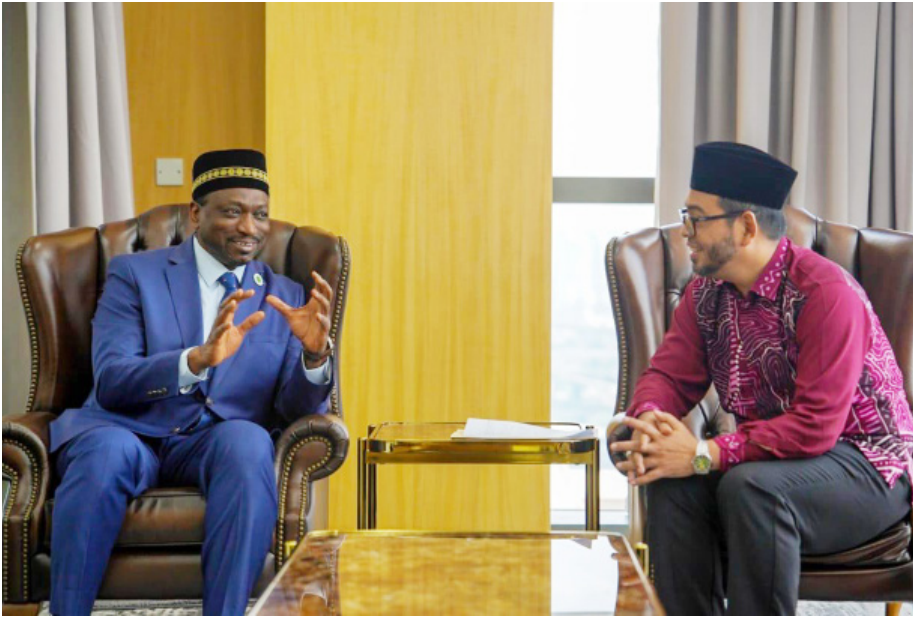


## His Excellency Dr. Zulkifli bin Hasan, Minister of Religious Affairs in Malaysia received His Excellency Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustapha Sano



His Excellency Dr Zulkifli bin Hasan, Minister of Religious Affairs in Malaysia, received His Excellency Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, accompanied by a delegation from the Academy, in his office in the capital, Kuala Lumpur, on Thursday afternoon, 9 Ramadan 1447 AH, corresponding to 26 February 2026.

The meeting discussed various aspects of mutual cooperation and reviewed the ongoing preparations for convening the twenty-seventh

session of the Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, which Malaysia will host this year. During the meeting, both sides examined the latest organisational and scholarly arrangements related to the upcoming session, including



the proposed academic themes, coordination mechanisms with the relevant authorities, and the means of ensuring the appropriate conditions for the success of the Council's proceedings in a manner that reflects the Academy's scholarly standing and Malaysia's pioneering role in addressing contemporary

Islamic issues.

His Excellency, the Minister, affirmed his country's commitment to providing all necessary resources to ensure the success of the forthcoming session, praising the Academy's scientific role in addressing emerging issues and contemporary challenges with a rigorous and methodical approach.

For his part, His Excellency Prof. Dr Koutoub Moustapha Sano expressed his appreciation to the leadership and government of Malaysia for hosting this session, commending the early preparations and meticulous organisation, and emphasising the importance of strengthening cooperation between the Academy and religious and academic institutions in member states.

This meeting comes within the framework of ongoing coordination between the General Secretariat of the Academy and the relevant authorities in Malaysia in preparation for the convening of the twenty-seventh session in Kuala Lumpur later this year.



## New Consul General of the Republic of Guinea in Jeddah Visits the Academy

His Excellency Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy, received His Excellency Dr. Mohamed Keita, the newly appointed Consul General of the Republic of Guinea in Jeddah, on Monday, 18 Shawwal 1447 AH, corresponding to 6 April 2026 CE, at the headquarters of the Academy's General Secretariat in Jeddah.

His Excellency welcomed his distinguished guest, congratulated him on his new appointment, and wished him success in his duties. He also expressed his deep gratitude and appreciation for the generous care and continuous support the Academy receives from the Republic of Guinea, its leadership and people. He expressed his hope that His Excellency's appointment would further strengthen cooperation and communication between the Academy and the scientific, intellectual, and religious institutions in Guinea, especially those concerned with promoting moderation and spreading the values of tolerance, coexistence, and harmony among followers of different religions. His Excellency then provided the Consul General with an overview



of the Academy's vision, mission, objectives, activities, programs, and various projects aimed at promoting moderation, centrism, and peaceful coexistence among peoples and religions.

For his part, His Excellency the Consul General expressed his pleasure and honour in visiting the Academy, and conveyed his gratitude and appreciation for the warm welcome and generous hospitality. He affirmed his country's keenness to strengthen its cooperation with the Academy and to benefit from its expertise in addressing issues of mutual concern.

At the conclusion of the visit, His Excellency recorded his sentiments in the guestbook, writing:

"I am pleased to express to Your Excellency my deepest thanks and appreciation for the warm welcome and generous hospitality. I would also like to commend the success of our visit to the Academy and the important outcomes achieved, which reflect your commitment to supporting the values of moderation and promoting the principles of peace in the world."

The meeting was attended by Mr. Muhammad Al-Munzir Rida Al-Shawk, Director of Cabinet and Protocol Affairs; Dr. Muhammad Al-Amin Sylla, Head of the Research and Studies Division; and Mr. Amjad Ibrahim Al-Mansi, Head of the Protocol Division.



## His Excellency the Secretary General Receives the Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic

His Excellency Professor Dr. Koutoub Mustafa Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, received His Excellency Ambassador Mohsen Mahbash, Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on Monday, 2 Dhul Qa'dah 1447 AH, corresponding to 20 April 2026, at the headquarters of the Academy's General Secretariat.

His Excellency conveyed the greetings of His Excellency Dr. As'ad Hassan Al-Shaybani, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Syrian Arab Republic, and the greetings of His Excellency Dr. Muhammad Abu Al-Khair Shukri, Minister of Awqaf. He praised the scholarly standing of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy and its significant role in addressing emerging issues and studying contemporary challenges, as reflected in its resolutions and recommendations, which are well-received by scholars and thinkers around the world. He also affirmed his country's keenness to strengthen cooperation with the Academy and to work toward appointing a representative to its Council, in a manner that enhances institutional and scholarly collaboration and reinforces Syria's presence in the journey of joint Islamic work. For his part, His Excellency the Secretary-General welcomed the return of the Syrian Arab Republic



to the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, expressing his appreciation for the distinguished scholarly contributions of Syrian scholars since the Academy's establishment and for their pioneering role in enriching its intellectual and academic mission. He commended Syria's restoration of its active position in the international community and emphasised the importance of resuming its participation in joint Islamic efforts. He also stressed the importance of expediting the appointment of a representative for Syria in the Academy to enhance its effective participation in the Academy's work and deliberations. Furthermore, he called for signing a cooperation agreement with the Syrian Ministry of Awqaf to develop bilateral relations and expand areas of coordination and collaboration.

