

Q&A

Leading Shariah Scholars

Who is Sheik Yusuf Al-Qaradawi?

Boards: AAOIFI; Bank Al-Taqwa (shut down 2001 by U.S. TSY for terror funding)

- Considered one of the most respected Shariah Authorities and Shariah Finance experts
- Terrorist banned from US (1999) and UK (2008)
- Supports suicide bombings, no rights for women, Islamic supremacy, and Jihad
- De facto leader of the Muslim Brotherhood
- Urged replacing western capitalism with Shariah Finance, Oct. 2008
- Described Shariah Finance as "Jihad with Money," BBC, 2006
- Referred to 6 times during a Feb. 26, '09 Fordham Law School Continued Education Credit Conference on Islamic Finance

Quotable Quotes: "Allah Almighty is just; through his infinite wisdom he has given the weak a weapon the strong do not have, and that is their ability to turn their bodies into bombs as Palestinians do."

"The most important form of *jihad* today...is to rebuild Islamic society and state...in the political, cultural and economic domains. This is certainly most deserving of *Zakat*."

Who is Mufti Muhammad Taqi Usmani?

Boards: Chairman of AAOIFI; HSBC, Dow Jones, Citigroup, Guidance Financial

- The single most influential Shariah authority on Shariah finance in the world
- Founder and Director of Jamia Uloom madrassa, 2nd largest in Pakistan, which "boasts close ties to the Taliban" according to International Crisis Human Rights Group
- Deobandi Cleric to the Taliban, 2001

- Calls for western Muslims to wage violent Jihad against non-Muslims, whether or not Western countries allow Islam to be freely practiced

Quotable Quote: Usmani writes "Killing is to continue until the unbelievers pay *jiziah* (a subjugation tax) after they are humbled or overpowered." (*Islam and Modernism*, 2006)

Who is Imran Ashraf Usmani?

Boards: AAOIFI; AIG, HSBC, Citigroup

- Educated at and currently teaches at Jamia Uloom Madrassa, a well-known Jihadist school, with this father, Muhammad Taqi Usmani
- Banks are replacing Taqi Usmani with his son, Imran, as Dad's Jihadist background is publicized

Who is Yusef Talal De Lorenzo?

Boards: AAOIFI; IFSB, Barclays Capital, Shariah Capital, Dow Jones, Guidance International

- American convert to Islam
- Dropped out of Cornell and educated at Darul Uloom Madrassa in Pakistan, the same madrassa founded by Sheik Usmani
- Advisor to Pakistan President Zia al-Haq 1981–1984 during creation of Taliban
- Director of Education for the Islamic Saudi Academy, which is condemned for its hate curricula by the Congress-appointed U.S. Commission on Religious Freedom
- Secretary of FCNA, where fellow Trustee and President of FCNA is in prison for funding al-Qaeda and/or co-conspirator in terrorism trial
- Coined the term "ethical" as a better description than "Shari'a" for Western bankers to understand

SOURCES:

1. McCormick Foundation Report: *Shariah, Law and 'Financial Jihad': How Should America Respond?*, 2008.
2. David Yerushalmi, *Shari'ah's "Black Box": Civil liabilities and Criminal Exposure Surrounding Shari'ah-Compliant Finance*, Utah Law Review, Vol. 2008, No. 3.

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