



مَنْظَرُ التَّعَاوُنِ الْإِسْلَامِيِّ

Organisation of Islamic Cooperation  
Organisation de la Coopération Islamique



مَجْلِسُ الْفِقْهِ الْإِسْلَامِيِّ الدَّوْلِيِّ  
International Islamic Fiqh Academy  
Académie Internationale du Fiqh Islamique

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY THE INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC FIQH ACADEMY | PUBLISHED IN ARABIC, ENGLISH AND FRENCH | Jumada al-Akhirah 1447 - December 2025

## May Allah Grant His Mercy to Abu Tareq and Envelop Him in His Grace



The Almighty said:

“And We will surely test you with something of fear and hunger and a loss of wealth and lives and fruits; but give glad tidings to the patient, those who, when disaster strikes them, say, ‘Indeed we belong to Allah, and indeed to Him we will return.’” [Qur’an 2:155–156]  
How heavy was the news of the passing of our dear brother and loyal friend, Abu Tareq, His Excellency Professor Dr. Muhammad bin Ali bin Faraj Al-‘Aqla, former President of the Islamic University of Madinah, who met his destined end at dawn on Tuesday, the 11th of Jumada al-Akhirah, 1447 AH, corresponding to December 2, 2025.

I came to know His Excellency, may Allah have mercy on him, a quarter of a century ago as a distinguished scholar, an eloquent debater, and a seasoned administrator who left clear marks in every position he held at

Umm Al-Qura University and the Islamic University of Madinah. During his presidency, the Islamic University witnessed a qualitative transformation in its colleges, programmes, and academic specialisations, along with a significant expansion of its infrastructure and buildings. The university at that time also experienced a remarkable scholarly movement and strengthened international academic partnerships with prestigious universities and institutions worldwide.

He was, may God have mercy on him, a man in every noble sense of the word—pure, sincere, moderate; truthful in brotherhood, loyal in friendship, loving of goodness, dedicated in his work, generous in dealings, dignified in stature, humble in speech, gentle in dialogue, refined in manners, noble and generous in giving, pleasant in companionship, always smiling, kind-hearted, combining

scholarly dignity with human tenderness. No companion ever tired of his company, nor did anyone weary of conversing with him.

His home, may Allah have mercy on him, was always filled with the finest sons of the land of the Two Holy Mosques—imams of the Haramain, scholars, and dignitaries. During his presidency of the Islamic University, he was known for his “open-door policy,” being close to the university’s students who came from more than 150 countries. He would visit their residences, check on their conditions, and resolve their problems and concerns.

May Allah have mercy on you, Abu Tareq. You lived honourably, departed honourably, and will remain honoured in our hearts, because you are honourable, the son of an honourable man, from an honourable land. May Allah gather us with you in the highest gardens of Paradise, in a seat of truth near the Sovereign, the Omnipotent.

On this sad occasion, the International Islamic Fiqh Academy—its President, members, experts, and staff—extends its sincere condolences to the family of the dear departed, asking the Almighty Lord to forgive him, envelop him in His vast mercy, grant him spacious gardens, and gather him with the prophets, the truthful, the martyrs, and the righteous—what excellent companions they are. We also ask the Exalted One to inspire his family and loved ones, especially his dutiful sons Tareq, Ali, Aqil, Abdullah, and their sisters, with patience, solace, and acceptance of Allah’s decree.

Your brother and loving friend, who will continue to pray for your forgiveness and mercy as long as he lives:

Paradise is your abode, and may God bless  
your descendants

Koutoub Moustapha Sano  
Secretary-General of the International Islamic  
Fiqh Academy

## Secretary-General Takes Part in the Third Annual General Assembly of the IFHAB



His Excellency Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy, participated in the third annual meeting of the General Assembly of the Islamic Forum for Halal Accreditation Bodies (IFHAB), held in Makkah on Thursday, 20 Jumada al-Akhirah 1447 AH, corresponding to 11 December 2025, with the attendance of representatives of accreditation bodies from OIC member states.

At the beginning of his speech, His Excellency expressed his sincere thanks, appreciation, and gratitude to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia—its King, Crown Prince, government, and people—for their generous patronage of this meeting, which reflects the Kingdom's leading role in supporting halal quality at the international level and in unifying efforts to develop the global halal sector. He also conveyed his deep appreciation to the organisers of the meeting, praising the efforts of Dr Adel Al-Qaeed, President of IFHAB, and his distinguished team for their commendable efforts. His Excellency then spoke about the significant changes that have occurred in the halal industry in the contemporary world, noting that these emerging issues are known only to Allah Almighty, and—by His grace—to the firmly grounded scholars whom Allah grants the ability to understand the rulings related to such developments.

He also highlighted the Academy's role in clarifying Shariah rulings on new and emerging issues, emphasising that the Academy is the highest authority on fiqh for the Muslim Ummah. It brings together an elite group of leading scholars, jurists, and expert researchers who convene to study contemporary issues, provide effective scholarly solutions, clarify appropriate

Shariah rulings, and issue relevant resolutions and recommendations.

His Excellency noted that the Academy has an extensive history in this field, having issued numerous resolutions on matters such as slaughtering, poultry stunning, consumption, dairy products, milk banks, and others. He stressed the importance of institutions and companies issuing halal certificates, citing the resolutions and recommendations of fiqh academies and Shariah bodies, which are the qualified authorities for determining Shariah rulings on contemporary halal industry developments.

He further emphasised the importance of cooperation, compassion, and adherence to the concept of unity mentioned in the Qur'anic verse: "Indeed, this Ummah of yours is one Ummah, and I am your Lord, so fear Me." (Surat al-Mu'minun, 52). He explained that the intended unity is unity of sentiment and unity of religious practice among Muslim peoples.

He cited the Prophet's saying:

"The example of the believers in their affection, mercy, and compassion for one another is like that of a body; when any limb aches, the whole body reacts with sleeplessness and fever."

This, he noted, is a profound illustration of unity of feeling, calling for solidarity, cooperation, and mutual compassion among Muslims.

As for the unity of religious practice, he referenced the Prophet's saying:

"Whoever prays our prayer, faces our qiblah, and eats from our slaughtered animals is a Muslim who has the protection of Allah and His Messenger."

He explained that prayer, facing the qiblah, and consuming the slaughtered animals of Muslims are living examples of unity in religious practice, affirming the strength of the bond and the depth of brotherhood. This obliges scholars to work toward strengthening this unity by standardizing the criteria and measurements used to determine halal status in clothing, food, medicine, and other products.

His Excellency's address was warmly received by the participants, who praised his remarks highlighting the importance of affection, mercy, and compassion. The Muslim Ummah, they agreed, is in greater need today than ever before to reinforce these manifestations—both in sentiment and in practice—to achieve the unity called for by the Qur'an and the noble Sunnah.