His Excellency also affirmed the Academy's full readiness to cooperate with a distinguished group of Syrian scholars and to benefit from their expertise and academic capabilities in serving the causes of the Ummah and advancing the path of collective jurisprudential reasoning in a way that fulfils the objectives of Islamic law and meets the needs of contemporary societies.

At the conclusion of the visit, His Excellency the Ambassador wrote a note in the guestbook, stating: "The Islamic Ummah today is in great need of cooperation and consultation, and we ask God that your esteemed Academy will play a prominent role in this regard."

The meeting was attended by Mr. Muhammad Al-Mundhir Redha Al-Shawk, Director of the Cabinet and Protocol.



## Secretary-General Receives the Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

His Excellency Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy, received His Excellency Ambassador M. J. H. Javed, Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Permanent Representative to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, on Tuesday, 3 Dhul-Qa'dah 1447 AH, corresponding to 21 April 2026 CE, at the headquarters of the Academy's General Secretariat in Jeddah, in the presence of the delegation accompanying His Excellency.

His Excellency welcomed the Ambassador and his accompanying delegation, expressing his great pleasure at this gracious visit and appreciating the role played by the People's Republic of Bangladesh and its continuous contributions in supporting the Academy since its establishment. He also provided His Excellency with an overview of the Academy's most prominent scientific activities and programs, as the legal and scholarly arm of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, responsible for studying issues, emerging matters, and developments of concern to Muslims, and clarifying the relevant Sharia rulings. This, he noted, contributes to offering sound solutions to contemporary challenges in light of the objectives of Islamic law. His Excellency also expressed his aspiration for active participation from Bangladeshi scholars in the Academy's scientific activities.

His Excellency reaffirmed the Academy's readiness to strengthen cooperation, partnership,



and coordination with educational institutions, religious bodies, and relevant entities in Bangladesh. He proposed signing a memorandum of understanding between the Academy and the Ministry of Religious Affairs, as well as other relevant institutions in the People's Republic of Bangladesh, paving the way for fruitful institutional cooperation that promotes dialogue and moderation.

For his part, His Excellency the Ambassador expressed his gratitude for the warm welcome and gracious reception, praising the pioneering role the Academy, under His Excellency's leadership, has played in addressing emerging issues and challenges faced by Muslim countries and communities worldwide. He also affirmed his keenness to enhance cooperation between the Academy and educational institutions and relevant bodies in Bangladesh, in a way that helps present the true image of Islam.

At the conclusion of the visit, His Excellency the Ambassador wrote a message in the guestbook, stating:

"It was a great honour for me to visit the Islamic

Fiqh Academy today. I had the opportunity to attend a comprehensive presentation by His Excellency Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustapha Sano on the Academy's current and future activities. I look forward to working closely with the specialists at this Academy in the coming days, and I hope to help strengthen the bonds of cooperation between Bangladesh and the International Islamic Fiqh Academy. I was also pleased to learn that some Bangladeshi scholars have previously worked here, and I hope that more Bangladeshi scholars will have the opportunity to work here as well. I wish the Academy continued success in all its future endeavors, and I extend my sincere thanks for the warm reception."

The meeting was attended by Mr. Muhammad Al-Munzir Rida Al-Shawk, Director of the Cabinet and Protocol; Dr. Alhagi Manta Drammeh, Head of the of International Cooperation and External Relations; and Mr. Blait Hussein, Supervisor of Reception and Relations with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs



## Secretary-General of the Academy Visits the Islamic Solidarity

As part of strengthening coordination and integration among the institutions of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, His Excellency Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy, paid an official visit on Thursday, 6 Dhul-Qa'dah 1447 AH, corresponding to 23 April 2026 CE, to the headquarters of the Islamic Solidarity Fund in Jeddah.

His Excellency was received by His Excellency Mr Muhammad bin Sulaiman Aba Al-Khail, Executive Director of the Fund, who welcomed him and the accompanying delegation, expressing his appreciation for this visit, which reflects the Academy's keenness to strengthen ties of communication and cooperation, and to develop areas of joint work in line with the aspirations of both institutions. The meeting also aimed to discuss key issues of mutual interest and exchange expertise and experiences, particularly in the field of endowments, their development, and management.



For his part, His Excellency expressed his gratitude for the warm reception, affirmed his appreciation for the visit, and praised the Fund's role in supporting humanitarian and development work in the Islamic world. He highlighted the importance of enhancing institutional complementarity between the two institutions, given the Fund's impactful field presence and the Academy's strong scholarly and jurisprudential expertise in addressing contemporary issues—an integration that helps achieve tangible outcomes that serve the interests of the Ummah.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the most important areas of mutual cooperation and discussed ways to develop and strengthen them for the benefit of the peoples of the Islamic world. The meeting was attended by Mr Khalid Al-Ahmadi, Director of Administrative and Financial Affairs at the Academy, and Mr Amjad Al-Mansi, Head of the Protocol Division.



## Delegation from the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire Visits the Academy

His Excellency Professor Dr Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy, received a delegation from the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on Thursday, 2 Ramadan 1447 AH, corresponding to 19 February 2026, at the headquarters of the Academy's General Secretariat in Jeddah. The delegation included several members of the Chamber's Executive Office, the Secretary-General of the institution, and a number of Ivorian business leaders and economic actors, in the presence of the Deputy Consul of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire in Jeddah.

His Excellency welcomed the delegation



members, expressing his pleasure at their visit and appreciating the Ivorian Chamber's participation in activities related to the Islamic economy and the halal industry. He affirmed the Academy's readiness to strengthen cooperation with the Chamber in areas of mutual interest, in a manner that serves the issues of the Muslim Ummah and supports joint scholarly and institutional efforts. His Excellency also provided the delegation with an overview of the Academy as a global scholarly body under the umbrella of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and as the highest jurisprudential reference for member states and Muslim communities. The meeting further discussed several topics of shared interest, foremost among them the development

of the halal industry and the enhancement of waqf (endowment) systems across the African continent, in general, and in Côte d'Ivoire, in particular, in ways that contribute to sustainable economic development and support business communities.

For their part, the delegation expressed their deep appreciation for the warm welcome and generous hospitality, praising the depth and clarity of the discussions. They emphasised the importance of continuing coordination and cooperation with the Academy in fields related to the Islamic economy and the halal industry. The delegation also extended an official invitation to His Excellency to visit the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, opening new horizons for fruitful cooperation between the two sides.



## The International Islamic Fiqh Academy Participates in the UN International Day of Zero Waste



The General Secretariat of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) was represented by Dr Alhagi Manta Drammeh, Director of the International Cooperation and External Relations Division, in the seminar held to mark the International Day of Zero Waste, adopted by the United Nations. The event took place on Sunday, 17 Shawwal 1447 AH, corresponding to 5 April 2026, and was organised in cooperation between the OIC and the Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Türkiye to the Organization. The seminar opened with a welcoming address

by H.E. Ambassador Aftab Khokhar, Assistant Secretary-General for Science and Technology at the OIC, who emphasised the importance of this event in strengthening international efforts to reduce waste and address its environmental impacts. Several distinguished officials also delivered remarks highlighting the need to intensify international and regional efforts to address waste-related environmental challenges and to enhance community awareness of the importance of environmental preservation. In his intervention, Dr Drammeh stressed the

importance of the societal and religious dimensions in supporting waste-reduction initiatives. He explained that religious institutions play a central role in guiding the behavior of individuals and communities, raising environmental awareness, and reinforcing values of responsibility toward natural resources. He also noted that Islamic law has established an integrated system of values that calls for moderation and balance, prohibits wastefulness, and encourages the preservation of resources and the protection of the environment. He reviewed several relevant Academy resolutions, including Resolution No. (234 (5/24)) and Resolution No. (185 (11/19)), both of which emphasise the importance of achieving food security and adopting policies that promote the rational and sustainable use of resources, while underscoring the priority of water and food issues in Islamic countries.

