affairs Department, Dr. Abdel Fattah Mahmoud Abnauf, Director of International Cooperation and Planning Department, and Mr. Mourad TLiLi, Advisor to the Secretary General of the Academy for Media Affairs.



## US Ambassador for International Religious Freedom Visits IIFA



His Excellency Mr. Rashad Hussein, Ambassador-at-Large of the United States of America in charge of International Religious Freedom and his accompanying delegation, paid a courtesy visit to the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) on Thursday 11 Shawwal 1443H corresponding to 12 May 2022G. Upon his arrival at the Academy, he and the accompanying delegation were received by His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, who thanked him for the visit, congratulating him on his assumption of the position of Ambassador-at-Large in charge of International Religious Freedom in the United States of America, wishing him all success. His Excellency the Secretary General also expressed his thanks and appreciation to His Excellency the Ambassador for his blessed efforts in defending the rights and interests of Muslims in the United States of America, and combating extremist

ideology wherever it comes from, especially Islamophobia and the attacks it causes on Muslim communities in Western countries and on relations between peoples and cultures in general. His Excellency also affirmed the Academy's readiness to work together to enhance awareness among Muslim communities of the importance of adhering to the requirements of citizenship in their countries, and the need to respect laws and regulations while preserving their religious identity, as there is in fact no conflict between religious affiliation and loyalty to the country in which the Muslim person resides. His Excellency expressed the Academy's readiness to organize scientific events that serve these ideas inside the United States of America directed at Muslim communities, sign cooperative agreements with the leading scientific institutions in the United States and invite Muslim American scholars to participate in the upcoming Sessions of the Academy to enrich dialogue and spread benefit. For his part, Ambassador Rashad Hussein expressed his deep thanks and great gratitude to His Excellency the Secretary General of the Academy for the warm reception and courteous welcome, stressing his great interest and keenness to make this visit to the Academy in order to see and benefit from the contributions of the Academy in the areas of pluralism, religious tolerance and coexistence among religions and cultures and to fight and combat extremist ideology, terrorism and violence. His Excellency added that his country's government views with appreciation the moderate and sober thought offered by the Academy and all

its commendable efforts to spread moderation and peaceful coexistence between religions, and that he looks forward to more cooperation and coordination with the Academy in order to serve these noble humanitarian goals through the joint organization of purposeful scientific events inside and outside the United States of America, and the participation of prestigious American religious institutions in the Academy's Sessions and various scientific conferences. His Excellency the Ambassador was accompanied in the meeting by Mr. Allen Krause, Chief of Political and Economic Section at the American Consulate in Jeddah, and Mrs. Jennifer Ham, Vice Consul, Political and Economic Section at the American Consulate in Jeddah. On the side of the Academy, the meeting was attended by Mr. Mohamed Al-Mondher El-Chouk, Director of Cabinet and Protocol Affairs, Ms. Sarah Amjad Hussain, Director of Family and Women's Affairs, Dr. Al Hagi Manta Drammeh, Head of International Cooperation and External Relations Section, and Mr. Mourad TLiLi, Advisor to the Secretary General for Media Affairs.





## IIFA Secretary General participates in International Conference on Islamic Unity in Abu Dhabi



H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Academy of Islamic Fiqh (IIFA), participated in the International Conference of the World Council of Muslim Communities on: "Islamic Unity: Concept, Challenges and Opportunities", on Sunday and Monday 7 -8 of Chawal 1443 corresponding to May 9-10, 2022 in Abu Dhabi. He gave a keynote speech at the opening of the second day of the conference in the presence of a large number of conference participants and thanked the government and people of the United Arab Emirates for their tremendous efforts to unite the Ummah and promote cooperation and communication among Muslims. He also congratulated the leadership of the Council for organizing this important and timely conference at this difficult stage of the troubling circumstances that the world in general and the Muslim world in particular are going through. He praised in particular the good choice of the title and the themes of the conference, "in the hope that the participants of the conference arrive at a correct concept and clearly defined of the term unity. It will also allow us to correct a series of misconceptions that have suddenly been woven around this term." Also he

pointed out that the term Islamic unity is misused for suspicious purposes contrary to the principles of Islam and is incorporated in areas where it cannot be achieved. He went on to point out that "the texts of the Holy Quran and the prophetic tradition have moved beyond talking about Islamic unity in the traditional sense to talking about the unity of the Ummah, is broader and more complete than peoples, clans and tribes, because they include non-Muslim individuals and groups, and these Islamic texts have decided that the existence of peoples, tribes and clans is a universal reality and an eternal will which cannot be neglected as shown in the following Quranic passage: [O people, We created you male and female, and We made you peoples and tribes so that you might know one another]. This verse indicates that there are many peoples and various tribes, and these make up what is now called the nation-state, which is made up of individuals and groups sharing traditions and customs in a nation-state governed by a system to which they adhere". Therefore, the term unity is not intended to unite peoples into one people or to integrate tribes into one tribe and is not intended to rationally transfer and eliminate traditions and the customs of peoples, tribes and clans, but rather to unite consciences, feelings, rituals among Muslims. This says that the hoped-for unity is a unity in diversity and a diversity in unity. From there, it is urgent today to transcend this pretentious concept which has besieged the concept of unity by uniting the Muslim peoples in a so-called and illusory state, which is the state of the great caliphate which does not have ever been achieved in history. To this end, good Islamic unity aims to achieve as much cooperation, integration, support and synergy as possible among Muslims. This is in no way incompatible with

the multiplicity of States, with the multiplicity of peoples and tribes whose existence is part of the eternal cosmic reality mentioned above. He then explained that "Islamic unity rests on five pillars stipulated in the Hadith of the Prophet (PBUH), in which he says: {Do not be jealous, do not hate each other, do not be a malefactor, do not betray, do not buy what your brother wants to buy, and be servants of Allah and brothers. It is a great sin to disrespect one's brother, to oppress or humiliate him}. He concluded his intervention by saying, "The desired Islamic unity has three manifestations which are mentioned in the Hadith of the Prophet: {the similarity of the believers in their love, compassion and sympathy is like one body; if one limb complains of pain, the rest of the body falls with fever and restlessness}. Love, compassion and mutual sympathy are the most important manifestations of true Islamic unity. Today, more than ever, the Ummah is called upon to strengthen these manifestations in terms of emotional bonds, feelings and rituals, so that the unity demanded by the Quran and the Sunnah is achieved". The conference brought together more than 400 participants from more than 100 countries.



