

Glossary

amana (also: *amanah*, *amanat*): custody, deposit on trust
arbun or *urbun*: a premium paid by the buyer in order to obtain the right to decide at a later moment whether to buy or not
ayatollah: honorific title for an outstanding legal scholar in the Twelver sect of Shiism; literally, Sign of God

bai al-dayn: debt financing by way of sale/purchase of trade documents and papers

bai bithamin ajil: credit sale

bai inah, *bai-al-einah*: repurchase by the seller

bai'muajjal: credit sale (shortened form of *bai bithamin ajil*)

bai'salam: pre-paid purchase

caliph: successor of Muhammad as ruler of the Islamic world

dar al-ahd: the abode of treaty, countries that have a treaty with Muslim countries

dar al-harb: the territory of war

dar al-Islam: the territory or abode of Islam, where Islamic law prevails

dar al-kufr: the house or territory of the infidels

darura: necessity

faqih, pl. *fuqaha*: *fiqh* scholar

fard: obligatory duties

fatwa, pl. *fatawa*: legal opinion, that is, an authoritative, but not binding, ruling on a point of Islamic law issued by a qualified scholar (*mufti*) or group of scholars

fiqh: the science of Islamic law, consisting of interpretation of the *sharia*

gharar: uncertainty, risk

hadith, pl. *ahadith*: tradition, that is, record of actions and sayings of the Prophet and his Companions; collectively known as *Hadith*

haji: pilgrimage to Mecca, which Muslims should do at least once in their life if they possibly can

halal: lawful, or permitted according to the *sharia*

haram: forbidden by the *sharia*

hiba: gift

hijra: emigration, that is, the migration of Muhammad and his Companions from Mecca to Medina in 622, which marks the start of the Muslim era

hiyal: legal stratagem

hudud Allah: boundaries established by Allah

ibadat: devotional matters

ijara: leasing

ijara wa iqtina: lease purchase, lease to own

ijma: the consensus of the scholars

ijtihad: independent reasoning by a qualified jurist deriving new legal rules

illah: reason for something

imam: leader of the Friday mosque services, in Sunni Islam a title also used for the founders of the law schools; in Shia Islam the successor of Muhammad as leader of the Muslim community

Islam: literally, submission (to the will of Allah)

istihsan: juristic preference

istislah: taking account of the public interest (*maslaha*)

istisna: a contract of manufacture with progressive financing

jahiliyyah: Time of Ignorance, prior to the coming of Islam, pre-Islamic Arabian society; the modern world in the eyes of fundamentalist Muslims¹

ja'iz: ethically or morally deemed indifferent by the *sharia*

kafir, pl. *kuffar*: unbeliever

madhhab, pl. *madhahib*: law school

madrassa: school or college of Islamic studies

makruh: undesirable, advisable not to do

mandub: desirable, advisable to do

maslaha: public interest

maulana: a scholar of Persian and Arabic (in India, Pakistan)

maysir: gambling

muamalat: dealings in the political, economic and social spheres

mudaraba: trust financing

mudarib: agent-manager, managing trustee

mufti: a lawyer who is authorized to issue a *fatwa*, jurisconsult

muqarada: *mudaraba*, applied to bonds

murabaha: cost-plus or mark-up financing
musaqat: *musharaka*-like contract in orchard keeping
musawama: a sale that differs from *murabaha* in the sense that no reference is made to the price paid or the cost incurred by the seller
musharaka: partnership financing
musharaka mutanaqisah: diminishing partnership
muzara: *mudaraba*-like contract in farming

qabala: tax farming.
qirad: *mudaraba*, q.v.
qiyas: deduction from analogy
qimar: gambling, including stock market speculation
Quran: literally, recitation; the Holy Book of Islam, revealed to Muhammad by the archangel Jibril, or Gabriel, between 610 and Muhammad's death in 632
quard hasan: beneficence loans

rabb al-mal: the financier or sleeping partner in a *mudaraba* partnership
rahn: repurchase agreement with collateral
ray: personal interpretation
retakaful: *takaful* reinsurance
riba: increase, excess
riba al-fadl: *riba* by way of excess in simultaneous exchange
riba al-nasia: *riba* by way of deferment
riba al-jahiliyya: pre-Islamic *riba*

sadaqa, pl. *sadaqaat*: voluntary alms giving
salat: prayer, required five times daily
sawm: observation of the fast of the month of Ramadan
shahada: profession of faith
Shaik al-Islam: highest-ranking official *mufti* in a country
sharia: Islamic law, based on the *Quran* and the *sunna*
 Shia: Party, that is, Party of Ali, the fourth Caliph and cousin and son-in-law of Muhammad
sukuk: certificates, Islamic bonds
sukuk al-salam: certificates of pre-paid forward sales
sunna: the whole of the *ahadith*; in full: *summat al-nabi*, or habit of the Prophet; sayings and practices of the Prophet
sura: chapter from the *Quran*

ta'awun: mutual assistance
tabarru: voluntary contribution

takaful: cooperative or mutual insurance; literally, mutual support among the members of a society or group of people

takfir: the act of declaring a Muslim an unbeliever, that is, an apostate

tawarruq: literally, monetization (that is, of the traded commodity); purchase of a good on credit followed by a sale to a third party (can be done by a bank on behalf of the clients)

tawheed: the oneness of God

'uhda: an exchange of a cash payment for temporary custodianship and use of property

ulama, sing. *alim*: religious scholars

umma: the community of the believers

urbun, *arbun*: a premium paid by the buyer in order to obtain the right to decide at a later moment whether to buy or not

urf: custom

usul al-fiqh: the 'roots' of Islamic law: *Quran*, *sunna*, *ijma* and *qiyas*

wa'd: unilateral promise

wadia: safekeeping

wakala: attorney-client contract, agency

wakil: agent (pure agent, not a *mudarib* who shares in the profits)

waqf: charitable trust

zahir: literal meaning (of the *Quran* and the *sunna*)

zakat: charity tax, required alms giving

NOTE

1. Actually, it seems that *jahiliyyah* means 'time of wildness' or 'intrepidity' rather than 'time of ignorance' (see Fyzee 2005, p. 6).