This participation is part of the Academy's commitment to contributing effectively to international environmental issues and to strengthening its presence in regional and international forums, in line with its mission to clarify the rulings of Islamic law and highlight its role in addressing contemporary issues.

## A Delegation of Female Students from Dar Al-Hekma University



As part of educational visits to introduce the mission and activities of the Academy, the Academy visited the General Secretariat of the Academy's headquarters in Jeddah on Tuesday, 19 Shawwal 1447 AH, corresponding to 7 April 2026. The delegation was accompanied by several faculty members and was received by His Excellency Prof. Dr Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, who welcomed the students and their professors, expressing his pleasure at the visit and appreciating the university's efforts in supporting the educational process. During the meeting, His

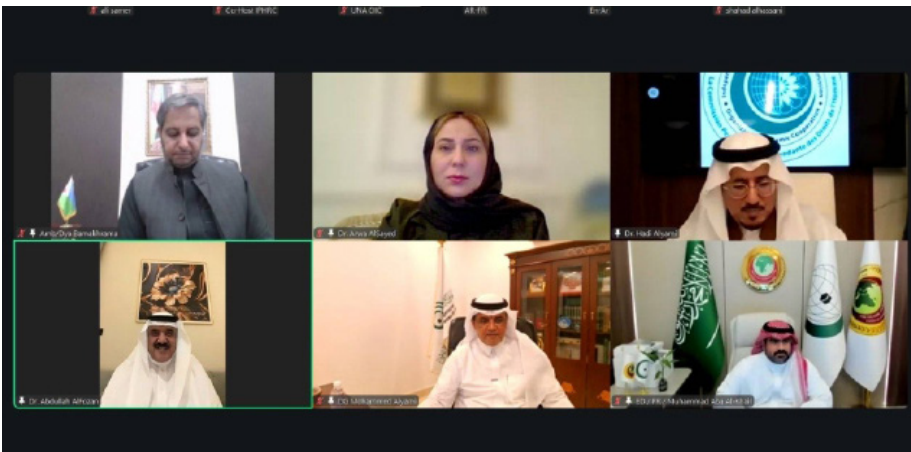
Excellency presented a comprehensive overview of the Academy's establishment, objectives, and activities, highlighting its role in addressing contemporary fiqh issues and its status as the supreme fiqh authority for the Organization of Islamic Cooperation's member states. He also affirmed the Academy's commitment to moderation and renewal, and its pursuit of strengthening disciplined collective ijtihad. He further discussed the pivotal role of women in building societies and achieving development, noting that certain practices in some communities that diminish the status of women have no connection to the teachings of Islam, and emphasising the importance of education and awareness in correcting such misconceptions. The meeting included a screening of an introductory documentary film about the Academy, followed by an interactive discussion in which His Excellency answered the students' questions and listened to their comments, fostering a productive academic atmosphere. For their part, the delegation's accompanying

representatives expressed their deep gratitude and appreciation for the warm reception, valuing the rich academic presentation delivered by His Excellency, and affirming their aspiration to strengthen cooperation between Dar Al-Hekma University and the Academy.

The meeting was attended by Ms Sarah Amjad Badawi, Director of the Department of Family, Women, and Childhood, and Dr Alhagi Manta Drammeh, Head of the International Cooperation and External Relations Division at the Academy.



## The International Islamic Fiqh Academy participates in a seminar on humanitarian action.



At the kind invitation of the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Dr Alhagi Manta Drammeh, Head of the division of International Cooperation and External Relations, took part in a specialised seminar titled "Humanitarian Action as a Tool for Promoting Human Rights and the Values of Coexistence and Tolerance." The seminar was held on Thursday, 16 Ramadan 1447 AH, corresponding to 5 March 2026, at the OIC

headquarters in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It was part of a joint Ramadan event organised by the OIC Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission in cooperation with the Union of OIC News Agencies (UNA), aimed at raising awareness of the link between humanitarian work and human rights. The seminar opened by emphasising the vital role humanitarian action plays in protecting human dignity, especially in areas affected by

crises, disasters, and conflicts. It also highlighted its contribution to strengthening the values of coexistence and tolerance and promoting social peace within diverse communities.

In his intervention, Dr Drammeh stressed the importance of integrating humanitarian work with religious values to reinforce human rights principles. He explained that religious institutions play a central role in raising awareness, promoting the values of compassion and solidarity, and fostering a culture of responsibility toward individuals and society.

The seminar also featured participation of several entities, including the OIC General Secretariat, the Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission, the King Abdulaziz Center for National Dialogue, the Muslim World League, the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center, and the Islamic Solidarity Fund. Their involvement reflects the diversity of efforts and complementarity of roles in serving humanitarian causes.

## Islamic Fiqh Academy Participates in a Seminar on Popular Cultural heritage in Ramadan.



As part of the Academy's commitment to contributing to cultural issues with civilizational significance and strengthening its presence in scientific and cultural events

in line with its mission to serve contemporary Islamic concerns, Dr Alhagi Manta Drammeh, Head of the International Cooperation and External Relations Division, took part in an academic seminar titled "Popular Cultural Heritage in Ramadan." The seminar was held on Sunday, 19 Ramadan 1447 AH, corresponding to 8 March 2026, via videoconference.

The seminar addressed the most prominent customs and traditions associated with the month of Ramadan across OIC member states amid rapid social and cultural transformations.

It also discussed the challenges facing this popular cultural heritage and the means of preserving it.

The seminar concluded with a set of proposed visions and policy recommendations aimed at safeguarding the popular cultural heritage of Ramadan and strengthening the sustainability of its religious and cultural identity. A comprehensive report containing the key issues and recommendations will be submitted to the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to support the development of relevant policies.

## Sixty-Third Periodic Monthly Staff Meeting

As part of the periodic meetings aimed at strengthening institutional communication, monitoring workflow, and enhancing administrative and scholarly performance at the Academy, His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy, chaired the sixty-third monthly meeting of the Academy's staff on Monday, 19 Ramadan 1447 AH, corresponding to 10 March 2026, at the General Secretariat headquarters in Jeddah.

His Excellency opened the meeting by welcoming all attendees and emphasising the importance of these regular gatherings as an opportunity to evaluate ongoing work, reinforce the spirit of cooperation among the Academy's personnel, and discuss various organisational and administrative matters that contribute to improving performance and achieving the Academy's objectives and the mission of the General Secretariat.



