



## YASAAR LIMITED

Yasaar is an independent global Shariah (Islamic Law) consultancy, with offices in Dubai and London, offering financial institutional clients Shariah compliance services including reviews of financial product structures and advice on amendments to achieve compliance where possible, the provision of support to integrate the amendments proposed to attain Shariah compliant financial product/transaction and the provision of a Shariah Supervisory Board/Panel.

As well as the above areas of Shariah compliance being covered, Yasaar also issues Fatwa/Fatawa (Shariah ruling) Certification of a financial product/transaction's Shariah compliance, Shariah audit/s and certification of compliance.

Initiating Shariah compliant concepts for investment products while engaging with financial institutions to help grow the Islamic finance sector and developing innovative Shariah solutions for financial institutional clients. At the 2004 Kuala Lumpur Islamic Finance Forum, Yasaar was the recipient of the Deloitte Consulting Malaysia's Islamic Finance Award for the "Most Innovative Islamic Financial Product" for the Caravan 1 Limited Sukuk. We are honoured to have Societe Generale, Royal Bank of Scotland Group and Bank of Ireland, among others, as our clients.

The Company has set up representative offices in New York, Kuala Lumpur and Singapore. Yasaar has also developed its own proprietary screening software to provide Shariah compliant Stock universes and through its subsidiary Yasaar Research has partnered with FTSE, the Global Index Company to create Shariah compliant stock indexes in 2005. The first Pan Asian Islamic Index has been developed with FTSE and Singapore Stock Exchange (SGX) and launched in February 2006; similarly the FTSE Bursa Malaysia Hijrah Shariah index was launched in May 2007. The Company is also in the early stages of developing an Islamic banking software module for Islamic banks in all regions under a subsidiary, Yasaar Tech Limited, and in this regard we are planning to partner with an established banking software developer. Yasaar has initiated Shariah and Islamic banking training courses, as well as developing the capability to publish books on the topic of Islamic Banking and Finance. Yasaar was invited and is an elected Associate Member of AAOIFI (Accounting and Auditing Organization for Islamic Financial Institutions)

The company is led by its CEO, Mr. Majid Dawood, a financial sector professional with considerable experience gained at senior level in many organisations world wide, who is supported by a team of industry professionals from diverse disciplines covering research, marketing and management. He has recently been appointed to the Board of Trustees of the "Festival of Muslim Cultures" charity in the U.K., whose patron is H.R.H. Prince Charles, the Prince of Wales.

Yasaar's Shariah Principals are experts in *Fiqh al Maumalat* (Shariah law relating to Financial transactions) and have been established on the Shariah Supervisory Boards of a number of known and established major financial institutions and have invaluable experience in advising on Shariah related issues in the international Islamic Banking and Finance sector.

Yasaar's Scholars include:

### Sheikh Dr. Mohd Daud Bakar

Advisor to Dow Jones Islamic Indexes, Invesco Plc's AIM Global, Bank Negara (Malaysian Central Bank), Regulatory Authorities, Royal Bank of Scotland Group, Bank of Ireland, Societe Generale, Shariah Equal Opportunity Fund among others. Dr. Bakar teaches at the International Islamic University in Kuala Lumpur. Having written many articles on the subject of Islamic finance, he is much in demand at International forums and conferences. Dr. Bakar received his Doctorate from St. Andrews University, Edinburgh and is now based in Kuala Lumpur.

### **Sheikh Dr. Muhammad Amin Ali Qattan**

Dr. Qattan has a Ph.D. in Islamic Banking from Birmingham University and is himself a lecturer as well as a prolific author of texts and articles on Islamic economics and finance. He acts as Shariah advisor and Shariah auditor to many Banks, Finance and takaful companies globally. He is a highly regarded Shariah Scholars and is based in Kuwait. He is fluent in Arabic and English

### **Sheikh Essam Ishaq**

Sheikh Essam is one of the newer Scholars in Yasaar's endeavour to create continuity and enable these Scholars to benefit from the experience of the senior Scholars. Sheikh Essam is advisor to Meezan Bank in Pakistan and is on the Board of AAOIFI as well as First Islamic Investment Bank. He is also very active in educational projects such as Discover Islam. He is a graduate of from McGill University in Canada and now resides in Bahrain.

### **Sheikh Muhammed Noorullah Shikder**

Another of our newer Scholars, Muhammed Noorullah is preparing for his Masters in Law from London University and is also a qualified Barrister from Lincoln's Inn in London. He is a very active educationalist as well as being on the Shariah Boards of Lloyds TSB and ABC Bank's ABC Islamic Asset Management division. He has trained as a banker as well and now resides in Dubai, U.A.E.

### **Sheikh Dr. Mohamed Akram Laldin**

Dr. Mohamad Akram is currently an Assistant Professor and Deputy Dean (Academic Affairs), Kulliyah of Islamic Revealed Knowledge and Human Sciences, International Islamic University, Malaysia (IIUM). He holds a B.A. Honours degree in Islamic Jurisprudence and Legislation from the University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan and a Ph.D. in Principles of Islamic Jurisprudence (Usul al-Fiqh) from the University of Edinburgh. He is a prolific author on the subject of Islamic Finance and Banking as well as a presenter at many conferences worldwide. He is based in Kuala Lumpur.