

Islamic Finance *news* Awards

Best Banks Poll 2010

Following vigorous polling during December we are pleased to announce the results of the 2010 *Islamic Finance news* Best Banks Poll. Widely recognized as the leading and only true reflection of the global Islamic banking industry, the IFN Poll is now in its 6th season.

A record 3,358 votes were cast during the last month of 2010, a 26% increase on the previous year. Following due diligence 1,131 votes were discarded leaving 2,227 to count towards the final results.

In all, 35 categories were contested, with two new entrants added: 'Best Islamic Trustee' and 'Best Islamic Private Equity House' won by **Deutsche Bank** and **NBK Capital** respectively.

The 'Best Overall Islamic Bank' accolade went again to a giant in the Islamic finance space, **CIMB Islamic** of Malaysia. When considering their performance during 2010 it's hardly surprising the recognition and respect **CIMB Islamic** commands over its peers and within the industry at large. **Kuwait Finance House** came a close second mirroring the 2009 results.

In the 'Best Retail Islamic Bank' category **Al Rajhi Bank** retained its crown as did **HSBC Amanah** as the 'Best Islamic Private Bank'. **CIMB Islamic** remain top of the picks for 'Most Innovative Islamic Bank', and **Kuwait Finance House** scoop the 'Best Islamic Leasing Provider' for 2010.

Since inception in 2005 the 'Best Central Bank in Promoting Islamic Finance' award has been claimed by **Bank Negara Malaysia**. This year is no different, with the bank claiming a phenomenal 64% of all votes, following another impressive year where the new guidelines, licenses and issuances all spurred the domestic and international Islamic financial markets.

In a closely fought battle, considering the lack of new entrants during 2010, the 'Best New Islamic Bank' title was claimed by **Maybank Syariah Indonesia**.

In the individual country 'Best Islamic Bank' categories there were some familiar names with **Muslim Community Cooperative Australia** (Australia), **Islami Bank Bangladesh** (Bangladesh), **Bank Islam Brunei Darussalam** (Brunei), **BNP Paribas** (France), **Bank Muamalat Indonesia** (Indonesia), **Bank Melli** (Iran), **First Community Bank** (Kenya), **Kuwait Finance House** (Kuwait), **Arab Finance House** (Lebanon), **Meezan Bank** (Pakistan), **Arab Islamic Bank** (Palestine Territories), **Qatar Islamic Bank** (Qatar), **Al Rajhi Bank** (Saudi Arabia), **ABSA Islamic Bank** (South Africa), **Amana Investments** (Sri Lanka), **Syria International Islamic Bank** (Syria), **Islamic Bank of Thailand** (Thailand), **Bank of London and The Middle East** (United Kingdom), and **CIMB Islamic** taking the honors in Malaysia and claiming a hat-trick of awards for 2010.

New winners for 2010 in the country awards were; **Bahrain Islamic Bank** (Bahrain), **National Bank for Development (ADIB)** (Egypt), **Islamic International Arab Bank** (Jordan), **Bank Asya** (Turkey), **Lariba** (USA), **Tadhamon International Islamic Bank** (Yemen) and **Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank** claiming the UAE category breaking the stranglehold Dubai Islamic Bank has held for the previous five years.

Methodology: 35 categories were contested in the 2010 *Islamic Finance news* Best Banks Poll. Participants are requested to take only 2010 into consideration when casting their votes. Voters could not vote for themselves or associated organizations and could only vote once. All votes were scrutinized and validated before being recognized. A total of 3,358 were cast during December 2010. Of these, 1,131 were disqualified due to irregularities discovered during the due diligence process, leaving a total of 2,227 counting towards the final results.

Poll 2010

Best Overall Islamic Bank	CIMB Islamic
Best Retail Islamic Bank	Al Rajhi Bank
Best Islamic Private Bank	HSBC Amanah
Most Innovative Islamic Bank	CIMB Islamic
Best New Islamic Bank	Maybank Syariah Indonesia
Best Central Bank in Promoting Islamic Finance	Bank Negara Malaysia
Best Islamic Leasing Provider	Kuwait Finance House
Best Islamic Trustee	Deutsche Bank
Best Islamic Private Equity House	NBK Capital

Best Islamic Bank: By Country

EUROPE

France – **BNP Paribas**
Turkey – **Bank Asya**
UK – **Bank of London and The Middle East**

ASIA

Brunei – **Bank Islam Brunei Darussalam**
Indonesia – **Bank Muamalat Indonesia**
Malaysia – **CIMB Islamic**
Thailand – **Islamic Bank of Thailand**

THE AMERICAS

USA – **Lariba**

AFRICA

Kenya – **First Community Bank**
South Africa – **ABSA Islamic Bank**

INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

Bangladesh – **Islami Bank Bangladesh**
Pakistan – **Meezan Bank**
Sri Lanka – **Amāna Investments**

MIDDLE EAST

Bahrain – **Bahrain Islamic Bank**
Egypt – **National Bank for Development (ADIB)**
Iran – **Bank Mellī**
Jordan – **Islamic International Arab Bank**
Kuwait – **Kuwait Finance House**
Lebanon – **Arab Finance House**
Oman – **Bank Muscat**
Palestine Territories – **Arab Islamic Bank**
Qatar – **Qatar Islamic Bank**
Saudi Arabia – **Al Rajhi Bank**
Syria – **Syria International Islamic Bank**
UAE – **Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank**
Yemen – **Tadhamon International Islamic Bank**

AUSTRALASIA

Australia – **Muslim Community Cooperative Australia**