The meeting was attended by Dr. Omar Zuhair Hafiz, Special Advisor to the Secretary-General; Dr. Abdullah Omar Al-Tamimi, Director of the Fatwa, Review, and Libraries Department; and Mr. Amjad Ibrahim Mustafa Al-Mansi, Head of the Protocol Division.



## Secretary-General Chairs the Third Session of the 41st IIUM Convocation in Kuala Lumpur



On Sunday 16 Jumada al-Akhirah 1447 AH, corresponding to 7th of December 2025, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, His Excellency Professor Dato' Dr. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), delivered a distinguished address during Session Three of the 41st Convocation Ceremony at the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM). The ceremony brought together senior university leaders, faculty members, parents, and graduating students to celebrate academic excellence and the University's enduring mission of harmonising intellectual pursuit with ethical and spiritual purpose.

Congratulating the graduates, Professor Sano described the occasion as “a remarkable milestone that reflects not only your hard work and determination, but also the prayers and guidance of your parents, mentors, and friends.” He praised IIUM's multicultural environment, noting that the University—home to students from more than 120 countries—stands as a living model of unity in diversity. “In this age of interconnectedness, our world has become a global village, and IIUM embodies a global ummah united within its diversity,” he remarked, urging graduates to transform cultural differences into bridges of understanding.

Addressing graduates from the Kulliyah of Economics and Management Sciences, he challenged them to confront today's economic

and social realities through cooperation and ethical leadership. “Through principled leadership and creative ideas, may you guide humanity toward a fair and sustainable future—one where prosperity is shared and dignity upheld,” he said, emphasising that collective action remains the key to overcoming even the most daunting obstacles. Turning to graduates of the Kulliyah of Dentistry, Professor Sano stressed that professional excellence must be anchored in moral character. “Skills without values are hollow, and values without skills are meaningless,” he observed, calling on the



new professionals to become healers “whose hands treat, whose words comfort, and whose character inspires.”

The address took on a deeply personal tone when Professor Sano shared his pride in seeing two of his daughters graduate on the same day—Aminata Koutoub Sano, who completed her studies at the Graduate School of Management, and his youngest daughter, Jannah Koutoub Sano, who joined the alumni family during the ceremony.

Describing the moment as profoundly meaningful, he reflected that “the bonds of kinship and the bonds of knowledge remain enduring and unbroken,” adding that such occasions demonstrate how education weaves families and generations together in a shared legacy of faith, learning, and service.

Encouraging graduates to maintain lifelong

ties with their alma mater, he observed that “a university's true strength lies in the excellence, contributions, and integrity of its graduates,” and urged them to return as mentors, collaborators, researchers, and benefactors who would enrich future generations.

Professor Sano also expressed deep appreciation to IIUM's management, lecturers, and administrators, as well as to the leadership and people of Malaysia, while paying special tribute to parents for their sacrifices. “Your love and support remain the cornerstone of these achievements,” he affirmed.

Concluding his remarks, he prayed for the graduates to become agents of positive change, ethical leaders, and devoted contributors



to humanity before formally conferring the degrees upon the graduating class—bringing years of dedication to a proud and celebratory close and marking the beginning of new journeys of service and achievement.



## High-Level Palestinian Delegation Pays a Courtesy Visit to the Academy

His Excellency Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy, received a high-level Palestinian delegation headed by Dr. Ahmad Abu Houli, Head of the Refugee Affairs Department in the Palestine Liberation Organisation, on Wednesday, 27 Jumada al-Akhirah 1447 AH, corresponding to 18 December 2025, at the Academy's General Secretariat headquarters in Jeddah. His Excellency welcomed the visiting delegation, expressing his gratitude and appreciation for the visit and praising the Palestinian side's keenness to strengthen ties of communication and cooperation with the Academy. He also took the opportunity to express his profound gratitude to the State of Palestine for its continued support for the Academy. He reviewed the Academy's activities, programs, and objectives, particularly those related to raising awareness of the centrality of the Palestinian cause in its resolutions and statements. He affirmed that the Palestinian cause remains the foremost and central issue in the conscience of the Muslim Ummah, noting that the Academy has issued numerous resolutions and statements underscoring this centrality, calling for the defence of the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, and supporting the Palestinian people in attaining their legitimate rights to live freely, safely, and stably on their land. He also reiterated the Academy's readiness to provide all forms of scholarly, juristic, and intellectual support to the Palestinian people and to help lift the injustice



and oppression they have endured for decades. For his part, Dr. Ahmad Abu Houli expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the Secretary-General for the warm reception, praising the Academy's role and its steadfast positions in support of the Palestinian cause. He briefed His Excellency on the latest political and humanitarian developments in the Gaza Strip, as well as the serious escalation of Israeli violations in the West Bank, including Jerusalem. He also outlined the severe challenges facing the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), amid attempts to undermine and terminate its work. He called on the Academy to take practical steps to support the agency, foremost among them issuing a fatwa permitting Muslims to allocate their zakat funds to it, thereby helping sustain its humanitarian role in serving more than 6.5 million Palestinian refugees. At the conclusion of the meeting, His Excellency affirmed the Academy's readiness to work on issuing a fatwa regarding the permissibility

of directing zakat funds to support UNRWA, noting that it is an international body specialised in providing aid and assistance to Palestinian refugees. He also indicated that the Academy, in coordination with the State of Palestine, will hold an international symposium on this topic before the month of Ramadan.

Attending the meeting from the Palestinian side were: His Excellency Mr. Omar Awadallah, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates for Political Affairs;

His Excellency Ambassador Hadi Shibli, Permanent Representative of the State of Palestine to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation; His Excellency Mr. Ihab Al-Qeisawi, Consul General of the State of Palestine in Jeddah; and His Excellency Mr. Naseem Al-Za'anin, Deputy Permanent Representative of the State of Palestine to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

It was also attended by Mr. Muhammad Al-Munzir Ridha Al-Shawk, Director of the Cabinet and Protocol Department; Mr. Muhammad Walid Al-Idrisi, Director of the Media and Public Relations Department; and Mr. Amjad Ibrahim Mustafa Al-Mansi, Head of the Protocol Division.