The meeting included discussions on several workflow-related topics. Emphasis was placed on following up on maintenance work in the Academy's building, including completing the preparations of the external entrance, improving the façade and lighting, and monitoring several organisational aspects related to the scientific events organised by the Academy.

As the meeting serves as a platform to enhance communication among staff, address challenges, and exchange proposals that support institutional development, several decisions were issued, most

notably:

- Completing the preparation of the preliminary version of the Dictionary of the Academy's Eminent Scholars in preparation for printing, along with revising the list of experts associated with it.
- Finalising arrangements for the Religious Leaders Symposium, including preparing the final research papers, printing, and completing the technical and media preparations related to the event.
- Following up on the preparation of publications and gifts designated for the Academy's guests, and developing technical services.
- Organising procedures related to emergency leave in a manner that strengthens trust and professional responsibility among the Academy's staff.

## Thirtieth Joint Weekly Meeting of the Departments and Divisions

His Excellency Prof. Dr Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy, chaired the thirtieth joint weekly meeting of the departments and divisions on Monday, 13 Ramadan 1447 AH, corresponding to 2 March 2026, at the headquarters of the Academy's General Secretariat. The meeting was held as part of an ongoing follow-up on institutional workflow and the completion of organisational and scholarly arrangements for upcoming programs and events.

His Excellency started the meeting by welcoming the attendees and presenting the outcomes of his recent meeting with the Malaysian Minister of Religious Affairs, during which they discussed the arrangements for the Academy's upcoming session. The Malaysian government, at the level of the Prime Minister's Office, expressed great interest in hosting the session, and discussions covered the proposed dates, topics, and agenda,

in addition to a proposal to add a new scholarly theme related to the jurisprudence of coexistence and to introduce minor adjustments to some of the titles.

The meeting also extensively discussed the ongoing preparations for the Religious Leaders' Symposium, scheduled for the end of March. Emphasis was placed on accelerating work and strengthening coordination among relevant departments to ensure the symposium's success and the achievement of its academic and organisational objectives.

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

- Activating the work of the committees responsible for the session and the symposium, including the Scientific Committee chaired by Dr Muhammad Shuaib, to begin reviewing the submitted papers, distributing them among committee members, and completing the review



within one week.

- Following up on the printing processes related to the Academy's publications, while considering suitable alternatives in case of delays.
- Finalizing media and organizational arrangements, including media coverage, designs, banners, and informational materials, according to a defined timeline.
- Sending the final versions of the symposium papers to participants well in advance of the event to allow sufficient time for review.

## Joint weekly meeting

His Excellency Prof. Dr Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy, chaired the thirty-first joint weekly meeting of the departments and divisions on Thursday, 16 Ramadan 1447 AH, corresponding to 5 March 2026, at the Academy's General Secretariat headquarters, to follow up on and finalise the organisational arrangements for the upcoming symposium for religious leaders.

He opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees and affirming that the session was dedicated to reviewing the final arrangements for organising the symposium, noting that the full picture of its convening would become



clearer in the coming week.

The meeting also discussed the organisational and technical aspects related to the symposium, including arrangements for guest participation, travel procedures, completion of the scientific papers prepared for the event, coordination with the entities responsible for printing and simultaneous interpretation,

and follow-up on the proposals and services associated with organising the event.

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

- Relying on the visas that have already been issued.
- Communicating with participants whose travel tickets have been issued to confirm their attendance.
- Finalising the coordination of research papers in their final form for printing.
- Completing the arrangements related to simultaneous interpretation and other organisational services for the symposium.

## Thirty-Second Joint Meeting of Departments and Divisions

H.E. Prof. Dr Koutoub Moustafa Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, chaired the thirty-second joint meeting of the departments and divisions on Tuesday, 20 Shawwal 1447 AH, corresponding to 8 April 2026, at the General Secretariat headquarters in Jeddah. The meeting was held as part of ongoing efforts to monitor institutional workflow and strengthen coordination between departments and divisions.

He started the meeting by welcoming the attendees and emphasising the importance of such gatherings in supporting administrative integration, enhancing performance efficiency, and following up on the implementation of scientific programs and activities, all of which contribute to achieving the Academy's objectives and institutional mission. The



meeting also addressed organisational arrangements for the upcoming scientific seminar and discussed ways to facilitate specialists' participation. In addition, the possibility of printing the session's research papers in Malaysia was examined, with an emphasis on meeting the deadlines for submitting final versions of the papers before the session convenes.

The meeting then reviewed previous decisions in detail and concluded with several

resolutions, the most notable of which were:

- Communicating with the relevant authorities to complete visa procedures according to the proposed timeline after the Hajj season and coordinating for its official approval.
- Coordinating with the concerned entities to ensure readiness of travel and accommodation arrangements for participants.
- Communicating with the relevant parties to finalise the seminar's date after the Hajj season.
- Studying the feasibility of printing the session's research papers in Malaysia in terms of cost and timeframe, in preparation for making an appropriate decision.

## The Sixty- Fourth Monthly Staff Meeting



H.E. Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustafa Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, chaired the sixty-fourth periodic monthly meeting of the Academy's staff on Sunday, 17 Shawwal 1447 AH, corresponding to 5 April 2026, at the General Secretariat headquarters in Jeddah.

At the outset, His Excellency welcomed the attendees and offered condolences to Mr. Al-Mu'azz al-Riyahi on the passing of his sister—may God have mercy on her—who returned to her Lord during the Eid al-Fitr holiday. He prayed that God envelop her in His vast mercy

and grant patience and solace to her family and loved ones.

He also expressed his gratitude to Mr Muhammad al-Munzir al-Shawk and Dr Abd al-Fattah Mahmoud for their contributions to the preparation of the Academy's statement on current events in the region, asking God to extinguish the flames of discord and unite Muslims upon the values of Islamic brotherhood and good neighbourliness.

His Excellency explained that this meeting was designated as an opportunity for self-reflection, to address challenges, present proposals, and strengthen communication among the Academy's staff. He opened the floor for employees to share their views and suggestions to improve workflow and enhance the Academy's performance.

The meeting discussed several administrative and organizational matters and concluded with a set

of decisions, the most notable of which were:

- Communicating with the relevant authorities to explore the possibility of allocating the western parking area for the Academy's staff and visitors.
- Completing procedures to replace the furniture of certain employees after the specialized committee determined it was no longer usable.
- Beginning the initial review to distinguish between published books and research papers and removing entries lacking proper documentation, prior to sending the preliminary version of the Academy's Biographical Dictionary along with an updated list of experts.
- Preparing letters regarding the research papers of the previous session for several distinguished participants, with copies of the papers attached according to the specified arrangements.

## One-hundred and Fifty-third weekly Meetong of Departments



His Excellency Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy, presided over the one-hundred-and-fifty-third weekly meeting of the departments on Wednesday, 21 Ramadan 1447 AH, corresponding to 11 March 2026, at the Academy's General Secretariat headquarters in Jeddah.

