Index of Arabic terms

Adat  
Customary law

Ahadith  
The most verified and widely accepted saying of the prophet Mohamad

Akrah  
Stated pillars of contract

Al-Bay  
Exchange

Al-Faraid  
Binding/mandatory

Al-Ghorm Bil Ghuni  
The principle that one is entitled to a gain only if one agrees to bear the responsibility for the loss – for example, if someone gives finance to someone else, he is only entitled to a share in the profit resulting from the use of that finance if he is also prepared to bear any resultant loss

Al-Juz  
Portion

Al-Khalafiyah  
Property right, acquired through inheritance

Al-Kharaj Bil Daman  
The principle in Islamic jurisprudence that entitlement to return or yield (al-kharaj) is for the one who bears the liability (daman) for something, say an asset, and one who does not bear the liability has no claim to the yield

Al-Mal Mutagawwin  
Trade in lawful property

Al-Marhom  
The late

Al-Milk  
Ownership right

Al-Qatl  
Homicide

Al-Ridha  
Consent

Al-Uqad Muawadah  
Contract of exchange

Al Bai Bithaman  
(BBA) Sales contract where payment is made in instalments after delivery of goods – sale could be for long term, in which case there is no obligation to disclose profit margins

Al Baqarah  
Chapter from the Quran – the meaning of the chapter is ‘The Cow’

‘Aqil/’Uqad  
Contract

Aqil  
Someone in full possession of mental capacity

Asabah Nasaby  
Residuary by reason of blood

‘Asabah Sababy  
Residuary by special reason

Ashabul Furud  
Possessions of obligatory share, meaning the rights associated with position holders’ having to have some holdings

Asl  
Direct purpose

Attawal Ludu Du Minal Mamluk  
Multiplication

Awlad  
Family

Awqaf or Waqf  
Endowments

Bai Al Bithamin  
(BAB) Deferred payment contracts

Baligh  
Adult

Barakah  
Blessing or blessing of wealth

Bathil  
Invalid (contract)
Bay Al-Inah  The sale of something to someone at a given price (usually on credit) and then the purchase back from the buyer, at the same time, at a different price (usually lower but cash) – this kind of sale and buyback is prohibited because it effectively means exchanging a given amount of money with a different amount of money, which amounts to riba: it can be used as a subterfuge for riba dealings
Bay’ Bima Yanqati Bihi Si’r  Sale concluded at market price
Bayt Al-Mal  Public treasury

Commenda  Mudharaba contract
Commodity Murabaha  Reverse commodity resale
Convertible Sukuk  A sukuk contract in which the issuer has stipulated a term to call back the issue after a period of time from issue date

Daman  Guaranty, possession of. It also means the one who bears the liability (daman) for something
Dharurah  (adj.: daruriat) Necessity (usually used for the ‘Doctrine of Necessity’, whereby something otherwise prohibited becomes temporarily permissible)
Dhawl-I-Arham  Distant kindred

Falah  Success
Faraid  Islamic inheritance law/religious laws pertaining to wealth distribution
Fasad  Mischief, troublemaking, corruption
Fatwa  Religious verdict by fuqaha (a person of authority based on knowledge on the subject being decided)
Fiqh  Corpus of Islamic jurisprudence
Fiqh Muamalat  Islamic law of transaction
Fuqaha (plural is faqih): Jurist who gives rulings on various juristic issues in the light of the Quran and the Sunnah

Gharar  Risk or uncertainty, forbidden if excessive and avoidable
Green Sukuk  Sukuk based on Shariah compliant environmental credentials

Hadith  A collection of the sayings of the Prophet as authenticated through a process of verification for evidence
Halal  Permissible
Haq Maliy  Property rights
Haram  Things or activities prohibited by Shariah
Hawl  Specified holding period for paying zakat
Hijrah  The Prophet’s migration from Makka to Yathrib (later called Madina)
Hilah  Legal trick or device to avoid the imposition of a law in a particular case
Hirman  Depriving
Hurr  Free person
Hybrid Sukuk  A combined sukuk structure