## President of the Iraqi Fiqh Academy's Council of Senior Scholars Visits the Academy



His Excellency Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, received on Monday, 2 Rajab 1447 AH, corresponding to 22 December 2025, His Eminence Sheikh Dr. Ahmad Hassan Al-Taha, President of the Senior Scholars of the Iraqi Fiqh Academy, along with his accompanying delegation, during an official visit to the Academy's headquarters in Jeddah. At the beginning of the meeting, His Excellency the Secretary-General expressed his deep gratitude and appreciation to His Eminence and the accompanying delegation for this gracious visit. He praised the honourable historical and

scholarly role of the scholars of Iraq and conveyed his profound appreciation for the Republic of Iraq's continuous support for the Academy since its establishment. He also affirmed the Academy's keenness and full readiness to strengthen cooperation and coordination with the Iraqi Fiqh Academy in all matters that serve the interests of the Muslim Ummah. For his part, His Eminence expressed his sincere thanks and gratitude to His Excellency for the warm welcome and generous hospitality, noting his great pleasure with this visit and highlighting the importance of the Academy's role in studying contemporary issues and providing sound Shariah-based insights. At the conclusion of the visit, His Eminence recorded his sentiments in the guestbook, stating: "We visited the Fiqh Academy in Jeddah—may Allah protect it—and met with His Excellency Prof. Dr. Koutoub Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy—may Allah preserve him. We were impressed by the Academy's scholarly efforts and research projects, and we were pleased to discuss several contemporary issues and to witness His Excellency's insightful contributions to current

developments and emerging matters.

We ask Allah Almighty to support this institution, increase its activity, and grant it scholars knowledge and piety like His Excellency Prof. Dr. Koutoub Sano across the Islamic world. May Allah make the Academy a gathering place for the leading scholars of all Muslim countries, uniting the word of Muslims and elevating it."

The meeting was attended on the Iraqi side by Sheikh Dr. Abdulwahhab Al-Samarrā'i, member of the Iraqi Fiqh Academy, and on behalf of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy by Mr. Amjad Ibrahim Mustafa, Head of the Protocol Division.



## Iran's Permanent Representative to the OIC Pays Courtesy Visit to the Academy

His Excellency Prof. Dr Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy, received His Excellency Ambassador Mohammad Hassan Sheikh-al-Islami, the newly appointed Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, on Thursday, 5 Rajab 1447 AH, corresponding to 25 December 2025, at the Academy's headquarters in Jeddah.

At the beginning of the meeting, His Excellency congratulated the Ambassador on his appointment as Iran's Permanent Representative to the OIC, wishing him success in his new post. He also expressed the Academy's profound gratitude and high appreciation to the Islamic Republic of Iran for its continued support since the Academy's establishment. His Excellency then provided an overview of the Academy—its vision, mission, and objectives—and took the opportunity to express the Academy's pride in the valuable contributions of Iranian scholars



to its sessions and symposia since its inception. He affirmed the Academy's aspiration to build cooperative and partnership relations with various Iranian religious institutions that promote moderation, balance, and tolerance, in line with the Academy's vision, mission, and goals.

For his part, the Ambassador expressed his sincere thanks and great appreciation to His Excellency for the warm reception, praising the central role played by the Academy in correcting misconceptions, bringing Islamic schools of thought closer together, and

promoting the values of moderation and tolerance. He also affirmed his full readiness to work toward building partnership relations between the Academy and Iranian academic and intellectual institutions.

The meeting was attended by Mr Muhammad Al-Munzir Ridha Al-Shawk, Director of Cabinet and Protocol Affairs; Mr Muhammad Walid Al-Idrisi, Director of Media, Public Relations, and Information Technology; and Mr Amjad Ibrahim Mustafa Al-Mansi, Head of the Protocol Division.



## Academy Participates in the Coordination Meeting

His Eminences Mr Muhammad Al-Munzir Ridha Al-Shawk, Cabinet and Protocol Department, and Dr Muhammad Al-Amin Sylla, Head of the Research and Studies Division, represented the General Secretariat of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy in the proceedings of the Ninth Annual Coordination Meeting of the Institutions of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). The meeting was held at the OIC General Secretariat headquarters in Jeddah on 19–20 Jumada al-Akhirah 1447 AH, corresponding to 10–11 December 2025.

The Academy's delegation participated in the sessions of the committee concerned with cultural, sports, family, media, and human rights, during which the Academy's activities carried out within the framework of the OIC Ten-Year Program were reviewed. These activities included several initiatives and programs implemented in coordination with various OIC bodies.

The delegation also contributed to discussions on proposed new activities for 2026, most



notably:

- The Academy's participation in the celebration marking 1500 years since the birth of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him),
  - Organising a workshop on social safety networks for the elderly and persons with disabilities, as part of joint programs aimed at addressing the issues of the Muslim Ummah.
- The meeting concluded with a closing session

held on Thursday, 11 December 2025, attended by His Excellency the Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Mr Hissein Brahim Taha, who praised the efforts of the OIC institutions and the level of coordination and integration among them. He emphasised the importance of continuing to strengthen cooperation and unify efforts to achieve the organisation's goals and the aspirations of its member states.

## The Academy Meets to Discuss and Evaluate the Strategic Plan

On Tuesday, 22 Rabi' al-Akhir 1447 AH, corresponding to October 14, 2025, the Academy held an extended meeting to evaluate its strategic plan at the General Secretariat's headquarters in Jeddah. The meeting was chaired by His Excellency Professor Dr. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy, and attended by all staff members of the General Secretariat. At the outset of the meeting, His Excellency welcomed the attendees and praised their sincere efforts in implementing the Academy's programs and activities over the past years. He emphasised that this meeting reflects the General Secretariat's commitment to evaluating institutional performance and improving the quality of administrative and scholarly work within the framework of the strategic plan over the past five years. Following that, Dr Abdel Fattah Ibnouf, Director of the Planning and International Cooperation,



presented a comprehensive overview of the Academy's strategic plan. He reviewed the key items and projects, the results, and the challenges faced during the previous period, along with proposed solutions based on available resources. The second session of the meeting was dedicated to discussing the staff's opinions and observations regarding the current plan. Attendees shared a range of constructive comments and suggestions to improve performance and enhance integration between departments. His Excellency affirmed

that all feedback and proposals would be carefully studied and taken into account when preparing the upcoming strategic plan, ensuring its alignment with the Academy's future aspirations and its global scholarly and jurisprudential mission. At the conclusion of the meeting, His Excellency expressed his gratitude and appreciation to all Academy staff for their active participation and valuable contributions. He commended the spirit of cooperation and dedication to advancing institutional work. He called on everyone to continue their efforts to strengthen the Academy's role in serving the issues of the Muslim Ummah. The meeting ended with His Excellency inviting the attendees to a lunch on this occasion, in an atmosphere of warmth and positivity that reflects the spirit of teamwork within the General Secretariat.