## Consul General of Japan visits IIFA headquarters in Jeddah

His Excellency Mr. Shimmura Izuru, Consul General of Japan in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, visited the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) on 25 Tuesday Ramadan 1443H corresponding to 26 April 2022G. His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, welcomed him and thanked him for his visit, which is the first of its kind for His Excellency since he came to KSA to undertake his duties. His Excellency Mr. Shimmura Izuru expressed his deep thanks and great gratitude to His Excellency the Secretary General of the Academy for the good reception and warm welcome, stressing his great interest and keenness to make this visit to the Academy in the context of his country's relentless endeavor to strengthen relations of cooperation and coordination with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and its affiliated bodies, especially the International Islamic Fiqh Academy. His Excellency added that his country's government views with appreciation the moderate and



sober thought offered by the Academy and all commendable efforts to spread moderation and peaceful coexistence between religions, and that he looks forward to more cooperation with the Academy in order to serve these noble humanitarian goals, by organizing some purposeful scientific activities within Japan and beyond. For his part, His Excellency the Secretary General of the Academy expressed his great thanks and great appreciation to His Excellency the Consul and congratulated him

on his recent appointment as the first special envoy of his country to the OIC, wishing him success in his duties, noting that this meeting would mark the beginning of solid and sober cooperation and coordination between the Academy and the authorities supervising religious affairs in Japan. His Excellency seized the occasion by giving His Excellency the Consul a brief overview of the Academy's vision, mission, goals, programs, and activities. His Excellency also affirmed the Academy's readiness to enhance awareness among Muslim communities of the importance of adhering to the requirements of citizenship in their countries, and the need to respect laws and regulations while preserving their religious identity, as there is, in fact, no conflict between religious affiliation and loyalty to the country in which the Muslim man resides. The meeting was attended by Mr. Mohamed Al-Mondher El-Chouk, Director of Cabinet Affairs and Protocol at the Academy, and Mr. Mourad TLiLi, Advisor to the Secretary General of the Academy for Media Affairs.

## German Consul General and Special Envoy to the OIC visits IIFA

H.E. Dr. Eltje Aderhold, Special Envoy of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and Consul General of Germany in Jeddah, visited the headquarters of the Academy (IIFA) on Sunday 14 Shawwal 1443 corresponding to May 15, 2022. She was received by Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy. She expressed her deep thanks and gratitude to the Secretary General for the warm welcome, and expressed her aspiration to strengthen the relations of cooperation and coordination with the OIC and its affiliated bodies, in particular the IIFA, noting the Germany's desire to consolidate partnership and joint dialogue with the OIC on a number of topics and issues of common interest, and on this occasion, she called on the Academy to participate in the second round of the strategic dialogue to be held during the second half of this year in the German capital, Berlin. She added that her country's government appreciates the Academy's esteemed efforts to spread a culture of moderation and coexistence between religions and peoples. She also expressed her gratitude for the pioneering role of the Academy in promoting awareness of the importance of empowering women of their natural rights and allowing them to actively participate in efforts to build, progress and develop in the countries, praising the role of the Academy's successful resolutions related to the issues of FGM, underage marriage and female



labor. Separately, she said she looks forward to greater cooperation with the Academy to serve these issues, coordinating with the Academy's Department of Women and Family Affairs to determine topics of common interest and work together in their execution, in addition to the joint organization of certain useful scientific events inside and outside Germany. For his part, the Secretary General of the Academy expressed his deep thanks and appreciation to the Special Envoy for her commendable efforts in building bridges of cooperation and coordination with the Academy regarding common issues and topics concern of Muslim communities in European countries, particularly the Federal Republic of Germany. He added that this meeting is an excellent start for strong and firm cooperation and coordination relations between the Academy and the German authorities. He also affirmed the Academy's desire to make

Muslim communities aware of the importance of adhering to the requirements of citizenship in their country and the need to respect laws and regulations while preserving their religious identity, because it is not There is in fact no conflict between religious affiliation and loyalty to the country in which a Muslim lives. He then expressed the Academy's agreement to participate in the second round of the strategic dialogue between the OIC and Germany, in addition to the Academy's willingness to organize scientific events in Germany targeting the Muslim community there. low and addressing issues and topics that concern them and the German government. The meeting took place in the presence of Ms. Arwaa Ragban, Interpreter at the Consulate General of Germany in Jeddah, Mr. Al-Mondher El-Chouk, Director of Cabinet Affairs, Ms. Sarah Amjad Hussain, Director of Family and Women's Affairs, and Mr. Mourad TLiLi, Advisor to the Secretary General for Media Affairs.



## UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women visits IIFA



His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), received on 14 Shawwal 1443H, corresponding to 15 May 2022G, Her Excellency Ms. Reem Al-Salem, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, at the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the Academy in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. His Excellency welcomed the honorable guest and thanked her for the visit, congratulating her on her assumption of the position of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, and wishing her every success in her endeavors. His Excellency also expressed his great appreciation and thanks to Her Excellency for her commendable efforts in order to highlight the various forms of violence and abuse of women by depriving them of their basic civil rights such as education, work, health and others in many countries of the world, especially some countries of the Muslim world. Shariah considered her the man's sister and partner in the tasks of building peoples and the renaissance of nations

and also assigned her duties not different from the duties assigned to her brother the man, emphasizing the importance of the contribution of both sexes to achieving renaissance, progress and development. His Excellency also touched on the upcoming visit of the delegation of the Academy under the umbrella of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, in order to discuss with the Taliban scholars and current Afghan leaders a number of issues and topics of concern to the international community, and the need to open a door for dialogue and discussion with them. His Excellency affirmed that he looks forward with optimism to the visit, which will deal with a number of issues of concern to Muslims in Afghanistan, on top of which is the issue of women's right to education, and their full participation in building Afghan society, based on the teachings of our religion, which necessitate education and learning for both sexes. For her part, the Special Rapporteur expressed her great pleasure at visiting the Academy, and her great appreciation for the appreciable efforts it made in correcting practices with regards to women in all areas are withheld, and she also expressed her gratitude for the central role of the Academy in promoting awareness of the importance of empowering women to participate in the efforts of construction, progress and development in the Muslim world, praising in the meantime the successful decisions of the Academy related to issues such as women's education, female genital mutilation, underage marriage, women's work, and others. Her Excellency concluded by

expressing her aspiration for the success of the delegation of the Academy, led by His Excellency the Secretary General, in its efforts to convince the new authorities in Afghanistan to grant Afghan women their right to education, work and active participation in public life. She also affirmed her complete readiness to support the efforts of the Academy in this regard and to harness all her capabilities and expertise in the service of the Academy's noble mission. At the end of the meeting, His Excellency thanked his honorable guest for her proposals and cooperation initiatives, noting that he looks forward to strengthening cooperation between her Excellency's office and the Department of Women and Family Affairs at the Academy in many issues and topics of concern to both parties in order to achieve results that benefit Muslim women wherever they are. The meeting was attended by Mr. Mohamed Al-Mondher El-Chouk, Director of Cabinet and Protocol Affairs at the Academy, Ms. Sarah Amjad Hussain, Director of Family and Women's Affairs at the Academy, and Mr. Mourad TLiLi, Advisor to the Secretary General of the Academy for Media Affairs.