At the outset, His Excellency welcomed the attendees and emphasised the importance of these regular meetings in accomplishing

administrative and scholarly tasks and ensuring their proper follow-up, contributing to the continued success of the Academy's work and the development of its institutional performance. The meeting addressed several topics related to workflow within the Academy, including His Excellency's remarks on postponing the symposium titled "The Role of Religious Leaders in Combating Violence Against Women". The meeting stressed the need to continue completing all preparations so that it may be held as soon as suitable conditions allow, God willing. The meeting also reviewed the ongoing preparations for holding the Academy's twenty-seventh session in Malaysia and the progress of scientific reviews of the research papers submitted for it.

The meeting concluded with several decisions, notably:

- Continuing follow-up with several bookstores, including Jarir Bookstore, regarding the methods used to sell the Academy's books online.
- Communicating with the printing press to explore the possibility of typesetting and printing selected issues of the Academy's journal, and requesting a price quotation for this purpose.
- Printing a new hard-copy version of the updated strategic plan, incorporating the comments received from Academy staff, and distributing it to departments and sections for review before discussing it in the next meeting.

## One Hundred and Fifty-Fourth Regular Weekly Departmental Meeting

H.E. Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustafa Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, chaired the one-hundred-and-fifty-fourth weekly meeting of the departments on Monday, 11 Shawwal 1447 AH, corresponding to 30 March 2026, at the General Secretariat headquarters in Jeddah.

He began the meeting by welcoming the attendees and emphasising the importance of regular meetings in supporting the completion of administrative and scholarly tasks, strengthening follow-up efficiency, and contributing to the continued success of institutional work. The meeting also reviewed progress on matters related to the upcoming session, particularly the review of submitted research and the completion of approval



procedures in preparation for sending the final versions for printing.

He further instructed the Department of Planning and International Cooperation to proceed with printing the updated version of the strategic plan after incorporating the remarks submitted by the relevant departments, in preparation for its final

approval. This step aims to establish a clear roadmap for implementing the Academy's future programs and activities.

The meeting concluded with several decisions, notably:

- Continued coordination between the Fatwa and Libraries Departments and the Financial Affairs Department to provide the required data regarding the Academy's participation in books presented at international exhibitions.
- Emphasis on organising the administrative aspects of regular meetings, including hospitality arrangements for staff meetings.
- Approval to proceed with printing the updated version of the strategic plan according to the submitted remarks, in preparation for its adoption before the next meeting.

## 155th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Departments

His Excellency Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy, chaired the 155th weekly meeting of the departments on Monday, 25 Shawwal 1447 AH, corresponding to 13 April 2026 CE, at the headquarters of the Academy's General Secretariat in Jeddah.

His Excellency opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees and emphasising the importance of regular meetings in enhancing the efficiency of administrative and scholarly work, facilitating follow-up and implementation, and contributing to the continued success of institutional performance. The meeting also addressed progress on tasks related to the upcoming session, particularly the review of submitted research papers and ensuring they meet the

required thematic criteria in preparation for approval and printing.

His Excellency further instructed the Department of Planning and International Cooperation to send the revised strategic plan to his office for review and comments, in preparation for its final approval. This step aims to establish a clear roadmap for implementing the Academy's future programs and activities.

Following this, the attendees discussed the items listed on the agenda and made several decisions, the most notable of which were:

Continuing coordination among the Departments of Fatwas, Libraries, and Legal Affairs to provide the necessary information regarding the approved methods for selling the Academy's books.



Preparing cost estimates for printing the research papers of the upcoming session, in addition to the air-freight costs associated with shipping them.

Proceeding with the printing of the new version of the strategic plan in accordance with the feedback received from the relevant departments, in preparation for its approval.

## The 74th Periodic Meeting of Divisions



His Excellency Prof. Dr Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy, chaired the 74th regular meeting of division heads on Thursday, 28 Shawwal 1447 AH, corresponding to 16 April 2026 CE, at the headquarters of the Academy's General Secretariat in Jeddah.

At the beginning of the meeting, His Excellency welcomed the attendees and emphasised the importance of regular meetings to strengthen coordination among departments and ensure effective follow-up

on tasks. He also instructed that all research papers submitted for the Academy's 27th Session in Malaysia be re-evaluated using a specialised programme designed to assess the level of scholarly contribution by researchers, assigning this task to a number of specialists. The meeting further discussed several administrative and organisational matters related to the Academy's workflow, as well as reviewed scientific, media, and technical aspects connected to the Academy's programs and activities.

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

Updating, designing, and printing the Academy's introductory booklets and adding them to the official gifts prepared for the Academy's guests.

Completing the dispatch of the Academy's publications—including the Book of Resolutions and the Academy Journal—to

universities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Updating the photographs of former and current Secretaries-General and members, and refreshing media content across the Academy's platforms.

Following up on translation contract procedures, sending them to translators, and completing all related legal requirements.

Organising participation procedures for Academy staff in training courses.

Sending the Academy's newsletter regularly to members and experts through communication channels.

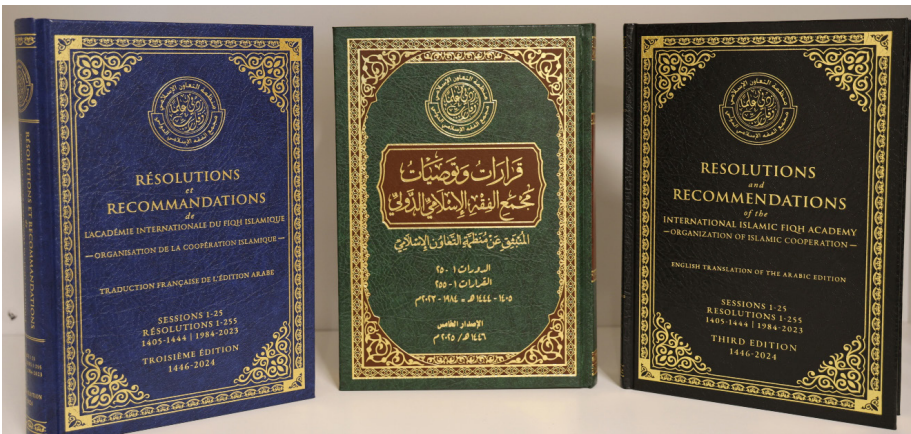
Following up on the printing rights of the Book of Resolutions in the Turkish language.

Enhancing the Academy's media presence across social media platforms.

Updating the photo archive of events and occasions.

Continuing technical training for Academy staff.

