

GLOSSARY OF ARABIC TERMS

<i>‘Adl</i>	Justice, fairness, balance.
<i>Aḥādīth</i>	Plural of <i>ḥadīth</i> . (For meaning, see below.)
<i>Aḥkāṃ</i>	Plural of <i>ḥukm</i> . (For meaning, see below.)
<i>Al-ghurm bi al ghunm</i>	One is entitled to a gain only if one agrees to bear the responsibility for the loss.
<i>Al-kharāj bi al-ḍamān</i>	Entitlement to return or yield is for the one who bears the liability (<i>ḍamān</i>) for something.
<i>‘Aqīdah</i>	Belief and creed.
<i>Athmān</i>	Pls. of <i>thaman</i> , money of exchange.
<i>Awqāf</i>	Plural of <i>waqf</i> . (For meaning, see below.)
<i>Āyah</i>	A verse from the <i>Qur’ān</i> .
<i>Bay’</i>	Sale contract.
<i>Bay’ al-‘arbūn</i>	A sale contract, in which a down payment is given and the parties commit themselves to the agreed conditions. The buyer has the right to cancel the sale, but then he will lose the Down payment.
<i>Bay’ al-a‘ayān</i>	Sale of tangible objects such as goods (as against Sale of services or rights).
<i>Bay’ al-dayn</i>	Sale of debt.
<i>Bay’ al-dayn bi al-dayn</i>	A sale contract involving exchange of one debt with another.
<i>Bay’ al-ma‘dūm</i>	Sale of a commodity which does not exist.
<i>Bay’ al-‘īnah</i>	Selling of something to someone at a given price (usually on credit) and then buying it back from him at the same time at a different price (usually for a lower price, but cash).
<i>Bay’ al-kālī’ bi al-kālī’</i>	A sale in which both the delivery of the object of sale and the payment of its price are delayed. It is similar to a modern forward Sale contract.
<i>Bay’ al-salam</i>	It is also called <i>bay’ al-salaf</i> . A sale contract where two parties agree to carry out a sale/purchase of an underlying asset at a predetermined future date but at a price determined and fully paid on spot.

<i>Bay' al-ṣifah</i>	Sale based on detailed description of the object of sale.
<i>Bay' bi-thaman al-'ājil</i>	Another term used for <i>bay' mu'ajjal</i> . For meaning see below.
<i>Bay' mu'ajjal</i>	Sale on credit or a sale in which goods are delivered immediately but payment is deferred.
<i>Buyū'</i>	Plural of <i>bay'</i> : Sales.
<i>Ḍarar</i>	Damage, harm, injury.
<i>Dayn</i>	Debt.
<i>Ḍarūrah</i>	Necessity. (Usually used whereby something otherwise prohibited becomes temporarily permissible.)
<i>Dhimmah</i>	Liability, responsibility.
<i>Dinār</i> (plural <i>Danānīr</i>)	A monetary unit. In early Islamic history.
<i>Dirham</i> (plural <i>Darāhim</i>)	A monetary unit. In early Islamic history.
<i>Fāsīd</i>	Irregular. It refers to irregularities in, or non-fulfilment of, some conditions of the contract. The contract is null and void in majority opinion but not the Hanafi school.
<i>Fatāwā</i>	Plural of <i>fatwā</i> . Religious verdicts by Muslim Scholars.
<i>Fiqh</i>	Refers to the whole body of Islamic jurisprudence. It covers all aspects of life, religious, political, social, commercial or economic. It is based primarily on interpretations of the <i>Qur'ān</i> and the <i>Sunnah</i> . While the <i>Qur'ān</i> and the <i>Sunnah</i> are immutable, <i>fiqh</i> verdicts may change due to changing circumstances.
<i>Fulūs</i>	cheap metal or copper money.
<i>Fuqahā'</i>	<i>sharī'ah</i> Scholars.
<i>Gharar</i>	Literally, it means deception, danger, risk and uncertainty. Technically it means exposing oneself to excessive risk and danger in a business transaction as a result of uncertainty about the price, the quality and the quantity of the counter-value, the date of delivery, the ability of either the

	buyer or the seller to fulfil his commitment, or ambiguity in the terms of the deal, thus exposing either of the two parties to unnecessary risks.
<i>Gharar fāhish</i>	Excessive gharar.
<i>Gharar Yasīr</i>	A little bit of <i>gharar</i> . It is tolerable because it may be unavoidable
<i>Hadānah</i>	The right of custody of a child after divorce.
<i>Hadīth</i>	Sayings, deeds and endorsements of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) narrated by his Companions.
<i>Ḥajj</i>	Pilgrimage to Makkah. It is an obligatory duty on every Muslim if he can afford it, physically and financially.
<i>Ḥalāl</i>	Things or activities permitted by the <i>sharī'ah</i> .
<i>Ḥanafī</i>	A school of Islamic jurisprudence named after Imam Abu Hanifa.
<i>Ḥanbali</i>	A school of Islamic jurisprudence named after Imam Ahmed bin Ḥanbal.
<i>Ḥaqq</i>	Right.
<i>Ḥaqq al-irtifāq</i>	Literally, the right of utilization or easement; technically, the right to derive benefits gratis from the immovable property of someone else. The right has been recognized by the <i>sharī'ah</i> in the spirit of generosity that members of a community should display towards each other.
<i>Ḥaqq al-nuzūl an al-wazā'if</i>	Under Islamic law, certain appointments are for the lifetime of the incumbent. However, he can relinquish the post by his own volition. <i>Ḥaqq al-nuzūl an al-wazā'if</i> refers to this right of relinquishing the post. According to some scholars, he can relinquish his post to another person in exchange for money. Other scholars do not allow charging any money.