## IIFA Secretary General speaks on the Signs of Judgment Day at Hashemites Lecture Series in Amman, Jordan



H.E. Prof Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, gave a lecture on “The Signs and Preludes of the Last Day Judgment”, as part of a series of lectures organized by the Hashemite Meetings, on Friday 28 Ramadan 1443 corresponding to April 29, 2022, at the Islamic Cultural Center of the King Abdullah I Mosque in the capital, Amman. After thanking His Majesty King Abdallah II ben Al Hussein and the government of the Hashemite Kingdom, he specified that to arrive at a sound understanding of the signs of the Day of Judgment, it will be necessary to follow a methodological approach based on the definition of the term “The Signs of the Day of Judgment” then the relationships between the different signs. Starting from this approach, he defined the term as “a group of cosmic events and phenomena that contradict the laws, norms and human nature that precede the Day of Judgment announcing its imminence, or for its actual appearance. If these events and phenomena announce the approach of the Day of Judgment, they are called the Minor Signs of the Day of Judgment. But if they signal the actual occurrence of the Day of Judgment, then it is called the Great Signs of the Day of Judgment.” Regarding the main signs of the Day of Judgment, he explained that there is a prophetic hadith that includes a comprehensive explanation of these signs. This hadith was narrated by the Hudhayfa bin Usayd Al-Ghafari, may God be pleased with him, who said: “The Prophet, may God bless him and grant him peace, was in a room while we were below him, so he looked at us and said: What are you talking about? We said the Day of Judgment, he said: The Day of Judgment will only come when ten signs occur: an eclipse in the east, an eclipse in the west, an eclipse in the Arabian Peninsula, the smoke, the ‘Antichrist, the beast of the earth, Gog and Magog, the sun rises from the west, and fire comes out of Eden which moves people. One of them said that the tenth sign is the descent of Jesus, prayer and peace of God be upon him, and the other said: A wind that throws people overboard.” This hadith clarifies the main signs of the Day of Judgment, and these signs are almost accepted and approved by all scholars, with a minor difference between them in the order of events. Then he said that: “If this hadith deals with the major signs of the Day of Judgment in a detailed and specific way, then we believe that there is another honorable prophetic hadith which deals in detail and specifically with the minor signs of the Day of Judgment. Judgement. I refer here to the hadith of Gabriel, with its many narrations, which includes an honest summary of those events and phenomena whose occurrence indicates the imminence of the Day of Judgment, and they are known as the Minor Signs of the

Day of Judgment. “. Knowledge of multiple accounts of Hadith is decisive in defining the exact meaning of the conditions mentioned in the hadith. For this purpose, there are two most important narrations of hadith, which are the narration of Omar Ibn Al-Khattab and the narration of Abu Huraira. As for the narration of Umar Ibn Al-Khattab, it stipulated two signs, and this is the text as reported by Muslim in his Sahih: Umar Ibn Al-Khattab, may God be pleased with him, said: “A day when we were with the Messenger of God, prayer and peace be upon him, a man with very white clothes appeared to us, very black hair, no traces of travel can be seen on him, and none of us knew him, until he sat down beside the Prophet, prayer and peace of God be upon him, and he put his knees on his knees, put his palms on his thighs and said, “..Tell me about the Day of Judgment.” He said, “He that’s asked about it is no more learned than he that asks the question.” He said: So tell me about its signals. He said: “Let the slave give birth to his mistress, and you will see the bare feet, the bare, the dependents, the shepherds building buildings of very high standing. Then he left...”. It is clear that this famous account of the hadith of Gabriel mentioned two signs, namely: that the slave gives birth to his mistress, and that we see bare feet, bare people, the shepherds build the buildings of high standing. As for the second narration, it is the narration of the companion Abu Huraira, may God be pleased with him, and this narration stipulated three signs, and here is this text as reported by Muslim in his Sahih: Abu Huraira, may God be pleased with him, said: The Messenger of God, prayer and peace of God be upon him, was one of the days with the people, then a man came to him and said: O Messenger of God, when is judgment day? He said: “He who is questioned is not more learned than he who questions, but I will tell you about his signs: If the slave gives birth to his master, then this is one of its signs, and if bare and bare feet are the rulers of the people, then that is one of its signals, and if the shepherds build high buildings, then that is one of his signs. This account mentions three signs instead of the famous two, which are: the woman gives birth to her master, the naked and barefoot become leaders of the people, and that one sees the shepherds building buildings of high standing. In addition, he clarified that the narration of Abu Huraira which Al-Bukhari included in his Sahih is of great importance, as it clearly defines what is meant by the word “slave” in the narration of ‘Omar Ibn Al-Khattab, who is the woman in general and not the slave as it is common and famous. This text of the narration in Al-Bukhari: Abu Hurairah, may God be pleased with him, said: The Messenger of God, may God’s prayers and peace be upon him, was one of the days out with the people, when a man approached him walking and said: O Messenger of God, when is the day of judgment? He said, “He who is questioned is no more knowledgeable than he who questions, but I will tell you about his signs: If the woman gives birth to her master, then that is one of her signs, and if bare and bare feet have become rulers of the people. Indeed, this narration is consistent with the figurative sense of the prophetic message represented in that what

is meant by a woman giving birth to her master or mistress is an expression of the phenomenon of disobedience to parents, which is an event contrary to human nature, whether the mother is a slave or a free person. Disobedience to parents is therefore contrary to human norms and nature, and its spread as observed and experienced in the present day is a condition of the minor signs of the Day of Judgment. Then, His Excellency said that the narration of Abu Hurairah indicated that seeing the naked and barefoot rulers of the people and their kings is a separate condition from seeing the shepherds grow. And based on this precise rooting of the accounts of the hadith of Gabriel and the content of his most famous accounts, he confirmed that the hadith of Gabriel with its multiple accounts is one of the complete accounts, because it is the reference and the source of all other signs: “The minor signs of the Day of Judgment are summed up in the spread of three phenomena contrary to the norms and to human nature, namely: corruption of morals, reversal of scales, corruption and idleness. As for the corruption of morals, it was expressed in the hadith that a woman gives birth to her master or mistress, and by this is meant much disobedience of parents and ingratitude. As for the overturning of the ladders, the Prophet, may the prayer and peace of God be upon him, expressed it by saying that barefoot and bare people become the leaders of the people (kings of the people = loss of confidence = betrayal of the oath), and under this sign fall several minor signs mentioned in other narrations, such as the narration: (If the trust is lost, then wait for the Day of Judgment, He said: How is it lost? He said: If the management of public affairs would be entrusted to those who are not competent, then wait for the Day of Judgment). As for the corruption of people and idleness, it was expressed by the Prophet, saying that the shepherds build buildings of high standing (= boastfulness, extravagance and waste). Instead of caring for the human being by cultivating and preserving his dignity and humanity, the concern and care for material things and the adornment of life becomes ostentation, extravagance and waste. With this precise scientific analysis of the hadith of Gabriel and the logical relationship between the minor signs, the lecturer appealed saying, “The time has come to give more attention and care to establishing a new science which has been referred to in this conference as “Judgment Day Science”. This science would shed light on all matters related to the Day of Judgment and its signs.