## 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

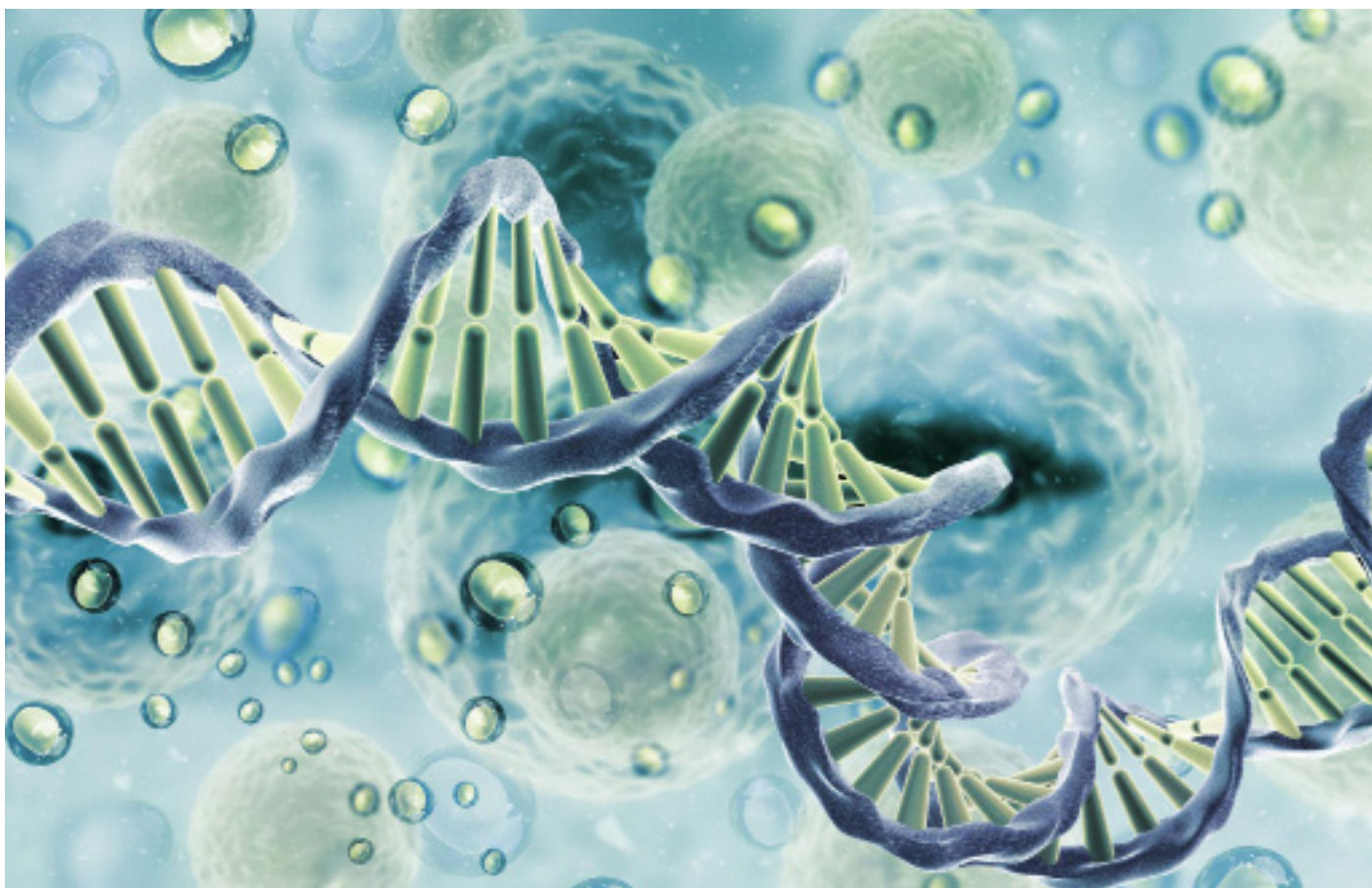
Council of the Academy has reached two hundred and seventy (270) resolutions on intellectual, educational, social, economic, and halal issues. Thanks to Allah, these resolutions have become the scientific reference to which many countries turn, societies take refuge, and many peoples prefer to follow. 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 Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy Concerning Genetics, Genetic Engineering, and the Human Genome



### Resolution No. 105 (8/11) Heredity, Genetic Engineering, and the Human Genome

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, holding its 11th session in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, on 25–30 Rajab 1419h (14–19 November 1998),

Having examined the research papers submitted to the Academy concerning Heredity, Genetic Engineering, and the Human Genome,  
Having reviewed the resolutions and

recommendations of the 11th Medical Fiqh Symposium held jointly by the International Islamic Fiqh Academy in Jeddah, the Islamic Organization for Medical Sciences (Kuwait), the Regional Office of the World Health Organization (Alexandria), and the Islamic Organization for Education, Science and Culture (ISESCO), on 23–25 Jumādā al-Ākhirah 1419h (13–15 October 1998) in the State of Kuwait,

Resolves

To postpone the issuance of a resolution on this subject pending further re- search and study.

Indeed, Allāh is the Giver of success.

## Resolution No. 193 (8/20) Genetic Engineering and the Human Genome from an Islamic Perspective

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, holding its 20th session in Oran, People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, on 26 Shawwāl – 2 Dhū al-Qi'dah 1433h (13–18 September 2012),

Having examined the research papers submitted to the Academy concerning

Genetic Engineering and the Human Genome from an Islamic Perspective, Having reviewed the recommendations of the 11th

Medical Fiqh Seminar organized in collaboration between the Academy and the Islamic Organization for Medical Sciences of Kuwait on Genetic Engineering and Genetic Treatment from an Islamic Perspective in 1419h (1998), Having listened to the discussions on the subject,

Resolves

First: Postponement of finalization of this subject to a later session of the Academy.

Second: The Council of the Academy is to organize a specialized seminar to discuss the subject in detail and submit its recommendations to one of the forthcoming sessions of the Council.

Indeed, Allāh is All-Knowing.

## Resolution No. 203 (9/21) Heredity, Genetic Engineering and Human Genome

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, holding its 21st session in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 15–19 Muḥarram 1435h (19–22 November 2013),

Having reviewed the recommendations of the Medical Fiqh Symposium on Heredity, Genetic Engineering and Human Genome organized by the Academy in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 13–15 Rabī' al-Ākhir 1434h (23–25 February 2013), in collaboration with the Islamic Organization for Medical Sciences (IOMS) of Kuwait, in response to the Academy resolution no. 193 (8/20), issued at

its 20th session in Oran, People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, on 26 Shawwāl – 2 Dhū al-Qi'dah 1433h (13–18 September 2012),

Having listened to the in-depth discussions on the subject,

Resolves

First: Human Genome

Reading the human genome, which means (drawing the complete genetic map of a human being) constitutes part of the attempts of human being to know themselves and explore the divine laws that govern Allāh's

creatures in the world, a fact that the Quran indicates in the verse, «Soon will we show them our signs in the (furthest) regions (of the earth) and in their own souls,» (Fuṣṣilat, 53) and other similar verses. Because reading the human genome is a means for identification of some hereditary diseases or probability of their occurrence, it represents a valuable addition to endeavors of health and medical scientists to facilitate means of diagnosis, prevention and treatment of diseases, and, hence, is classified under acts of farḍ al-kifāyah (collective duty) in the society; with due consideration to the following rulings:

It is permissible to use the human genome or part of it for beneficial

purposes, as long as it aims to achieve interests that conform to those pursued by Shariah, such as disease prevention and Genome should not be used for harmful purposes or in any way that contradicts with rules and principles of Shariah.

It is prohibited to conduct any research work, experiment, therapy or diagnosis relating to a person's genome before performing a precise pre-evaluation for the probable risks and benefits of the act to be conducted. Research work in this regard should be conducted with full abid- ance by relevant norms of Shariah.

For analyzing the genetic map of a person, appropriate and Shariah-recognizable permission must be obtained from him or his lawful guard- In a genetic map, analyzing the interest of the person in question should also be given utmost priority. Everybody has the right to decide on whether he wants to be informed about the results or consequences of any genetic examination he under- goes or not.