## Director of Planning and International Cooperation at the Academy Participates in an International Symposium in Jeddah



His Eminence Dr. Abdel Fattah Mahmoud Abnaouf, Director of Planning and International Cooperation participated on Wednesday, 26 Jumada al-Akhirah 1447 AH, corresponding to 17 December 2025, in the international symposium organized by the General Secretariat

of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) under the title: "The Palestinian Cause: Challenges and Prospects", held at the OIC headquarters in Jeddah. The symposium program included four working papers that addressed in detail:

- The humanitarian conditions of Palestinian refugees, especially in the Gaza Strip,
- The attacks on refugee camps in the West Bank,
- The occupation's attempts to dismantle UNRWA,
- Diplomatic and legal efforts aimed at mobilising the international community to implement the two-state solution. A third paper discussed the legal responsibility of states, international organisations, and the international community, and the importance of documenting Israeli crimes in strengthening the path of justice and legal accountability. The final paper focused on Israeli violations in Jerusalem: settlement policies and

attempts to alter the historical and legal status of Islamic and Christian holy sites, particularly the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque. In his intervention, Dr Abdel Fattah Abnaouf reaffirmed that the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, through its resolutions, scholarly symposia, international engagements, and numerous statements, consistently emphasises that defending the Palestinian cause and the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque is a religious obligation, a humanitarian necessity, and a legal entitlement that cannot be compromised or delayed. He also noted that the Academy continuously highlights the Palestinian cause by issuing official statements and scholarly resolutions supporting the Palestinian people and their cause in various academic forums and international meetings—the most recent of which was the Secretary-General's scholarly address at the British House of Lords in London.

## The Academy Participates in the Celebration of World Arabic Language Day

At the kind invitation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), and in cooperation with the King Salman Global Academy for the Arabic Language, Dr. Muhammad Al-Amin Muhammad Sylla, Head of Research, Studies, and Encyclopedias, represented the International Islamic Fiqh Academy in the celebration of World Arabic Language Day. The event took place on Wednesday, 4 Rajab 1447 AH, corresponding to 24 December 2025, at the OIC General Secretariat in Jeddah. The opening session included a speech delivered on behalf of His Excellency the Secretary-General, Mr Hissein Brahim Taha, by His Excellency Ambassador Samir Bakr, Assistant Secretary-General for Palestine Affairs.

In his remarks, he emphasised significance of this celebration, highlighting its role in establishing a practical model of cooperation with specialised bodies foremost among them the King Salman Global Academy for the Arabic Language. He noted that this partnership aims to focus efforts on capacity building and delivering practical training programs for beneficiaries from member states, ensuring that the Arabic language the language of the Qur'an receives the attention and importance it deserves. At the conclusion of the event, the organising committee expressed its gratitude and appreciation to all attendees and participants for accepting the invitation and contributing to the success of this gathering, which highlights



the status of the Arabic language and its role in strengthening ties among the peoples of the Islamic world.

## Dr. Abdel Fattah Abnaouf: The Prosperity of Nations Is Linked to Investing in Youth

At the invitation of the Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission (IPHRC) of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), His Eminence Dr. Abdel Fattah Mahmoud Abnaouf, Director of the Department of Planning and International Cooperation at the Academy, delivered a scholarly paper during the Commission's 26th regular session on Sunday, 23 Jumada al-Akhirah 1447 AH, corresponding to 14 December 2025, in Jeddah, representing the Secretary-General of the Academy.

The paper, titled "Youth Development in OIC Member States: Challenges and Opportunities from a Human Rights Perspective and Youth Empowerment from the Perspective of the Objectives of Islamic Law (Maqāṣid al-Sharī'ah)", addressed the importance of the youth



demographic and its pivotal role in building societies. It emphasized that the prosperity and stability of nations are directly linked to the effective investment of youth potential. In contrast, their weakness and decline stem from wasting these energies and failing to guide them

properly.

The paper also highlighted several key pillars of youth empowerment, foremost among them the maqāṣid-based dimension in Islamic law—particularly the objectives of preserving life and preserving intellect—and their role in protecting young people from intellectual and behavioral deviations, thereby strengthening security and stability within societies.

Dr. Abdel Fattah Abnaouf further reviewed the contributions of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy in this field through its scientific resolutions and recommendations, its organization of specialized conferences and symposia, and its strategic partnerships with various institutions concerned with youth issues and human rights in member states.

## 149th Departmental Meeting held on 3rd November, 2025



The meeting was held on November 3, 2025, at the General Secretariat headquarters in Jeddah, and was chaired by His Excellency Prof. Dr Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of

the Academy.

At the outset of the meeting, His Excellency welcomed the attendees. He spoke about the importance of these meetings in accomplishing administrative and academic tasks, as well as facilitating follow-up on their implementation to ensure the success of the institution's work. He expressed his gratitude to the Media and Information Technology Department for repairing the malfunctioning equipment. He also thanked the Director of the Fatwas and Libraries Department for converting the Academy's publications into digital formats and uploading

them to the Academy's website.

The meeting then discussed the items on its agenda and issued several decisions and directives, the most notable of which include:

- Coordinating with libraries and platforms to sell the Academy's publications electronically.
- Reprinting some books authored by His Excellency Sheikh Saleh bin Humaid under the Academy's name.
- Preparing a provisional budget for the remaining issues of the Academy's journal.
- Postponing the symposium on "Violence Against Women" to January 2026.

## 73rd Regular Meeting of Division Heads

The Academy held its seventy-third regular meeting for division heads chaired by His Excellency Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy on Thursday, 5 Rajab 1447 AH, corresponding to 25 December 2025, at the Academy's headquarters in Jeddah.

At the outset of the meeting, His Excellency welcomed the attendees. He thanked them for their dedication, emphasising the importance of these regular meetings in strengthening communication among the various departments and divisions. He also announced the postponement of the symposium titled "The Role of Religious Leaders in Combating Violence Against Women" to 30 March 2026.

The meeting concluded with several important decisions, the most notable of which were:

- Initiating the update and redesign of the Academy's introductory booklets, submitting weekly reports (every Thursday) on newly added visual content on YouTube and TikTok, and coordinating with specialised media companies in preparation for the upcoming women's symposium.
- Sending the Academy's publications and the fifth edition of the Book of Resolutions to all universities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and contacting translators to translate the Book of Resolutions into Russian, Chinese, and Portuguese.
- Following up on training programs for Academy staff, disbursing financial dues related to the Turkish translation of the resolutions, and updating members' data



and photos on the Academy's website.

- Inviting several scholars and muftis to participate in upcoming symposia, and replacing the Academy's and the Organisation's flags inside and outside the headquarters according to the approved schedule.