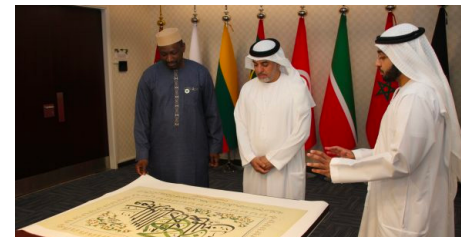
## IIFA and Mohamed bin Zayed University sign an MoU



Within the framework of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy's (IIFA) endeavor to achieve intellectual convergence and knowledge integration between the leading scientific institutions in the member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), and a desire to benefit from the expertise and experiences that are rich in prestigious and well established universities and scientific institutes inside and outside the Muslim world, His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, and His Excellency Dr. Hamdan Musallam Al Mazrouei, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Mohamed bin Zayed University for Human Sciences, signed a strategic cooperation agreement between the two institutions on Sunday 07 Shawwal 1443H corresponding to 08 May 2022G, at the university's headquarters in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates. This new agreement aims to build a strategic partnership in the field of mutual benefit from the scientific and research capacities and capabilities of the two institutions, and a joint

study of contemporary calamities and issues for their proper direction and rationalization. The agreement also aims to jointly organize conferences and symposia, hold workshops and training, exchange publications, and represent the two sides in the work of conferences and symposia that are held by each of them in the field of common interest between them. After signing the memorandum, His Excellency the Secretary General expressed his great joy at the clear development and steady progress that this young university is witnessing, praising the insightful message that this university aims to achieve, and praising the promising programs and the excellent plans included in its curricula, which calls for optimism for the future of its graduates each year. His Excellency also expressed his aspiration that this agreement would be an opportunity for the Academy to benefit from the expertise and scientific capabilities that this university has, by recruiting researchers from its various faculties and institutes to participate in the Academy's sessions, seminars and conferences, in order to enhance close scientific and research cooperation between the two institutions in various fields. His Excellency concluded by calling to start implementing the first joint work represented in a comprehensive review of the new revised edition of the largest contemporary encyclopedia of jurisprudence and fundamental principles, which is "Zayed's Encyclopedia of Fiqh and Usuli Maxims", in an effort to enable scholars and researchers around the world to benefit from this unique scientific treasure. For his part, His Excellency the President of the University expressed his great pleasure on

the occasion of signing this memorandum in order to enhance relations of cooperation and partnership between the University and the Academy, which is the largest scientific body for contemporary collective ijthad. His Excellency added that Mohamed bin Zayed University is looking forward to making the most of the renowned expertise and scientific capabilities of the members and experts of the Academy, noting the university's readiness to start activating all provisions of the agreement in scientific and research fields of common interest, and to exchange knowledge sources and publications. In implementation of the terms of the memorandum, the two parties agreed to form a specialized committee to define aspects of cooperation between them, and the methods and mechanisms of implementation as envisaged in the agreement. The signing ceremony was attended from the University side by His Excellency Dr. Khaled Al Dhaheeri, President of the University, and His Excellency Dr. Khalifa Al Dhaheeri, Vice President of the University for Academic Affairs. On the side of the Academy, Mrs. Sarah Amjad Badawi, Director of the Family and Women's Affairs Department, and Mr. Amjad Ibrahim Al-Mansi, Head of the Protocol Division.



## IIFA Secretary General Participates in AAOIFI's Annual Conference



On Monday 15 Shawwal 1443H corresponding to 16 May 2022G, His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), participated in the 20th Annual Shari'ah Boards Conference of the Accounting and Auditing Organization for Islamic Financial Institutions (AAOIFI) in the Kingdom of Bahrain. The subject of His Excellency's intervention was the possibility of considering the agent in services or the agent in management as a party that may be obligated to redress the loss on the one hand, and the ruling on the investment agent's undertaking to purchase investment units and sukuk from the sukuk holders at a specified price on the other hand. His Excellency began his intervention by defining what is meant by the terms agent in services, agent in management, and agent in investment, where he clarified that the agent in services in modern economy is meant to be in Islamic jurisprudence the agent with wages,

and the hiring, as it is meant by the agent in management, the speculator sometimes, and the lessee some other times. As for the agent in investment, it is intended to refer to the speculator on occasions and the business partner on other occasions. Based on this, His Excellency decided that these three agents, the services agent, the management agent, and the investment agent, may not be obligated to make reparations for the loss or damage of money, and they may not be obligated to guarantee the money they manage unless it is proven that they abused it, or failed to protect it. In other words, these three agents do not guarantee the money that they manage in the event of loss or damage unless they abuse it, or failure in preserving and protecting it, because the agent with a wage is trusted, the hiring is trusted, the speculator is trusted, the business partner is trusted, and there is no guarantee in Shariah on a trustee except in case of abuse or negligence, because the trustee is like the owner of the money, and there is no guarantee on the owner of the money in the event of loss or damage of his money. Likewise, there is no guarantee for the trustee except in the case of abuse and negligence. Then His Excellency clarified that the Shariah rules that dealt with issues and questions of security in Islamic jurisprudence should be preserved and adhered to, and it is not permissible to deviate from them. He also pointed out that these rules are solid and firm, and the most important of which are: The rule of the agent is trustworthy, the rule that there is no guarantee except by infringement, and

the rule of fine in case of benefit, the rule of the agent's hand is a hand of trust, not a hand of guarantee, and the rule of guarantee and wages do not go together. His Excellency also clarified that the failure of the three agents to redress the loss, and not to oblige them to guarantee the money, is considered a preservation of the Shariah purposes in transactions and contracts, especially the purpose of justice between the contracting parties, the purpose of clarity of the pillars and conditions of contracts, and the purpose of the stability and security of rights. As for the Shariah ruling on the extent to which the investment agent or the management agent may undertake to purchase the investment units or sukuk at the nominal value, the market value, or a specific price, His Excellency made it clear that it is not permissible for the management agent or the investment agent to undertake to purchase those units or sukuk, because their pledge to purchase is inconsistent with the principle of risk, which entails accruing a percentage of the profit in the event of a successful investment according to Shariah. If the risk factor is absent, then the right to profit is negated according to Shariah. In conclusion, His Excellency called on those working in Islamic financial institutions to stay away from obligating commitments and promises that contradict Shariah principles and rules, as is the case in this issue. He also called on those interested in the development of the Islamic financial industry to always pay attention to the Shariah purposes in contracts and financial transactions, especially the goals of justice and clarity.