Whether kept or used for research or any other purpose, genetic diagnoses should be treated with complete confidentiality. Information relating to such diagnoses should never be disclosed except in cases indicated in Academy resolution no. 79 (10/8) on "Confidentiality in Medical Professions" and resolution 142 (8/15) on "Physician's Liability." The physician must obtain the patient's permission to disclose his secret to his family when the latter has a dangerous disease. If the patient refuses to give such permission, the physician should keep trying to

convince him to save the lives of the patient's family members.

Reemphasizing Shariah criteria regarding human genome stated in the recommendation of the seminar on Heredity, Genetic Engineering, Human Genome and Genetic Treatment organized by IOMS – Kuwait in cooperation with the Academy in

Nobody should encounter any form of discrimination due to his genetic characteristics if the aim behind such discrimination is to violate his fundamental rights and freedoms or abuse of his

It is prohibited to conduct any clinical research relating to the human genome or its applications, especially in biology, genetics, and medi- cine, that contradicts with rulings of Shariah or does not show respect to Shariah-recognizable human rights.

Genetic Treatment:

It refers to transferring a part of DNA (or a fit gene) to replace an infected gene

and hence restore a previous genetic function inside the cell. With regard to the genetic treatment of the cell, it can be divided into two types:

— First Type: Genetic Treatment of Somatic Cells

This type of treatment includes all body cells, and its Shariah ruling differs ac- cording to its specific purpose. If curing is the real purpose of genetic treatment, then treatment is permissible subject to the following conditions:

Treatment should not lead to more

than the already existing

Treatment is believed, most likely, to lead to healing or pain

When an alternative solution is Observation of Shariah-recognizable terms pertaining to donor and recip- ient in cases of transplantation of organs, as stated in Academy resolution 57 (8/6). Moreover, treatment should be done by specialists of vast experience, high performance and honesty.

If genetic treatment is sought for the mere sake of acquiring specific charac- teristics such as shape alteration, it becomes prohibited because it involves the prohibited act of changing the original form of Allāh's creation. In the absence of any Shariah recognizable necessity or need that could justify it, genetic treat- ment is an act of futility and abuse of human dignity.

— Second Type: Genetic Treatment of Genital Cells

This refers to the genetic treatment of sex (reproduction) cells. It is permissible to perform a genetic examination for these cells to see if they suffer from a ge- netic disease or not.

However, genetic treatment of genital cells in their present form, which does not abide by Shariah rulings, especially with regard to mixing of lineage, is pro- hibited given the danger and harm it involves.

Second: Genetic Engineering

It is prohibited to use genetic engineering to change the genetic setup through what is known as "Enhancement of Human Progeny."

Any attempt of genetic tampering with the human character or intervening with the capacity to assume individual responsibility is prohibited by

Utilization of genetic engineering in the fields of botany and zoology is permissible in principle, subject to the following norms:

Such utilization should not lead to harm sooner or

It should be for an appropriate and permissible purpose, rather than for the sake of abuse and wastefulness.

It should be undertaken by specialists of vast experience and

Genetic Engineering should not be used for harmful

### Third: Genetic Counselling

Genetic counselling aims to provide its seekers with the proper knowledge, besides predictable outcomes and their statistical probability. Decision making, in this regard, belongs only to stakeholders and the treating physician with no attempt to influence them towards any specific direction. This process involves several aspects of which most important are the following:

Facilitation of genetic counselling services at a wide scope to families and those about to get married, recruitment of competent specialists, and using all available means for disseminating mass awareness and

Genetic counselling should be done as per the clause regarding "Preventive Genetic Survey" in this resolution, provided that its outcomes would not entail any mandatory action.

Information relating to counselling should be considered as top

Widening the scope of knowledge

about genetic counselling in medical and health institutes and schools, in addition to the presentation of such knowledge through media and worship places, by well-qualified specialists in the subject.

Families that witness the frequent occurrence of a genetic disease in some of their members need to consult physicians to know about the probability of transmission of such disease.

### Shariah Rulings on Genetic Treatments

Rulings on genetic treatment differ as follows:

#### Preventive Genetic Survey

It is permissible to conduct this type of survey, provided that the means used are permissible and safe. In order to achieve the interest of averting public harm, the competent national authority has the right to enforce such device when, for instance, an epidemic disease spreads in a country or when a country becomes vulnerable to radioactive or toxic materials that can adversely affect genes. However, the survey results should remain confidential to preserve the

privacy of personal affairs and maintain human dignity, as emphasized in the objectives and general principles of Shariah.

#### Pre-Marriage Genetic Examination

It is permissible to undertake pre-marriage genetic examination since it helps achieve objectives of Shariah by safeguarding family against genetic diseases, provided that the means used are permissible and safe. The competent author- ity can

also enforce pre-marriage genetic examination for the realization of a Shariah recognizable public interest.

### Genetic Diagnosis before Sperm Culture

It is permissible to perform diagnosis before sperm culture and after in-vitro fertilization (in-vitro fertilization babies), provided that precautionary measures are taken to ensure the avoidance of sample mixing.

### Genetic Examination during Pregnancy

This method has several medical means and can be performed at different stages at the beginning, in the middle, or at the end of pregnancy. If it is proved that there is a genetic disease, the fetus can be aborted as indicated in Academy resolution no. 56 (7/6) on Abortion.

### Genetic Examination after Delivery

The genetic examination must be done for newborns to give a chance for early intervention when there are curable cases.

### Recommendations

Enhancing awareness about genetic diseases and working for reduction of their occurrence.

Encouraging pre-marriage genetic tests through enlightenment campaigns through media, organization of seminars and at worship places.

Calling upon national health authorities to increase the number of human genetic units to facilitate access to services of genetic counseling consultants and enlarge the scope of health services in diagnostic and therapeutic genetics

to enhance reproductive health.

Calling upon IOMS and other specialized institutions to follow up new developments in the area of genetic engineering.

Calling upon Muslim countries to pay more attention to all Shariah-recognizable areas of genetic engineering. This would require performance of several tasks, including:

Establishment of specialized research centers that work in this field with the maximum possible synergy and

complete conformity with rules and principles of Shariah.

Provision of highly qualified human resources to work in these

Including genetics in educational programs at different

Simplification of results of genetic research work and surveys for its dissemination through different media

Muslim countries are urged to provide free of charge service of this kind to its needy people who cannot afford the payment of its high cost.

Companies that produce animal

and plant products should clearly indicate if any of their products are produced through genetic engineering techniques so that consumers can base their decisions to purchase such products or not on such information.

Calling upon Muslim countries to issue necessary rules and regulations to protect their people against being used as fields of

Activating the role of consumer protection agencies and raising its awareness in Muslim countries.

Indeed, Allāh is All-Knowing.

### Resolution No. 235 (6/24)

## Human Genome and Future Bioengineering: Review of IIFA Resolution their Practical Results, Updates and Challenges

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, holding its 24th session in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, on 7–9 Rabi' al-Awwal 1440h (4–6 November 2019),

Having examined the research papers submitted to the Academy concerning the Human Genome and Future Bioengineering: Review of IIFA Resolutions, their Practical Results, Updates and Challenges,

Having listened to the in-depth discussions on the subject,

Resolves

First: confirmation of the Academy resolution no. 203 (9/21) on Heredity, Genetic Engineering and Human Genome, held at its 21st session in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi

Arabia, on 18–19 Muharam 1435 (22 November 2013).