I’ta  Granting
Ibtal  Exchange
Idkhal  Reasons or characteristics behind a Shariah ruling such that, if a particular reason or characteristic is found in other instances, the same ruling will apply
Ihrazul Muhabat  Showing affection
Ijara  Lease ending in ownership
Ijarah Manfaa Sukuk  Mode of payment to investors is not fixed but variable
Ijarah Tawilat Al-Ajjal  Long lease right
Ijarah Thuma Al-Bay  Lease then sale
Ijarah Wa Iqtina  Hire-purchase agreement
Ijma  Consensus on legal opinion
Ijtihad  The process of coming to a decision after thorough discussion using intellect and legal principle to depart from an established way of doing things, when change is needed – it is like the Catholic religion’s provision to refer a matter to a select group. In Islam there is no one permanent body
Ikhraj  Addition
Ikhtiar  Effort
Infaq  Spending – in the literature of Islam economics, it usually refers to spending in the ways of God
Innovative Sukuk  Contracts consistent with the basic principles of sukuk but considered by scholars to be innovative
Institute Du Monde Arabe Illah  Arab World Institute
Istibdal  Substitution
Istisna  Judicial preference
Istisna Sukuk  Project based sukuk
Jualah  Performing a given task for a prescribed fee in a given period
Kafala  Guaranty offered on behalf of some party
Kaffarat  Cleansing – or an act of prescribed atonement or penitence one has to do for making an error which will then blot out that mistake
Kalalah  A deceased who left no male ascendant or descendent or heirs for the assets to be inherited
Kasb  Work
Khultah  The mixing of properties from different owners
Maal (Mal)  Asset, property
Mahzab  There are four major schools of thought, each with minor differences in aspects of theological practices
Maisir  Gambling or any game of chance
Majlis  Council
Manfa’ah  Usufruct of a property
Magasid  The objective of Shariah meaning the furtherance of good on earth in one’s life as revealed in the scriptures
Maslaha  Public or private benefit
Maslahah Al-Amnah  Well-being of society
Mata’  Property
Matizab/Mahzab  Schools of thought
Maulaul Mawala  Successor by contract
Mawqaf ala’ah  Beneficiaries
Mawqaf Waqf property
Milkiyyah  Ownership
Milkful Manfa’ah  To benefit from legal ownership
Milkul ‘Ain  Ownership of these properties
Mithl  Market price
Mu‘ajjal  One-time advance
Muamalat  Interpersonal transactions
Mudarabah  Contract between two parties – a capital owner or financier (rabb al-mal) and an investment manager (mudarib). 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. The investment manager’s loss lies in not getting any reward for his labour services
Mudarib  Originator
Mufassal  A document that details the benefits or terms of a deed
Muhtasib  Market supervisors
Mujmal  The beneficiaries’ rights in general
Mulk Kuddain  Loaned projects
Munaﬁqoon  Hypocrites
Mugarasa  An istisna sukuk for funding a special project, e.g. mark-up furniture for hotel
Murabaha  Sale at a specified profit margin. This 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 instalments or as a lump sum. The seller bears the risk for the goods until they have been delivered to the buyer. Also referred to as bay’ mu‘ajjal
Murabaha Sukuk  Cost plus or deferred payment sukuk: Musharakah; Partnership. Similar to the mudarabah contract, the difference being that here 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. Also, this contract is more suitable for longer-term partnership contracts and long-gestating projects
Musharakah Mutanaqisah  Diminishing partnership
Musharakah Sukuk  Joint venture sukuk
Mushatabih  Dubious
Mutawali  A trustee, a manager on behalf of waqif (the waqf giver)
Muzakki  Zakat payer
Muzara‘a  Share cropping

Nass  Text from Quran or Sunnah
Nazir/Mutawali  Trustee
Nisab  A level of wealth beyond which a levy is due
Non-Halal  Non-permissible or haram
Nuqsan  Decreasing

Qard  A loan
Qard Hasan  Benevolent loan/lending
Qiyas  Juristic inference by analogy
Quran  The holy book of Muslims, consisting of the revelations made by God to the Prophet. Prescribes the rules of social and personal behaviour, compliance with which guarantees social solidarity, economic growth and development
Index of Arabic terms

Razaqnahum  Provision of wealth
Re-takaful  Reinsurance
Riba  It is unlawful (haram) to charge riba. It is the excessive premium (interest) that must be paid by the borrower to the lender along with the principal amount as a condition for the loan for an extension of a loan when due
Ridda Wars  Conflict against those who evaded zakat opportunistically
Rizq  Wealth

Saad Zarla (Sadd Al Dhara)  Principle of blocking the means to harm
Sadaqah  Alms, payments to redeem others’ rights (also translated as ‘charity’)
Sahih  Valid
Sakk (plural is sukuk (legal documents))  Certificates of entitlement. Sometimes termed as Islamic bonds
Salam  A sale in which payment is made in advance by the buyer and the delivery of the goods is deferred by the seller
Salam Sukuk  A negotiable financial instrument issued on the basis of an asset to be leased. A salam sale creates an in-kind debt payable on a future date. Sukuk al-salam represents common shares in that debt. Trading salam debt for money is controversial among Islamic scholars
Saliheen  A term denoting a person who is diligent in his life as a believer following prescribed behaviour
Shalih  A faithful and obedient believer
Shariah  Islamic law
Shurut  Fulfilling conditions
Sukuk  Certificates of entitlement/Islamic bonds
Sunnah  The practice and the sayings of the Prophet

Tabbul  Conversion
Tabyin’  Definite
Takaful  An alternative to the contemporary insurance contract. A group of persons agree to share a certain risk by collecting a specified sum from each. Any loss is met from the collected fund
Tamleek  Ownership
Taqdir  Assigned faith
Taqhyir  Replacement
Tawallud Min Mamluk  Process of production
Tawaruq  Reverse murabaha. Buying an item on credit on a deferred-payment basis and then immediately reselling it for cash at a discount to a third party
Tawaruq Munazam  Organized tripartite resale
Tayyib  Purification from malignancy – clean/halal

Umman  Community of believers
Umum Balwa  Public necessity
Urf  Custom
Usul Fiqh  Interpretation of jurisprudence

Waad  A time-bound promise to deliver on terms contracted
Wajib  Mandatory
Wakala  Agency
Islamic wealth management

Wakala Sukuk  Sukuk where investors appoint an agent (wakala) to make investment decisions on their behalf
Wakeel  A person who represents another person with rightful delegation to be the wakil
Waliy (Mutawalli)  A trusted person to help carry out an assigned task
Waqa  See Awqaf
Waqa Ahli Ar Dhurri  Familial endowment
Waqa Al-Mushtarak  Joint waqa
Waqa Ala Al-Nafs  Self-dedicated waqa
Waqa Khayri  Public endowment/charitable
Waqa Waqalah  An agent who holds the rights of the real owner of a contract as for example in the case of an equity-based sukuk instrument
Waqfyyah  Charter of the waqf foundation
Waqif  Originator of the waqf
Wasiyyah  Will/testamentary disposition

Yu’ii  To give

Zakat  Almsgiving each fasting month of a year as decided by interpretation of commandments and the situation at a given time. It is usually 2.5 per cent of wealth added in a year
Zawi-l-Furud  The sharers in a contract of agreement
Ziyadah  Increasing