## 19th Monthly Meeting of IIFA's Personnel

H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, chaired the nineteenth monthly periodic meeting of the staff of the Academy, by videoconference from his residence in Abu Dhabi, on Monday 08 Shawwal 1443 corresponding to 09 May 2022. At the beginning of the meeting, he welcomed everyone, thanking them for their presence. He then spoke about his visit to the United Arab Emirates and his participation in the International Conference of the World Council of Muslim Communities on the theme of "Islamic unity... the concept, the opportunities and the challenges". He gave a speech in which he specified that the desired unity is the unity of consciences, the unity of feelings and the unity of rituals. This unity in no way conflicts with modern nation states. And for good reason, the Holy Quran declares this: [O



humanity! Indeed, We created you from a male and a female, and made you peoples and tribes that you might come to know one another] (verse: 13). This verse simply means the multitude of peoples, tribes as well as the multitude of states and nations. Therefore, the desired unity is a

unity in diversity and a diversity in unity where there is social, intellectual and economic unity, and these forms of unity are based on integration, solidarity, cooperation, synergy and support among Muslim peoples. Then he mentioned the memorandum of understanding concluded on Sunday, May 08, 2022 with the Mohamed bin Zayed University of Human Sciences in Abu Dhabi, hoping that this memorandum will open up prospects for cooperation and communication with this young promising university, particularly in the fields of scientific research, the exchange of sources of knowledge and publications, as well as the organization of conferences, seminars and workshops. His Excellency concluded by thanking everyone and calling for cooperation, integration and solidarity.

## 37th Periodic Meeting of Divisions Heads



On Thursday 11 Shawwal 1443 corresponding to May 12, 2022, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, chaired

the thirty-sixth meeting of heads of division, at the headquarters of the General Secretariat in Jeddah. At the beginning of the meeting, he welcomed the division heads, thanking them for their presence. He then spoke of his participation in the Hashemite Meetings held in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in Amman, where he gave a lecture entitled "The Signs of the Day of Judgment" featured in the hadith of Gabriel. He then highlighted on his visit to Abu Dhabi, and his participation in the Conference of Islamic Unity, where he delivered an important speech in which he spoke of the need to correct the concept of unity and interpret it as unity in diversity and diversity in unity. This unity in no way signifies the unification of the Islamic peoples into a single state, but the existence of

the peoples is an inevitable divine rule. The meeting discussed the decisions issued by the previous meeting, and several new decisions were issued, the most important of which:

- Preparation of an outline for the conduct of the symposium on the organization of Islamic charitable activities and on issues such as immigration, asylum and displacement, with a view to adopting resolutions thereon by the Academy.
- Call for researchers to write papers for the specialized symposium entitled: "The institution of the family: Challenges and horizons".
- Tracking and sending revised issues of the Journal of the Academy to the printer to determine the cost of printing in order to print it before the 25th session.

## 38th Periodic Meeting of Divisions Heads

On Thursday, 25 Shawwal 1443H corresponding to 26 May 2022G, His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the thirty-eighth periodic meeting of division heads, through video communication technology, from his residence in the American capital, Washington. At the beginning of the meeting, His Excellency welcomed the heads of divisions and thanked them for their regular attendance at these important periodic meetings that discuss the issues and works of the Academy and urged everyone to continue working hard to achieve the objectives of the Academy. Then he talked about the participation of the Academy's delegation in the strategic dialogue between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the United States of America, which was organized by the US State Department at its headquarters in Washington. His Excellency stated that this dialogue dealt in detail with many issues and topics of common interest, such as the topics of combating extremism, terrorism, religious phobia, environmental and health

issues, women's empowerment and others. His Excellency also added that the delegation of the Academy took advantage of its presence in the United States of America to hold meetings with a number of prominent institutions, organizations and centers in the United States, especially those concerned with issues and themes that intersect with the goals and objectives of the Academy. The delegation visited the Institute of Religious Freedom in Washington and met with its President, Dr. Thomas Farr. The delegation also visited the Religions for Peace Foundation in New York City and signed with them a strategic cooperation agreement. The meeting discussed the items of decisions issued by the previous meeting, and several new decisions were issued, the most important of which are:

- Preparing an integrated concept for holding a specialized seminar on Islamic charitable work and related issues such as immigration, asylum and displacement.
- Starting the call for papers on the themes of the specialized symposium entitled "The institution Family Challenges and horizons".



- Forming a scientific committee at the Academy to review the research of the symposium on stunning poultry & animals, provided that it finishes its work before the end of this month.
- Forming a specialized committee tasked with collecting and displaying pictures of the old members of the Academy in the corridors of the ground floor of the headquarters of the Academy, to be ready before the next symposium of the Academy.

## 76th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors

The General Secretariat of the Academy held its 76th weekly meeting of department directors on Thursday 11 Shawwal 1443 corresponding to 12 May 2022, at the headquarters of the General Secretariat in Jeddah. His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, started the meeting by congratulating everyone on the occasion of Eid Al-Fitr, asking God to grant success to all. He then spoke about the visit he will make to the United States of America, in order to activate the strategic partnership between the American administration and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). His Excellency also spoke about the visit of the delegation of Ummah



scholars led by the Academy to Afghanistan to discuss many issues. He also indicated during the meeting the need to hold a special meeting to discuss the strategic plan and the activities and programs that have been carried out during the

first quarter of this year. The meeting then issued decisions, the most important of which are:

- Organization of a specialized symposium on the institution of the family, its challenges and its prospects in the 21st century, next September.
- Invite new researchers and technicians from Muslim communities in countries such as Brazil, Sweden, Belgium and Germany to participate in the next symposium on the stunning of chickens before slaughter.
- Prepare a detailed report and a clear concept of the annual evaluation of employees at all levels and present it to the General Secretary for discussion at a special meeting.

## 77th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors



The General Secretariat of the Academy held its 77th weekly meeting of department directors on Monday 15 Shawwal 1443 corresponding to 16 May 2022, at the headquarters of the General Secretariat in Jeddah. H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, opened the meeting by welcoming the participants. He

then spoke about his visit to the UAE Consulate in Jeddah to offer his condolences on the passing of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, who passed away on Friday, May 13, 2022. He also congratulated His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan on his election by the Supreme Council of the State as President of the United Arab Emirates to succeed Sheikh Khalifa, asking Almighty God to grant him success in the service of his people and the Muslim Ummah and to be the best successor of the best predecessor. The meeting discussed the points of the decisions issued by the previous meeting, and several new decisions were issued, the most important of which are:

- Send a reminder to all departments regarding the preparation of a comprehensive report

from each department on the activities and programs carried out in accordance with the annual strategic plan for the first quarter.

- Prepare a report regarding the financial cost of printing the latest issues of the Journal of the Academy, attaching quotes from other companies for comparison and choosing the best and cheapest offers.
- Reactivate the committees that were formed at the Cryptocurrency Symposium to work as specified to them at the Poultry and Animal Stunning Symposium to be held with the General Food and Drug Authority.
- Prepare a detailed report and a clear concept of the annual evaluation of employees of all levels, and what is related to promotions and bonuses for employees in accordance with the OIC statute.