<i>Ḥarām</i>	Things or activities prohibited by the <i>sharī'ah</i> .
<i>Ḥaraj</i>	Difficulty and hardship.
<i>Ḥīlah</i> (plural <i>ḥiyal</i>)	Legal trick or device to avoid imposition of a law in a particular case.
<i>Ḥuqūq al-irtifāq</i> (singular <i>ḥaqq al-irtifāq</i>)	Refers to certain rights granted (gratis) to a neighboring house owner, such as, to place a beam on his wall, pass a sewage pipe through his territory to connect to the main line, etc.
‘ <i>Ibādāt</i>	Duties of man due to God.
’ <i>Ibāḥah</i>	Permissibility from a <i>sharī'ah</i> point of view.
<i>Ijārah</i>	Leasing. Sale of usufruct of an asset. The lessor retains the ownership of the asset with all the rights and the responsibilities that go with ownership.
<i>Ijārah muntahiyah bil-tamlīk</i>	Lease ending in ownership.
<i>Ijmā‘</i>	Consensus of Muslim scholars in specific issue. <i>Ijma‘</i> is one of the source of Islamic law.
<i>Ijtihād</i>	Endeavour of a jurist to derive a rule or reach a judgment based on evidence found in the Islamic sources of law, predominantly, the <i>Qur‘ān</i> and the <i>Sunnah</i> . The intellectual effort of Muslim jurists to reach independent religio-legal decisions.
‘ <i>Illah</i>	Effective cause, ratio legis or Reason/characteristic behind a <i>Sharī'ah</i> ruling such that if a particular reason/characteristic is found in other instances, the same ruling will apply.
<i>Istihsān</i>	It refers to departure from a ruling in a particular situation in favour of another ruling, which brings about ease. This is done by taking a lenient view of an act

- which would be considered a 'violation' on a stricter interpretation of the action based on earlier *qiyās*.
- Istijrār* It is a contract of buying a specific commodity in a regular basis, according to market price, with the price settled at the end of the deal and kwon during the period of the contract.
- Istisnā'* A contract whereby a manufacturer (contractor) agrees to produce (build) and deliver a well-described good at a given price on a given date in the future.
- Ju'ālah* A party pays another a specified amount of money as a fee for rendering a specific service in accordance to the terms of the contract stipulated between the two parties. This mode usually applies to transactions such as consultations and professional services, fund placements and trust services.
- Karāhiyyah (makrūh)* Something that is not completely prohibited by the *sharī'ah* but is abhorred.
- Kayliyyan* Weighable.
- Khiyār* Option.
- Khiyār al-'ayb* Option to rescind a sales contract if a defect is discovered in the object of sale.
- Khiyār al-Shart* The option to rescind a sales contract based on some conditions. One of the parties to a sales contract may stipulate certain conditions which, if not met, would grant a right to the stipulating party to rescind the contract.
- Khiyār al-Naqd* It is the right of either of the parties to confirm the contract or to cancel it by means of the payment of the price. In other words, it is the conclusion of a contract with the option that the payment of the price, within a specific period, would confirm the contract while a failure to do so would get cancelled.
- Khulu'* Divorce in return for forgoing dower of wife or the giving of monetary compensation by the wife to the husband.

<i>Mdhab</i> (plural <i>madhāhib</i>)	School of Islamic law.
<i>Mafsadah</i> (plural <i>Mafāsīd</i>)	Anything declared harmful by the <i>sharī'ah</i> or anything hampering the achievement of the <i>maqāsīd</i> of <i>sharī'ah</i> .
<i>Māl</i>	Asset, property.
<i>Māliki</i>	A school of Islamic jurisprudence named after Imam Malik.
<i>Manfa'ah</i>	Usufruct. Benefit derived from a durable commodity/asset.
<i>Maqāsīd al-Sharī'ah</i>	Basic objectives of the <i>sharī'ah</i> . These are protection of faith, life, progeny, property and reason.
<i>Masālih Mursalah</i>	Sing. <i>Maslahah</i> Public interest as determined in the light of the rules of <i>sharī'ah</i> . A <i>Maslahah</i> refers to any action taken to protect any one of the five basic objectives of the <i>sharī'ah</i> .
<i>Maysir</i>	Technically, gambling or any game of chance.
<i>Mu'amalāt</i>	The corpus of Islamic law regulating relation and contracts among human beings (as against <i>Ibādāt</i> , which define relationship between God and His creatures).
<i>Mu'awadāt</i>	Contracts which involve exchange of value for value. As against this, <i>tabarru'āt</i> are contracts involving one-way transfer of value.
<i>Mudarābah</i>	A contract between two parties, capital owner(s) or financiers (called <i>rabb al-māl</i>) and an investment manager (called <i>mudārib</i>). Profit is distributed between the two parties in accordance with the ratio upon which they agree at the time of the contract. Financial loss is borne only by the financier(s). The entrepreneur's loss lies in not getting any reward for his services.
<i>Mudārib</i>	An investment manager in a <i>Mudarabah</i> contract.