## Sixtieth Monthly Staff Meeting

His Excellency Prof. Dr Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy, chaired the sixtieth monthly staff meeting on Monday, 24 Jumada al-Akhirah 1447 AH, corresponding to 15 December 2025, at the General Secretariat headquarters in Jeddah. His Excellency opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees and expressing his gratitude and appreciation to Mr Hassan Kumait for his commendable efforts and diligent follow-up during his tenure as Acting Secretary-General of the Academy. He also informed the attendees of the decision to convene a symposium titled “The Role of Religious Leaders in Combating Violence Against Women,” scheduled—God willing—for late January 2026, emphasising the importance of thorough preparation for this significant scholarly

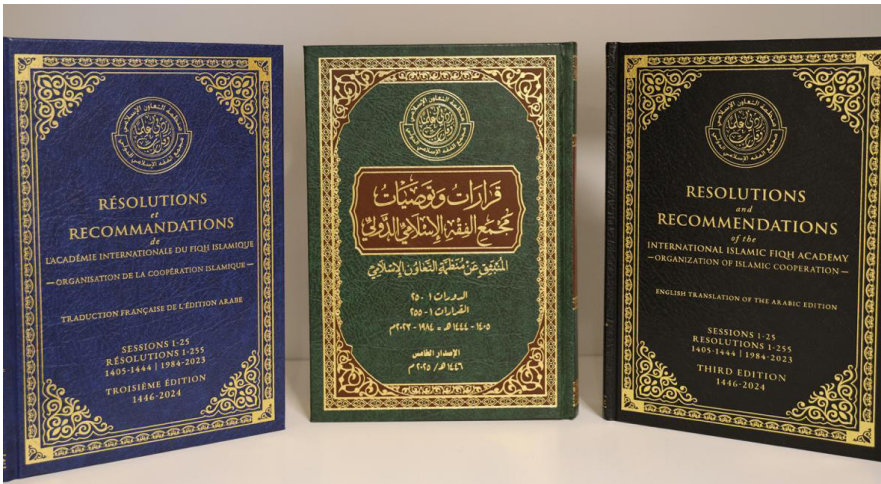


event.

As is customary at such meetings, His Excellency invited all staff members to present their suggestions and observations on workflow and performance development within the Academy. The meeting witnessed constructive discussions in which several topics were addressed, resulting in several decisions, the most notable of which were:

- Printing several books authored by the President of the Academy, including his work “Raf’ al-Haraj” and other scholarly publications.

- Preparing a comprehensive report on existing documents, indicating the degree of need for them and the possibility of benefiting from them in the future.
- Emphasising the importance of completing the final review of the Biographical Dictionary of the Academy’s Eminent Figures and submitting it to the printing press in its final form.
- At the conclusion of the meeting, the Secretary-General expressed his appreciation for the efforts of all divisions, urging everyone to redouble their work, maintain precision, and strengthen the spirit of cooperation in a manner that fulfils the Academy’s mission and objectives.



## A Brief Introduction to the Resolutions and Recommendations of the Academy

For four decades, the Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy has from time to time issued clear, effective, and compelling Sharia-based resolutions in response to the issues and developments that continue to affect contemporary life and preoccupy Muslims in the East and the West.

The number of resolutions issued by the Council of the Academy has reached two hundred and sixty-seven (267) resolutions on intellectual, educational, social, economic, and halal issues. Thanks to

Allah, these resolutions have become the scientific reference to which many countries turn, societies take refuge, and many peoples prefer to follow. They have also evolved into fatwas that serve as the foundation for current Islamic financial applications and industries. Many Sharia courts, health organizations, and scientific educational institutions around the world adhere to them, and they have become solid scientific foundations and Sharia standards approved and recognized by the scholars, experts, and intellectuals of the

Ummah.

The Secretariat General of the Academy has chosen to devote the last few pages of its monthly bulletin to publishing them consecutively in order to present their sober contents and to remind of their utmost importance, while praying to Almighty Allah to reward the honorable scholars and experts who participated in their formulation and publication in a manner beneficial to humanity that will remain forever on earth.



## Resolutions and Recommendations of the 26th Session of the Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy Doha - State of Qatar 6-10 Dhu al-Qa'dah 1446 / 4-8 May 2025

### Resolution No. 256 (1/26) Emerging Issues in Childcare

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, holding its twenty-sixth session in Doha, State of Qatar, on 6-10 Dhul-Qi'dah 1446H (4-8 May 2025), HAVING EXAMINED the research papers submitted to the Academy concerning Emerging Issues in Childcare, HAVING LISTENED to the in-depth discussions on the subject,

#### RESOLVES

**First:** Confirmation of the Academy's resolution no. 113 (7/12) on Rights of Children and Elders, and resolution no. 213 (9/22) on Rights of Persons with Disabilities in the Islamic Jurisprudence.

**Second:** Affirming that family, society, and the State bear religious, legal, and humanitarian responsibilities for child-caring and for preserving the child's Islamic and national identity.

**Third:** It is obligatory to protect the child from anything that may lead to violating their sanctity and dignity, such as blackmail involving material or psychological threats and pressure, bullying as a form of physical and moral abuse, verbal, sexual, and cyber

harassment, and all forms of violence.

**Fourth:** The legitimate right of parents to discipline their children does not constitute abuse or violence.

**Fifth:** It is obligatory to protect children during armed conflicts, wars, disasters, and in refugee and displacement settings.

**Sixth:** It is obligatory to safeguard the child's gender identity to ensure the soundness of their human natural disposition (fitrah).

**Seventh:** It is obligatory to instill moral and ethical values in children to ensure their digital safety and to protect them when using digital (electronic) devices by avoiding suspicious websites, misinformation exchange, and the sharing of indecent images.

**Eighth:** Strengthening family, educational, and societal supervision when children use digital (electronic) devices.

**Ninet:** It is obligatory to care for persons with special needs, seek to integrate them into their communities, and provide an appropriate environment for that purpose.

integrated Islamic strategy on childhood for Islamic countries to consider in their local legislations.

3. Preparing educational and guidance manuals for all groups working in the field of child protection and care, and to raise awareness of the child's rights well-established in religion and by the state.

4. Providing material provisions and training by establishing dedicated endowments (awqaf) for persons with special needs.

5. Holding workshops in Muslim communities to educate parents on how to address childhood challenges in a way that preserves the religious identity, reinforces natural human disposition, protects the child's human dignity, and promotes it.

6. Organizing specialized symposia on child protection during disasters and armed conflicts.

Indeed, Allah is All-Knowing.

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#### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Instilling and nurturing Islamic values and rituals in children and raising children to respect and honor them.
2. Developing a comprehensive and

## Resolution No. 257 (2/26) Istishab (Presumption of Continuity) and Its Applications in Contemporary Issues and Emerging Matters

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, holding its twenty-sixth session in Doha, State of Qatar, on 6-10 Dhūl-Qi'dah 1446H (4–8 May 2025),

HAVING EXAMINED the research papers submitted to the Academy concerning Istishāb (Legal Presumption of Continuity) and Its Applications in Contemporary Issues and Emerging Matters,

HAVING LISTENED to the in-depth discussions on the subject,

### RESOLVES

**First:** Istishāb is affirming a ruling on a certain matter in a subsequent time based on its ruling in a previous time, in the absence of evidence requiring any change.

**Second:** Istishāb is a legitimate legal evidence which does not create a new ruling but affirms the continuity of a previous ruling.