## 78th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors

The General Secretariat of the Academy held its 78th weekly meeting for department directors on Monday 24 Shawwal 1443 corresponding to May 25, 2022, by videoconference. H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, welcomed the participants, thanked them, then spoke about his current visit to the United States of America to participate in the strategic dialogue organized by the Department of American State between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the United States of America in Washington. During his participation, he made a point of introducing the Academy and highlighting its most significant achievements in many areas of common interest between the OIC and the United States, including the issuance of

resolutions and recommendations calling for to combat extremist ideology and terrorism, to spread a culture of moderation, tolerance and coexistence, and to promote the middle ground within and outside the Muslim world, as well as to correct misconceptions about the teachings and principles of Islam, and practices that contradict the values of Islam with regard to women's issues such as education, participation, rights and duties. He clarified that the Academy has expressed its full willingness to enhance cooperation and understanding between some of the affiliated agencies of the US State Department and the Academy in the aforementioned areas. The meeting took decisions, the most important of which:

- Remind departments of the need to submit

their reports on activities and programs that have been accomplished in accordance with the annual strategic plan for the first quarter.

- Submit a full report regarding the financial cost of printing the latest issues of the Academy's Science Magazine.



## 79th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors



H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, chaired the 79th weekly meeting of department directors on Monday 30 Shawwal 1443 corresponding to May 31, 2022. He welcomed the participants, thanked them for their participation, then he spoke about the latest news from its visit to the United States of America, where the Academy delegation held a meeting with the Executive Director of the Council for American Islamic Relations (CAIR)

in Washington, DC, discussing possible aspects of cooperation and coordination between the two parties, especially regarding issues and conditions of Muslim communities in the United States of America. It should be noted that this council is considered the official spokesperson for Muslims and is recognized by the US government. He also informed the meeting that the delegation would hold a series of activities and scientific meetings, in addition to signing a memo of cooperation with the Religions for Peace Foundation, which is concerned with religious affairs and the extent of its contribution to the maintenance of security, peace and stability. In addition he informed that he was invited by the officials of the famous Al-Hijrah Mosque in the American capital, Washington, United States of America, to deliver the Friday sermon and then to lead the prayer of the Friday. The meeting issued several

decisions, the most important of which:

- Preparation of a plan for holding a symposium on the phenomenon of Islamophobia and presenting to the Permanent Representation of Pakistan to the OIC to host the event.
- Verify attendance and departure dates and determine the itinerary of Poultry Stunning Symposium attendees when sending tickets to attendees.
- Prepare contractual clauses which clearly and precisely include the conditions required for the printing of the scientific magazine of the Academy.
- Communicate with the OIC General Secretariat regarding the holding of a specialized symposium on "the institution of the family, its challenges and horizons in the 21st century", in order to cooperate and coordinate with them for the holding of this symposium.



## Rays of Light on the Lives of the Academy's Living Scholars (3)

Four decades have passed since the leaders of the Muslim world created the largest contemporary institution of collective Ijtihad, whose members consist of the elite and eminent contemporary Shariah scholars, supported by distinguished experts in natural sciences, sociology, economics and politics, with the aim of studying contemporary life problems and clarifying the legal provisions on issues of concern to Muslims worldwide, based on the teachings of the Holy Qur'an, the Sunnah; and the supreme objectives of the Shari'ah, and in accordance with the pious predecessors' methodology in legal deduction and inference, as well as the legal and jurisprudential maxims that have passed through the generations. By the grace of Allah, this institution has become the primary reference in fiqh matters, where OIC Member states and Muslim communities seek refuge to learn about the rulings of Shariah concerning the current calamities and

developments in life, and the practical scientific recommendations for guidance, clarification and orientation. As the ascetic Imam Abdullah Ibn Al-Mubarak once said, "The blessed science is that which is referred to its people". The Secretariat General of the Academy believes that there is an urgent need to make known to future generations the journey of those eminent jurists and scholars who concluded these outstanding resolutions and issued these clear recommendations, beginning with those of them who diseased and joined the Supreme Companion, may Allah have mercy on them and place them in His spacious gardens; and thus concluding with those who continue to enlighten us with their brilliant achievements, May Allah bless them with health and well-being, and may He prolong their lives. This blessed initiative by the Academy is to reassure those far and near that the resolutions and recommendations

are correct, as they are issued by prominent scholars known for their piety and fear of Allah, who mastered the instruments and skills of jurisprudential examination, and who fulfilled the requirements of Ijtihad and the ethics of Ifta. To fulfil this crucial responsibility, the Secretariat General of the Academy has decided to devote space in its monthly newsletter to present a brief biography of the Academy's members as scholars and experts, in appreciation of their work and recognition of their contributions, while praying for mercy and acceptance to them. We pray to Allah to assist us in completing this work as soon as possible; we only want to reform as much as we can, and our success is solely dependent on Allah, the Highest, the Greatest.

Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano  
Secretary General of the Academy

### His Eminence Prof. Ali Gomaa

Born on March 3, 1952, in Beni Suef governorate, Arab Republic of Egypt, Prof. Ali Gomaa Mohamed Abdel Wahab earned a bachelor's degree from the Faculty of Islamic and Arabic Studies at Al-Azhar University in 1979, a master's degree and a doctorate in Usul al-Fiqh from the Faculty of Sharia and Law in 1985 and 1988, with the highest distinction, respectively. His Eminence has served in various duties as Mufti of Egypt from 2003 to 2013, Professor of Usul at the Islamic Studies Faculty of Al-Azhar University, Chairman of the Misr Al-Khair Board of Trustees, co-supervisor of Harvard University in Egypt in the Department of Oriental Studies, co-supervisor of Oxford University in the Middle East in Islamic and Arabic Studies, and Chairman of the Fiqh Committee of Al-Azhar's Council of Senior Scholars. His Eminence was appointed as a member of the Egyptian House of Representatives in 2021, a member of Al-Azhar's Council of Senior Scholars, and is an active member of the Egyptian Scientific Academy, of Al-Azhar's Ifta



Committee, of the Royal Aal al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, of the Fiqh Studies Committee of the Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs. In addition, His Eminence has received several decorations and awards, mainly the Star of Jerusalem, Shield of the Egyptian Army, First Class Medal of Science and Arts, and the First Class Medal of Independence of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. His Eminence authored significant books,

articles, and studies, including The Effect of the Subject Matter's Alteration or Disappearance on Judgments, Islam and Equality between Reality and Aspiration, Ifta between Jurisprudence and Reality, Sharia Rulings according to Usuli jurists, Commandments and prohibitions according to the Usulis, The consensus according to the Usuli jurists, the analogy according to the Usuli jurists, Companions' Opinions according to Usuli jurists, Tools of Ijtihad, Extent of Dreams as Arguments according to Usul jurists, Renewal in Usul Fiqh, the question of the term "Usuli" with application on analogy's definition, The Prophet's Four Examples of Coexistence with each other, Introduction to the study of Madahib, Encyclopedia of Authenticated Fatwas, Fatwas Volumes, Supplications and Remembrance, Exegesis of the Noble Qur'an, Rules of Jurisprudential Renewal, Islamic Truths face-to-face with Suspicions. As a member of the Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, H.E. Prof. Ali Gomaa has represented the Arab Republic of Egypt since 2004.

