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TRENDS

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International Islamic Online Investing Trends for 2008

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Executive Summary

- Consumers are eager for Online Islamic and Sharia Investment opportunities.
- Dubai, London and Kuala Lumpur are preferred jurisdictions.
- Investors keen on Islamic/Sharia compatible Funds and Securities.

There exists an untapped market for Online Islamic compatible investment products.

- International Islamic Investors are hungry for online investment products.
- The market space for online Islamic financial products is untapped with no player offering any product of note.
- Only recently have some online brokerages begun offering Islamic Trading accounts.
- Savvy Investors are keen on Managed Funds in regulated jurisdictions.

Target Audience

Managerial, eBusiness, sales and interactive marketing professionals

International Islamic Online Investors

During December 2007 MiddleEastForex.com interviewed over 5000 global online commerce investment consumers who had expressed an interest in Islamic/Sharia investment products for their attitudes to using and managing their investments online. These consumers are keen online users who are using the net for Online Banking and Investing:

Figure 1: What do you currently use online services for?



International Islamic Investment Trends

Islamic Investment products were of most interest, though investment consumers residing in Western Europe and North America expressed a keen interest in Offshore Tax efficient Investments with concerns over EU savings directive and Inheritance tax given as the main reasons.

Figure 2: Which investment product feature interests you the most?



Figure 3: If given the opportunity would you invest your assets online using Shariah compliant methods?



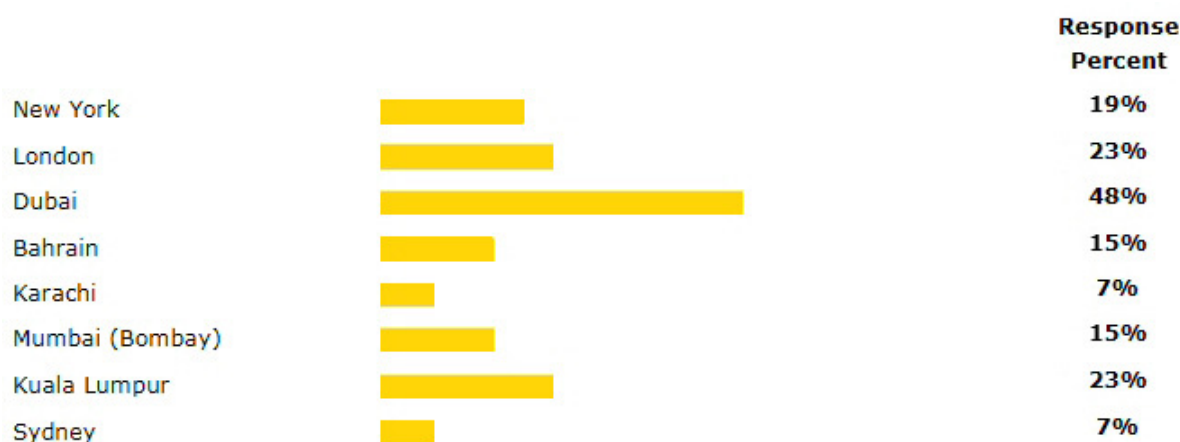
Investors considered investment deposits ranging from \$1000-\$100,000 (US Dollars).

International Islamic Investment Jurisdictions

Surprisingly London and New York scored high as jurisdictions where depositors feel most comfortable depositing funds beating or being on par with more obvious locations such as Bahrain and Kuala Lumpur.

Dubai was the most preferred location due to its perceived strong regulatory (Sharia and otherwise) controls over financial firms as well as its tax free status.

Figure 4: Which of the following investment jurisdictions would give you most confidence to hold you deposits?

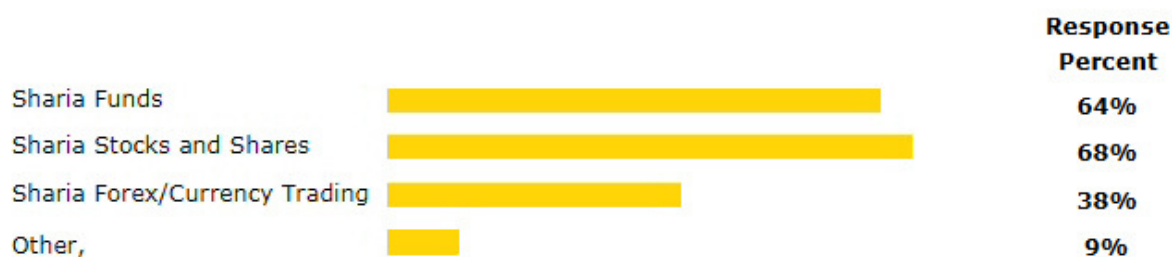


International Islamic Investment Vehicles

The majority of Investors prefer the hands-off managed funds approach.

Hands-on investors are looking for more and are interested in Islamic compatible securities with Foreign Exchange and Equities being the preferred instruments.

Figure 5: Which products are you looking to invest in?



Summary of Findings:

- London, Dubai and Kuala Lumpur are most favoured jurisdictions where investors feel most comfortable depositing money.
- Islamic Funds are most preferred managed investment product.
- Islamic Forex and Equity trading are most preferred non-managed investment products.
- The pool of potential individuals interested in online Islamic investments is growing.
- Major interest is from Muslims living in the West, esp. UK, Western Europe, USA and Canada.
- This group represent higher income earners than their brethren in Islamic lands and are on the outlook for Tax efficient (read offshore) and Islamic/Shariah investments.
- Significant interest in Professional Investment vehicles such as Funds or Managed Investment type products when these products are able to offer Tax efficient and Islamic/Shariah investments.

Related Findings:

- Internet adoption continues to grow.
- As users' online experience increases, so does propensity to conduct transactions over the Internet.
- Up-and-coming generations naturally turn to the online channel to manage their financial lives.
- The number of US investors will grow as the mass-affluent segment grows and more households invest their savings.

Get the Full Report

The full version of the report contains the contact details (Name, Address, Email and Phone) of the participants.

Each version of the full report is unique and we limit contact details to a different set of 100 per report from the 5000 consumers we interviewed. This approach gives potential sales managers a unique and private group of 100 individuals who have an interest and are looking for Online Islamic Compatible Investment opportunities.

Please contact Nathan Andrews to obtain the full version of the report.

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About MiddleEastForex.com

Middle East Forex is the regions premier resource and gathering place for day traders. Leveraging off the leading stock trading daily providers breaking regional market news is provided around the clock backed up by a team of journalists based in Dubai.

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