**Third:** A jurist derives the ruling of a given case through Istishāb, whether in affirmation or negation. If there is doubt about its cessation, the presumption is that it remains; and if there is doubt about its existence, the presumption is its non-existence.

**Fourth:** Istishāb holds significant importance in juristic reasoning (ijtihād) across many contemporary issues, including

acts of worship, financial transactions, personal matters, Islamic policy, the judiciary, and other aspects of life.

**Fifth:** Conditions for applying Istishāb:

1. The jurist must be reasonably certain that there is no evidence or cause negating the original state being presumed to continue, after exerting full effort in investigation and research.
2. Observance of the general and specific objectives (maqāsid) of the Shari'ah, as adherence to these objectives in all their forms is obligatory; they are the purposes and goals for which the rulings were legislated.
3. Like other sources of Islamic legal evidence, istishāb may only be applied to actual cases by those qualified for ijtihad, who are well-versed in the principles of legal derivation and who apply due diligence in verification and deliberation.

Indeed, Allah is All-Knowing.

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## Resolution No. 258 (3/26) Artificial Intelligence: Its Rulings, Guidelines, and Ethics

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, holding its twenty-sixth session in Doha, State of Qatar, Dhūl-Qi'dah 1446H (4–8 May 2025),

HAVING REVIEWED its Resolution No. 43 (5/5) on Moral Rights, Resolution No. 230 (1/24) on Smart Contracts and Reversal Methods and Resolution No. 243 (5/25) on Shariah Ruling on Salat behind Telephone, Radio, or Television.

HAVING REVIEWED the Riyadh Charter on Artificial Intelligence for the Islamic World issued by ICESCO in 2025, HAVING EXAMINED the research papers submitted to the Academy concerning The Artificial Intelligence: Its Rulings, Guidelines, and Ethics, HAVING LISTENED to the in-depth discussions on the subject,

### RESOLVES

**First:** Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a modern technology based on programs and machines that simulate human intelligence. It brings about numerous benefits, though it is not without potential harms.

**Second:** The default ruling regarding the development and use of artificial intelligence is permissibility (ibāhah), subject to the following ethical and legal conditions:

1. The purpose of its creation, use, funding, and outcomes must be lawful.

2. It must serve to bring benefit and prevent harm.
3. It must not insult or abuse beliefs, religions, or religious symbols.
4. It must ensure protection of information and preserve both public and private rights and freedoms.
5. It must not involve threats to individual, societal, or national security.
6. It must adhere to honesty, proper documentation, and transparency in its use.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Conducting a study on the legal ruling regarding granting AI legal personality.
2. Organizing specialized symposiums on artificial intelligence, its developments, and ethical implications.

Indeed, Allah is All-Knowing.

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## Resolution No. 259 (4/26) Payment of Increment on Loan by a Third Party, and Shari'ah Ruling on Fees for Letters of Guarantee and letters of Credit

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, holding its twenty-sixth session in Doha, State of Qatar, on 6-10 Dhūl-Qi'dah 1446H (4–8 May 2025), HAVING CONSIDERED Resolution No. 12 (12/2) of the Academy regarding The Letters of Guarantee, HAVING REVIEWED the research papers submitted to the Academy concerning Payment of additional amounts on loans by a third party, and the legal ruling on fees for letters of guarantee and documentary credits,

HAVING LISTENED to the in-depth discussions on the subject,

### RESOLVES

The Council of the Academy decided to postpone adopting a resolution on the two topics in order to allow for further research and study.

Indeed, Allah is All-Knowing.

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## Resolution No. 260 (5/26) Digital (Electronic) Games: Rulings and Guidelines

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, holding its twenty-sixth session in Doha, State of Qatar, on 6-10 Dhūl-Qi'dah 1446H (4–8 May 2025), HAVING EXAMINED the research papers submitted to the Academy concerning the Digital (Electronic) Games: Rulings and Guidelines, HAVING LISTENED to the in-depth discussions on the subject,

### RESOLVES

First: Confirmation of the Academy resolution no. 127 (1/14) on Contests cards.

Second: Digital (electronic) games are interactive physical and mental activities conducted through modern technology or digital applications, such as games of action, adventure, puzzle, and e-sports, among others.

Third: The default ruling on playing digital (electronic) games is permissibility (ibāhah). Therefore, it is allowed to play them provided they do not involve prohibited (ḥarām) elements, nor cause harm to religion, self, intellect, wealth, or progeny, nor entail aggression against others, or lead to the neglect of religious or worldly obligations and responsibilities.

Fourth: It is permissible to produce and trade digital (electronic) games if such production and trade are free from the

harms mentioned in paragraph (3), and the intellectual property rights of the creator are recognized.

Fifth: It is permissible to trade prepaid digital game cards, provided they represent known and defined benefits.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Issuing digital parenting education guides and enacting systems and legislations to minimize the risks associated with digital (electronic) games, and activating monitoring tools over them.
2. Encouraging parents, guardians, and those responsible for children's affairs to enhance supervision of digital (electronic) games according to age categories.
3. Organizing seminars and sessions through visual, audio, and print media to discuss the pros and cons of digital (electronic) games.
4. Encouraging programmers and specialists in digital (electronic) games to develop beneficial and constructive alternatives that are competitively attractive and engaging.

Indeed, Allah is All-Knowing.

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## Resolution No. 261 (6/26) The Effect of psychological Illness on Legal aptitude in Islamic Sharia

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, holding its twenty-sixth session in Doha, State of Qatar, on 6-10 Dhūl-Qi'dah 1446H (4–8 May 2025),

HAVING REVIEWED the research papers submitted to the Academy concerning the topic: The Effect of psychological Illness on Legal aptitude in Islamic Sharia,

HAVING LISTENED to the in-depth discussions on the subject,

#### RESOLVES

**First:** Legal aptitude (ahliyyah) is the competence of a person to bear legitimate rights and obligations and the validity of their actions. It has two types:

1. Aptitude to bear obligation (ahliyyah al-wujūb)
2. Aptitude of performance (ahliyyah al-adā') The latter relates to the ability to comprehend the address, which is through intellect, and the ability to act upon it, which is through physical capability).

**Second:** psychological illnesses are a cluster of inherent symptoms with clinical indication that affect a person's cognition, behavior, or emotions, resulting in impaired or disrupted functioning on a personal, familial, professional, or social level.

**Third:** The principle is: a psychologically ill adult with full legal aptitude is fully accountable for their actions, unless proven otherwise by a recognized competent authority.

**Fourth:** Psychological illnesses, according to experts, are categorized based on affirming their effect on cognition, discernment, and volition into three types:

- (a) Psychological illnesses that nullify legal aptitude.
- (b) Psychological illnesses that diminish legal aptitude.
- (c) Psychological illnesses that do not affect legal aptitude.