Second: genome editing techniques (e.g. CRISPR-CAS 9) are modern techniques of genomic modification and genome editing, which utilize substitution or correction, resembling the method used in computer spell-checking; but instead of editing words, genome editing techniques rewrite DNA.

These techniques are more accurate and accessible than previous gene therapy techniques and aim to cure many incurable diseases. However, these techniques still need further research to ensure their safety and effectiveness. Genome editing would be allowed only if it fulfils the following conditions:

Safety and effectiveness should be accredited by relevant medical

To be used for medical purposes, such as preventing and treating genetic Using these techniques for aesthetic (ameliorative) purposes is strictly forbidden.

Requiring stringent regulatory procedures to ensure genome editing patients' dignity and prevent abuse of these techniques.

Third: Mitochondrial Transfer Technique. Given the confounding of kinships (ikhtilāf al-ansāb) that this entails, it is prohibited in Shariah to transfer mitochondria (i.e. the cell energy generator) of the egg cell of a healthy woman with its DNA to a woman suffering from mitochondria DNA lesion by using the mitochondrial technique for the purpose of producing a healthier child as it may also cause an incurable disease, as well as the confounding of kinships mentioned above.

Indeed, Allāh is All-Knowing.



## Resolutions and Recommendations of the Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy Concerning Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and its Related Sharia Rulings



### Resolution No. 82 (13/8) Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS)

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, holding its 8th session in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, on 1–7 Muḥarram 1414h (21–27 June 1993),

Having examined the research papers submitted to the Academy concerning Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS),

Having listened to the discussions on the subject which concluded that since committing either of the two execrable sins of adultery and sodomy is the main factor behind sexual diseases, the most dangerous of which is AIDS,

Having considered that combating depravity and guiding the media and tourism constitute are important weapons to cure these diseases,

Having acknowledged that upholding the teachings of Islam, combating depravity, reforming the media, banning licentious films and series, and monitoring tourism are undoubtedly essential tools for the prevention of these diseases,

#### Resolves

If one party of the married couple contracts this disease, he/she must inform the other and cooperate with him/her in all protective measures.

#### Recommendations

First: Call on the competent authorities in Muslim States to take all necessary measures to protect against AIDS and punish whoever transmits it intentionally. Also, urging the government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, to continue its intensive efforts to protect foreign pilgrims and take all necessary measures to protect them against AIDS.

Second: Provide AIDS victims with the necessary care; meanwhile, victims and carriers of AIDS must avoid all that could transmit their disease to others. Also, adequate education should be provided to children carrying the disease.

Third: The Secretariat General of the Academy shall commission medical

specialists and Fiqh scholars to conduct complementary research on the following subjects for consideration at future sessions.<sup>21</sup>

Quarantining AIDS carriers and Employers and their stance towards AIDS

Abortion of pregnant AIDS

Giving the right to women married to AIDS victims to rescind their marriage contract (faskh).

Should contracting AIDS be considered as a terminal disease in terms of the victim's behavior?

Implications for AIDS-infected mothers regarding their right to

What is the Shariah ruling regarding a person who deliberately transmits AIDS to others?

Compensation of AIDS victims infected by blood transfusion, any of its substances, or by organ transplantation. Undertaking premarital medical tests to avoid the risk of contagious diseases, namely

Indeed, Allāh is All-Knowing.

## Resolution No. 90 (7/9) Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and its Shariah Rulings

The Council of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, holding its 9th session in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, on 1–6 Dhū al-Qi'dah 1415h (1–6 April 1995),

Having examined the research papers submitted to the Academy concerning Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and its Shariah Rulings, Having listened to the discussions on the subject,

Resolves

First: Isolation of the Patient

Medical data available today affirms that contagion with the human acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) virus does not occur through cohabitation, ordinary contact, breathing, insects' bites, sharing of food, drink, swimming pools, seats, table-ware, or any of the other aspects of ordinary cohabitation. Instead, contagion can only occur through one of the following vehicles:

Sexual contact in any

Transfusion of contaminated blood or its by-products.

Use of contaminated needles, especially among drug addicts, as well as shaving blades.

Transmission from an affected mother to her child during pregnancy or at birth.

Given the above, it emerges that if there is no risk of contagion; hence, isolating victims from their healthy peers is not a Shariah obligation. The patients can be dealt with according to the approved medical procedures.

Second: Deliberate Transmission of the Disease

The deliberate transmission of AIDS to

a healthy individual, in any manner, is haram and is considered one of the major sins and transgressions. It also calls for the imposition of an earthly punishment which may vary depending on the severity of the act and its impact on the health of people and society.

If the purpose of the willful perpetrator is to spread this disease in society, then this act is considered a Hiraba (a crime against humanity) and a vicious act of evil-spreading, which warrants one of the punishments stipulated in the verse of hiraba: «Indeed, the penalty for those who wage war against Allāh and His Messenger and strive upon earth [to cause] corruption is none but that they be killed or crucified or that their hands and feet be cut off from opposite sides or that they be exiled from the land. That is for them a disgrace in this world; a heavy punishment is theirs in the Hereafter.» (Al-Mā'idah, 33)

If his intention in deliberately transmitting the disease, was to infect a specific person, and if the infection has indeed occurred but the victim of the transmission is still alive, the deliberate transmitter is subjected to appropriate punishment of Tazir (as decided by the Islamic judge). In case of the victim's death, then the death penalty is considered applicable to the transgressor.

In case, however, the transgressor's intention was to transmit the disease to a specific person, but the infection does not take place, the transgressor is subject to Tazir punishment.

Third: Abortion of an AIDS-infected Mother

Since the transmission of AIDS occurs, in the overwhelming majority of cases, only at the advanced stage of pregnancy (after the fetus has received life) or during

delivery, it is therefore not permissible to abort the fetus, according to Shariah.

Fourth: Custody and Feeding of an AIDS-infected Mother to her Healthy Child

Current medical data indicates that there is not definite danger in an AIDS-infected mother keeping her child in her custody and breastfeeding him/her, such a case being comparable to the case of ordinary association and cohabitation; therefore, there is no Shariah prohibition on the mother to keep her child in her custody and breastfeed him/her, unless there is a medical report otherwise.

Fifth: Healthy Spouse's Right to Separation from the AIDS-infected Spouse

A wife has the right to request separation from the affected husband, considering that AIDS is a contagious disease that is transmitted primarily through sexual contact.

Sixth: Considering AIDS as a Terminal Disease in Shariah

The disease of AIDS is considered a terminal disease according to Shariah if all its symptoms are present and the victim is no longer able to lead an ordinary living, and death becomes imminent.

Recommendations

First: To postpone the subject of "the right to conjugal relationship" for further research.

Second: The need to maintain screening of Hajj pilgrims, to ensure that they are free of all contagious diseases, including AIDS.

Indeed, Allāh is the Giver of success.