### His Eminence Prof. Kamel Bouzidi

Born in 1956 in Algiers, Prof. Kamal Bouzidi earned his baccalaureate in 1977 at Amara Rachid High School, a bachelor's degree in 1986 at the Faculty of Islamic Sciences in Caroubier, and a magister degree in jurisprudence and its foundations in 1992 with a thesis entitled: "A Companion's Opinion and its Influence on Sharia rulings", and earned a state doctorate in jurisprudence and contemporary fiqh issues, entitled: "Exemption in Sharia and its Impact on Contemporary Fiqh Rulings". His Eminence served in important scientific positions as Chairman of the Scientific Council of the University of Algiers's Faculty of Islamic Sciences (Le Caroubier), Director of the Sharia Department, and Chairman of the Scientific Committee of the Faculty of Sharia and Law at the same university, respectively. His Eminence has also served as an expert member for the Evaluation

Committee of Islamic Sciences Curricula under the Ministry of Higher Education, as well as coordinator of the scientific colloquia organized by the Faculty of Islamic Sciences monthly. His Eminence has also been a senior member of several institutions, including the Supreme Islamic Council (Algeria), National Ifta Committee of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Awqaf, National Committee of Religious Affairs of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Awqaf, National Committee of Fatwas and Islamic Financial Industry of the Supreme Islamic Council, as well as the chairman of the Ifta Committee of the Supreme Islamic Council. As a member of the Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, H.E. Prof. Kamel Bouzidi has represented the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria since April 29, 2009.



## His Eminence Sheikh Muhammad Al-Mukhtar Ould Imbala



Born in 1957 in Imbala, Mauritania, H.E. Sheikh Muhammad Al-Mukhtar earned a bachelor's degree (higher diploma) from the Higher Institute of Islamic Studies and Research of Mauritania. His Eminence has served several important positions as chairman (with minister grade) at the Higher Council of Ifta and Grievances in Mauritania, advisor (with minister grade) for Islamic Affairs at the Mauritanian Presidency, member of the Independent Elections Committee, chairman of the Higher Hajj Committee; chairman of the Board of Directors of the Technical Training Centre for Mahdhara (traditional school) Graduates, the Supreme

Islamic Council (with minister grade), teacher at Ibn Abbas Islamic Studies Institute; professor at the National School of Administration, the University of Nouakchott, the Higher Institute of Islamic Studies and Research of Mauritania; member of Chinguetti Prize's Board of Directors, the Waqf Council, the Islamic Fiqh Council of the Muslim World League, and the Maliki Fiqh Advisory Council in Daleel (Dubai). As a member of the Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, H.E. Sheikh Muhammad Al-Mukhtar Ould Imbala has represented the Islamic Republic of Mauritania since March 9, 2011.

## His Eminence Dr. Hamza Abu Fares

Born in 1945 in Libya, Dr. Hamza Abu Fares earned a special teaching license in Arabic language and religion in 1967, and a secondary certificate (literary stream) in 1971, then studied at the Faculty of Education (formerly École Normale Supérieure) in Tripoli in the Languages Department, obtaining a French language and literature bachelor's in 1975, then he enrolled in postgraduate studies at the Faculty of Education in Tripoli. His Eminence also earned a diploma in Islamic studies in 1980, a master's from the Faculty of Education in Tripoli in 1984, and a state doctorate in 2000 in Islamic sciences (comparative jurisprudence) from Al-Zaytouna University in Tunis, entitled "Qadi Abdul-Wahhab Al-Baghdadi and his Exegesis Methodology of Al-Rissala".



His Eminence has worked as a professor at the Department of Sharia - Faculty of Law at the University of Tripoli, as a visiting professor at the European Institute of Humanities in Paris the Château de Chignon. His Eminence has examined and supervised more than eighty theses and dissertations and has participated in numerous research seminars in Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Mauritania, United Arab Emirates, United States, Jordan, Qatar, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia. He has also served as Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs in Libya. As a member of the Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, H.E. Dr. Hamza Abu Fares has represented the State of Libya since September 13, 2012.

## His Eminence Dr. Abdul Rahman Muhammad Ali

Born in 1971 in Djibouti, Dr. Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Ali received a bachelor's degree from Imam Muhammad Islamic University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, a master's degree from Al Jazeera University in Sudan, and a doctorate from the University of the Noble Qur'an and Authentic Knowledge in Sudan. His Eminence has served in various positions as Chairman of the Supreme Council of Fatwa, Chairman of the Djiboutian Scholars Association, Friday Khatib at Al-Aqsa Mosque in Balboa, Djibouti, Deputy Chairman of the National Sharia Supervisory Board at the Centre Bank, Chairman of the Dawah and Guidance Department at the Islamic Affairs Ministry in Djibouti, Professor at the Yemeni School, and Head of the Voluntary Committee of the Diwan



Zakat Foundation in Djibouti. His Eminence has also participated in many television and radio programs. As a member of the Council

of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, H.E. Dr. Abdul Rahman Muhammad Ali has represented Djibouti since March 22, 2015.



## His Eminence Sheikh Dr. Othman Batikh



Born in 1941 in the Republic of Tunisia, H.E. Dr. Othman Batikh earned a graduation certificate in 1963, a law degree in 1967 and a Sharia degree in 1972 from the Department of Fiqh and Sharia Policies, and a third-cycle doctorate, followed by a state doctorate in 1982. His Eminence has served in significant positions as judicial judge at the Tunis Court of First Instance from 1968 to 1971, professor at the Faculty of Sharia and Theology at al-Zaytuna University from 1980 to 2001, member of the Supreme Islamic Council from 1987 to 2010, advisor to Tunis Municipality for three parliamentary sessions, attaché to the Republic's Presidency in charge of Religious Affairs Department from 2005

to 2010, Imam at Al-Zaytouna Mosque from 2002 to 2010, and Imam-Khatib at Mahrez bin Khalaf Mosque, then at Al-Abidin Mosque in Carthage. His Eminence was Mufti of the Tunisian Republic from 2009 to 2013, Minister of Religious Affairs in 2015, and again the Republic's Mufti with minister grade from 2016 to date. Some of his research and articles have been published in local and international journals and newspapers. As a member of the Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, H.E. Sheikh Dr. Othman Batikh has represented the Republic of Tunisia since March 22, 2015.