**Fifth:** The criterion of assessing a psychological illness and its impact on legal aptitude is based on the extent to which it affects cognition, discernment, understanding, and sound decision-making. This is a specialized matter to be determined by qualified psychiatrists and equivalent professionals.

**Sixth:** A psychologically ill person is deemed to have lost the performance aptitude if it is proven that they have lost the ability to understand, discern, or control their actions. They are deemed to have diminished aptitude if their ability to comprehend, discern and control their actions is impaired but not entirely lost.

**Seventh:** The determination of loss or reduction of legal aptitude due to psychological illness is a matter for the judiciary to decide.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Organizing educational courses for judges and muftis to raise awareness of psychological illnesses and their various effects.
2. Conducting joint training programs for psychiatrists, jurists, judges, and related professionals to develop specialized joint reference guides.

Indeed, Allah is All-Knowing.

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## Resolution No. 262 (7/26) Shari'ah Governance in Contemporary Islamic Financial Institutions

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, holding its twenty-sixth session in Doha, State of Qatar, on 6-10 Dhul-Qi'dah 1446H (4-8 May 2025),

Having EXAMINED the research papers submitted to the Academy concerning the topic of Shari'ah Governance in Contemporary Islamic Financial Institutions, HAVING LISTENED to the in-depth discussions on the subject,

### RESOLVES

**First:** Confirmation of the Academy's resolution no. 177 (3/19) on Role of Shari'ah supervision in conditioning Islamic Banking Activities; its Significance, Conditions, and Modus Operandi. and confirming what is mentioned it that resolution regarding criteria of Ijtihad and Fatwa of Shari'ah boards\ councils.

**Second:** Shari'ah Governance is a system of rules, regulations, policies, and procedures that ensures Shari'ah compliance in Islamic financial institutions, striking a balance between economic objectives, Shari'ah adherence, and institutional reputation.

**Third:** There must be a unified Shari'ah reference framework for the Islamic finance industry that preserves its identity and promotes its operations within that framework.

**Fourth:** The management of financial institutions must not exercise any authority that compromises the independence of Shari'ah board members.

**Fifth:** The resolutions of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy are to be considered a supreme Shari'ah reference for the member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and for Muslim communities globally.

**Sixth:** Shari'ah boards in Islamic financial institutions, along with all types of Shari'ah auditing and rating entities, must ensure compliance with the resolutions of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, adhere to its recommendations, and avoid implementing financial products that the Academy has prohibited.

**Seventh:** Regulatory authorities must observe the Shari'ah governance on sukuk issuances to ensure their compliance with the Academy's resolutions, particularly those that affirm the sukuk holders' true and effective ownership of their assets and bearing the corresponding liabilities.

Indeed, Allah is All-Knowing.

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## Resolution No. 263 (8/26) Stunning Birds and Animals Before Slaughter and Its Impact on the Legality of the Slaughter

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, holding its twenty-sixth session in Doha, State of Qatar, on 6-10 Dhul-Qi'dah 1446H (4-8 May 2025), HAVING EXAMINED the research papers submitted to the Academy concerning the stunning of birds and animals before slaughter and its impact on the legality of the slaughter,

HAVING REVIEWED the recommendations of the scientific seminar organized by the Academy in cooperation with the Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA) in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 14-15 Dhul-Qi'dah 1443H (13-14 June 2022), concerning the same topic, HAVING LISTENED to the in-depth discussions on the subject,

### RESOLVES

The Council of the Academy decided to postpone adopting a resolution on this subject pending additional research and studies.

Indeed, Allah is All-Knowing.

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## Resolution No. 264 (9/26) Feeding of Premature Infants with Breast's Milk from Known and Unknown Mothers

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, holding its twenty-sixth session in Doha, State of Qatar, on 6-10 Dhūl-Qi'dah 1446H (4–8 May 2025), HAVING EXAMINED the research papers submitted to the Academy concerning The Feeding premature infants with breast's milk from known and unknown mothers, HAVING REVIEWED the recommendations of the scientific symposium organized by the Academy in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 9 Dhūl-Qi'dah 1444H (29 May 2023), HAVING LISTENED to the in-depth discussions on the subject,

### RESOLVES

**First:** Confirmation of the Academy resolution no. 6 (6/2) on Human Milk Banks.

**Second:** Breastfeeding is defined as the delivery of a mother's milk into the stomach of a child aged two years or younger, whether through suckling at the breast, oral feeding (wajūr), or nasal feeding (sa'ūt). Wajūr is pouring milk into the mouth, and sa'ūt is pouring it through the nose.

**Third:** A premature infant is any child born before completing thirty-seven (37) weeks of gestation.

**Fourth:** Breastfeeding a child is a duty upon their guardians, whether the child is premature or not. This duty is particularly emphasized for premature infants due to their critical need for nourishment, thereby making the use of lawful means for their breastfeeding a matter of concern and care.

**Fifth:** Donors of milk for premature infants have the right to stipulate non-disclosure of their identities. Guardians and relevant authorities must honor this condition.

**Sixth:** The concerned authorities must develop legislation and regulatory frameworks for the donation of mothers' milk to protect this age group in accordance with the overarching maqāṣid (objectives) of Islamic law concerning the preservation of life, lineage, and the establishment of milk kinship (maḥramiyyah).

**Seventh:** Companies that wish to manufacture medications derived from donated milk for premature infants must enable the families and close relatives of the infants to know the identities of the milk donors to uphold the principle of establishing milk kinship (maḥramiyyah).

### RECOMMENDATIONS

Urging Ministries of health and relevant health authorities, in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO), the Islamic Organization for Medical Sciences in Kuwait, and health institutions in OIC member states, to provide increased care and support, and to promote breastfeeding

initiatives for this vulnerable group of children.

Indeed, Allah is All-Knowing.

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## Resolution No. 265 (10/26) Shari'ah Ruling on the Consumption and Marketing of Cultivated Meat

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, holding its twenty-sixth session in Doha, State of Qatar, on 6-10 Dhūl-Qi'dah 1446H (4–8 May 2025),

HAVING EXAMINED the research papers submitted to the Academy concerning Shariah Rulings on the consumption and marketing of cultivated meat,

HAVING REVIEWED the recommendations of the seminar organized in cooperation with the Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA), held in Jeddah on 21–22 Rabi' al-Awwal 1446H (24–25 September 2024), regarding the rulings on the same topic, HAVING LISTENED to the in-depth discussions on the subject,

### RESOLVES

**First:** Confirmation of the Academy resolution no. 198 (4/21) on Transmutation, Dilution and Additives in Food and Medication and resolution no. 94 (2/10) on Human Cloning.

**Second:** Cultivated meat is food manufactured from cells typically extracted

from a living animal, then cultivated in a controlled safe laboratory environment over several weeks by adding essential nutrients such as glucose, vitamins, inorganic salts, and more. It is also referred to as lab-grown meat, cultivated meat, or clean meat.