<i>Muhtasib</i>	Government Officer supervising the market.
<i>Mukhātarah</i>	Risk.
<i>Muqāraḍah</i> or <i>Qirāḍ</i>	Carries the same meaning, as <i>Mudārabah</i> For meaning, see above.
<i>Muqāwalah</i>	
<i>Murābahah</i>	Sale at a specified profit margin. The term, however, is now used to refer to a sale agreement whereby the seller purchases the goods desired by the buyer and sells them at an agreed marked-up price, the payment being settled within an agreed time frame, either in installments or in a lump sum. The seller bears the risk for the goods until they have been delivered to the buyer.
<i>Mushārahah</i>	Partnership. A <i>mushārahah</i> contract is similar to a <i>mudārabah</i> contract, the difference being that in the former both partners participate in the management and the provision of capital, and share in the profit and loss. Profits are distributed between the partners in accordance with the ratios initially set, whereas loss is distributed in proportion to each one's share in the capital.
<i>Najash</i>	To bid up the price of the item, not with the intention to purchase the item, but rather to raise the price for the customers intending to deceive the buyers).
<i>Naṣ</i>	Text from <i>Qur'an</i> or <i>Sunnah</i> .
<i>Qabḍ</i>	Possession.
<i>Qāḍi</i>	Judge.
<i>Qimār</i>	Gambling.
<i>Qiyās</i>	Application of a rule/law on the analogy of another rule/law if the basis (<i>'illah</i>) of the two is the same. It is one of the secondary sources of Islamic law.
<i>Rabb al māl</i>	Capital owner (financier) in a <i>Mudārabah</i> contract.
<i>Rahn</i>	To pledge something of material value as a security for a debt or pecuniary obligation.

<i>Ribā</i>	Literally, it means increase or addition or growth. Technically it refers to the 'premium' that must be paid by the borrower to the lender along with the principal amount as a condition for the loan or an extension in its maturity. Interest as commonly known today is a form of <i>riba</i> .
<i>Riba al-Fadl</i>	<i>Riba</i> pertaining to trade contracts. It refers to exchange of different quantities (but different qualities) of the same commodity. Such exchange in particular commodities defined in the <i>sharī'ah</i> is not allowed.
<i>Riba al-nasīā'</i>	<i>Riba</i> pertaining to loan contracts.
<i>Rihān</i>	Betting.
<i>Salam</i>	The short form of <i>bay' al-salam</i> .
<i>Samāsirah</i>	Brokers.
<i>Sarf</i>	Currency exchange.
<i>Shāfi</i>	A school of Islamic Law named after Iman Shafii.
<i>Sharī'ah</i>	Refers to the corpus of Islamic law based on Divine guidance as given by the Qurān and the Sunnah and embodies all aspects of Islamic faith.
<i>Shuf'ah</i>	Right of pre-emption.
<i>Sunnah</i>	The <i>Sunnah</i> is the second most important source of the Islamic faith after the <i>Qur'ān</i> and refers to the Prophet' (peace be upon him) example as indicated by his practice of the faith. The <i>sunnaḥ</i> is the collection of <i>ahādith</i> which consist of reports about the sayings, deeds and endorsements of the Prophet (peace be upon him).
<i>Ta'ām</i>	Eatables.
<i>Ta'āwun</i>	Cooperation (for good).
<i>Tabarru'</i>	Actions/contracts, the purpose of which is not commercial but is seeking the pleasure of Allah.
<i>Tahjīr</i>	Barren land.
<i>Takāful</i>	An alternative for the contemporary insurance contract. A group of persons agree to share certain risk (for example, damage by fire) by collecting a specified sum from each. In case of loss to anyone member of the group, the loss is met from the collected funds.
<i>Thaman</i>	Money.
<i>'Urf</i>	Custom.
<i>'Uṣūl</i>	Principles, basics.

<i>'Uṣūl al-fiqh</i>	Islamic Jurisprudence.
<i>'Ulūm al-ḥadīth</i>	Science of the ḥadīth.
<i>Wakālah</i>	Contract of agency. In this contract, one person appoints someone else to perform a certain task on his behalf, usually against a fixed fee.
<i>Waqf</i>	Appropriation or tying up a property in perpetuity for specific purposes. No property rights can be exercised over the corpus. Only the usufruct is applied towards the objectives (usually charitable) of the <i>waqf</i> .
<i>Zakāh</i>	The amount payable by a Muslim on his net worth as a part of his religious obligations, mainly for the benefit of the poor and the needy. It is an obligatory duty on every adult Muslim who owns more than a particular level of wealth.
<i>Zanni</i>	Based on conjecture.