## His Eminence Dr. Abdullah Idris Abu Bakr Mega

Born in 1950 in Niger, H.E. Dr. Abdullah Idris Abu Bakr Mega began his basic education by learning the Noble Qur'an and the principles of Islamic sciences from the village katatib (traditional schools), and then studied under Sheikhs and their circles in Niamey between 1957 and 1971. His Eminence obtained a certificate of secondary studies in 1974 and enrolled at the Islamic High School of the Islamic University of Madinah in 1977, until obtaining a bachelor's from the Faculty of Sharia in 1981 and a master's in Islamic Jurisprudence in 1985 from the same university. In 1992, His Eminence earned a state doctorate from the Faculty of Letters and Humanities' Islamic Studies Department at Mohammed V University in Morocco. His

Eminence has held significant positions at local and international levels, as a member of the National Preparatory Committee for Establishing the Islamic University of Niger, faculty member and head of the Faculty of Islamic Studies and Arabic language, lecturer at the Faculty of Sharia and Islamic Studies, Vice-Dean of the College of Sharia and Islamic Studies, Vice-Rector, at the Islamic University of Niger respectively, as well as Imam-Khatib of the Prince Sultan Cultural Centre Mosque in Niamey. His Eminence has participated in numerous symposiums and conferences. As a member of the Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, H.E. Dr. Abdullah Idris Abu Bakr Mega has represented the Republic of Niger since March 14, 2017.



## His Eminence Dr. Hamza Moustapha Maiga

Born in 1976 in Mali, H.E. Dr. Hamza Mustafa Maiga earned a bachelor's degree in 1996 in Arabic Language, Islamic Studies and Political Science, a master's degree in 1999 in Dawah and Civilization, and a Doctorate in 2004 in Comparative Religions and Religious Dialogue from the Open University of Tripoli, Libya. His Eminence has held significant positions in Mali, including as Professor of Islamic Education and Civilization at the Institute of Arab Studies at the World Islamic Call Society (WICS), Imam-Khatib at WICS Mosque, Secretary-General



of the Foundation for Solidarity and Aid to the Malian People, Founding President of the National Council of Students of Arabic Language and Islamic Culture in Mali, Deputy and First Assistant to the President of the National Union of Muslim Youth in Mali, researcher and lecturer on Islam inside and outside Mali, and Secretary for Religious Affairs at Muslim Spiritual Leaders Congress of Mali. As a member of the Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, H.E. Dr. Hamza Mustafa Maiga has represented the Republic of Mali Since March 14, 2017.

## His Eminence Sheikh Datuk Haji Wan Zahedi



Born in 1942 in Malaysia, H.E. Sheikh Datuk Haji Wan Zahedi earned a bachelor's degree in 1971 and a Master's degree in 1974 from Al-Azhar University. His Eminence has held significant positions in Malaysia as a senior official in the Ministry of Education, lecturer in the Faculty of Sharia at Kebangsaan University, a professional officer at the Deputy Prime Minister's office, a lecturer in the Faculty of Law at the same university, an international advisor on Islam and Sharia to Yayasan Dawah Islamiya, President of Sultan Azlan Shah University, Federal Mufti in Malaysia, and Honorary Fellow of the Islamic University of Malaysia. In addition, His Eminence has been a member of Malaysian

Fatwa Committees, of Federal Islamic Bodies, Board member of Malaysian Islamic Foundation for Economic Development, PPZ-MAIWP, and MAIWP, Chairman of Dar Al-Hadith Malaysia, and Chairman of National Committee of Ifta since October 2017. His Eminence received the Most Distinguished Personality Award on several occasions, including at the mawlid and hijra celebrations in 1437, respectively, and at the hijra celebration in the State of Perak in 1438. As a member of the Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, H.E. Sheikh Datuk Haji Wan Zahedi has represented Malaysia since November 3, 2019.

## His Eminence Sheikh Ahmed bin Abdelaziz Al-Haddad

Born in 1955, Sheikh Dr. Ahmed bin Abdulaziz bin Qassim Al-Haddad received his bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees in Islamic Law from Umm Al-Qura University. His Eminence has served in significant positions as the Grand Mufti and Director of Dubai's Ifta Department, member of the Dubai Council of Senior Scholars, member of the Emirate Ifta Council representing the Emirate of Dubai, member of the Emirate Ifta Committee at Abu Dhabi Judicial Department, member of the Council of Muslim Elders, chairman of the Supreme Sharia Council for Islamic Financial Banks at the Central Bank, Associate Professor at Mohamed bin Zayed University for Humanities, Associate Professor at



the College of Islamic Studies and Imam Malik College for Sharia and Law, member of the Sharia Committee for Classification and Control at the General Council of Islamic Banks and Financial Institutions, an expert member at the Islamic Fiqh Council of the Muslim World League, AAOIFI member, member of the Sharia Committee of the General Awqaf Authority, member of Zakat Fund's Sharia Committee, as well as other Sharia committees in different financial institutions. As a member of the Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, H.E. Sheikh Ahmed bin Abdulaziz Al-Haddad has represented the United Arab Emirates since March 14, 2017.

## His Eminence Prof. Abdullah Al-Najjar

Born in 1948 in Gharbia governorate in Egypt, H.E. Dr. Abdullah Mabrouk Al-Najjar finished memorizing the Noble Qur'an at age ten and joined the Religious Science Institute in Dessouq region, affiliated to Al-Azhar, and then graduated from Al-Azhar preparatory and secondary schools. His Eminence then continued at Al-Azhar's Faculty of Sharia and Law, obtaining a bachelor's in Sharia and Law in 1975, a master's in Comparative Jurisprudence in 1979, then a doctorate in Comparative Jurisprudence, with highest distinction, in 1984. His Eminence held significant positions, as the first dean of the Faculty of Higher Studies at Al-Azhar University, professor at the Faculty of Sharia and Law, professor of higher studies and head of the Department of Private Law at the Faculty of Islamic Studies and Arabic Language for Girls at the same university. His Eminence has also been a member of Al-Azhar's Islamic Research Academy, the Supreme Council of Al-Azhar, the Supreme Committee for Legislative Reform at the Ministry of Justice, and the Fifth Egyptian

Constitution Drafting Committee. His Eminence has served as Egypt's expert at the Arab Women's Organization, chairman of the Board of Trustees of Imam Hussein Mosque, chairman of the Board of Trustees of Sayyida Nafisa Mosque in Cairo, Secretary of the Promotion Committee of Al-Azhar Professors and various Egyptian and Arab universities, member of the Council of Al-Azhar University and the Councils of the Faculties of Sharia, Law, Islamic and Arabic Studies for Girls, Chairman of the Committee for Updating Islamic Jurisprudence and Dismantling Extremist Thought at the Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs, alternate rapporteur of the Fiqh Research Committee, rapporteur of Al-Quds Committee, and member of the Committees of Quranic Sciences, Sunnah, and Theology at Al-Azhar's Islamic Research Academy. His Eminence is the recipient of the First-Class State Medal for Science and Arts. H.E. Prof. Abdullah Al-Najjar has been an appointed member from the Arab Republic of Egypt in the International Islamic Fiqh Academy since April 25, 2009.



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