**Third:** It is permissible to consume and market cultivated meat under the following conditions:

1. The cells must be derived from an animal that is lawful to eat if it is alive, or from an animal that has been slaughtered according to Islamic law in cases where such slaughtering is required.
2. The cultivation must not be done in a prohibited medium (e.g., flowing blood), nor include any prohibited substances (e.g., gelatin derived from pigs).
3. The entire cultivation process must be supervised by a credible, specialized authority.

**Fourth:** Companies must disclose all relevant information to consumers in a way that ensures compliance with the above conditions, and supervisory authorities must verify such compliance.

**Fifth:** The final product must be safe for consumption and not harmful to health, in accordance with standards and procedures set by the relevant authorities.

**Sixth:** Cultivated meat should not be a replacement for conventional animal meat but may be utilized alongside it for consumers' ease and accessibility.

Indeed, Allah is All-Knowing.

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## Resolution No. 266 (11/26) Shari'ah Ruling on the Consumption and Marketing of Genetically Modified Foods of Animal Origin

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, holding its twenty-sixth session in Doha, State of Qatar, on 6-10 Dhūl-Qi'dah 1446H (4–8 May 2025),

HAVING EXAMINED the research papers submitted to the Academy concerning Shariah Rulings on the consumption and marketing of cultivated meat,

HAVING REVIEWED the recommendations of the seminar organized in cooperation with the Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA), held in Jeddah on 21–22 Rabi' al-Awwal 1446H (24–25 September 2024), regarding the rulings on the same topic,

HAVING LISTENED to the in-depth discussions on the subject,

### RESOLVES

**First:** Genetically modified foods (GMFs) are food products with ingredients derived from live animals whose genetic material has been modified using genetic engineering techniques. These modifications may involve the introduction of new genes from other animals, the deletion or modification of existing genes, or the reordering of the animal's genetic material. The purpose is often to improve resistance to diseases, enhance nutritional value, accelerate growth rates, or adapt the animal to specific environmental conditions.

**Second:** It is permissible to consume genetically modified foods of animal origin, under the following conditions:

1. The modification must be safe, not contrary to Islamic principles, and not harmful to health.
2. The modification must occur between two animals that are lawful to consume under Islamic law.
3. Necessary information regarding the GM food and its preparation method must be disclosed.

Indeed, Allah is All-Knowing.

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## Resolution No. 267(12/26) Shari'ah Ruling on the Consumption and Marketing of Insects

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, holding its twenty-sixth session in Doha, State of Qatar, on 6-10 Dhūl-Qi'dah 1446H (4–8 May 2025),

HAVING EXAMINED the research papers submitted to the Academy concerning Shariah Rulings on the consumption and marketing of cultivated meat,

HAVING REVIEWED the recommendations of the seminar organized in cooperation with the Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA), held in Jeddah on 21–22 Rabi' al-Awwal 1446H (24–25 September 2024), regarding the rulings on the same topic,

HAVING LISTENED to the in-depth discussions on the subject,

### RESOLVES

The Council of the Academy decided to postpone adopting a resolution on this subject pending additional research and studies.

Indeed, Allah is All-Knowing.

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## Statement on the Aggression against Occupied Palestine



The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, holding its twenty-sixth session in Doha, State of Qatar, on 6-10 Dhul-Qi'dah 1446H (4–8 May 2025),

In line with its religious and humanitarian responsibilities, and grounded in its well-established scholarly authority, the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), its leadership, Secretariat General, members, and experts, expresses its deep concern, outright rejection, and strong condemnation of the ongoing brutal Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people, particularly in the Gaza Strip. This aggression has reached unprecedented levels of savagery and inhumanity in modern history, resulting in mass massacres, widespread destruction, flagrant human rights violations, and blatant disregard for international conventions and moral values.

In a scene that breaks hearts and shocks the conscience of the world, the machinery of occupation continues to target innocent civilians, women, children, and the elderly, destroying hospitals, schools, and places of worship, tightening the blockade, and starving the population by depriving them of water, medicine, and food. The number of martyrs, wounded, and missing persons has exceeded 180,000 in what constitutes a full-fledged crime, nothing less than a premeditated genocide and collective punishment of an entire people, simply because they cling to their land, defend their dignity, and reject occupation.

The Academy affirms that what Gaza and other Palestinian cities are enduring today is not an isolated incident but part of a continuous series of crimes and recurring assaults aimed at

Judaizing the land, distorting history, erasing identity, and imposing a reality through force and terror. The Academy strongly condemns the provocative statements and repeated calls for the forced displacement of Gaza's residents, utterly contemptuous of religious and human values and a blatant violation of the people's right to existence, freedom, and dignity.

The steadfastness of the valiant Palestinian people, their unwavering attachment to their land despite their wounds, and their rightful insistence on resistance and self-defense stand as testimony to their noble status, the justness of their cause, the sincerity of their struggle, and the deep-rooted will to live in the heart of their history and identity.

In the face of this tragic reality, the Academy reaffirms that defending the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, the land of Palestine, and empowering its people to establish their independent state on their national soil with Jerusalem as its capital, is a religious obligation, a humanitarian necessity, and a legal entitlement that admits no concession or delay.

The Academy highly values the commendable diplomatic efforts of the Arab-Islamic Ministerial Committee, emanating from the Islamic Summit and led by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in support of the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. It also appreciates the sincere mediation efforts of the State of Qatar and the Arab Republic of Egypt to alleviate the suffering of civilians, halt the bloodshed in Gaza and the West Bank, reinforce the foundations of a ceasefire, and open humanitarian corridors in accordance with international legitimacy and in support of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

The Academy calls upon all Islamic countries, governments and peoples, to move beyond statements of condemnation and assume full responsibility in supporting Palestine politically, financially, legally, and through the media. It urges the activation of international mechanisms to prosecute war criminals, stop occupation policies, and support the Palestinian people by all possible means in their existential struggle.

The Academy also calls upon the international community and all people of conscience to fulfill their humanitarian duty to rescue a people facing extermination in plain sight. It urges them to abandon the double standards and turn slogans into actions, out of respect for human dignity, preservation of global peace, and rescue of the moral conscience of humanity.

In this dark moment, the Academy does not forget to instill hope and remind the Ummah of Allah's unwavering promise: {Indeed, Allah will surely support those who support Him} No matter how long the occupation lasts, it shall end; no matter how tyrannical the injustice, it shall fall.

Indeed, with hardship comes ease, and victory comes only from Allah.

So be patient, O people of Palestine. You are on the side of truth. Your blood will not be shed in vain. The victory of Allah is surely coming, and the end will belong to the righteous.

And Allah is Predominant over His affairs, but most of the people do not know.

The Council of the Academy  
Doha 8th May 2025  
State of Qatar

