

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release



BANK ISLAM HAND OVERS 11 HOUSING UNITS TO ASNAF AHEAD OF RAYA CELEBRATIONS

KUALA LUMPUR, Sunday, [9 May 2021]: Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad ("Bank Islam") through its corporate social responsibility arm, AMAL Bank Islam, handed over 11 housing units to selected asnaf (underprivileged deserving of Zakat) in Kuala Lumpur through Baiti Jannati (My Home, My Paradise) Programme in collaboration with Kuala Lumpur City Hall ("DBKL") and the Ministry of Federal Territories.

The programme involves allocating AMAL and Zakat funds amounting to more than RM600,000 to buy rented houses from DBKL for 11 asnaf families. They are categorised as urban poor registered under the e-kasih system, a Poverty Eradication Portal created by the Government.

Bank Islam's Strategic Relations General Manager, Tuan Haji Mohd Nazri Chik, presented the keys for the Baiti Jannati Programme at the Projek Perumahan Rakyat ("PPR") Beringin Community Hall in Kuala Lumpur last Thursday.

Bank Islam Chief Executive Officer Mohd Muazzam Mohamed said, "As a Shariah-compliant banking institution, Bank Islam is aware and concerned about the community's needs and the burden felt by the underprivileged, especially in facing today's challenging economic environment. Various initiatives have been put in place to address and assist the deserving, including providing comfortable housing. In this regard, we started the Bank Islam Housing Aid Programme in 2008 to provide habitable housing for the most affected and deserving group. It began in Kelantan, followed by Terengganu, and this programme was later expanded nationwide. To date, it has benefited more than 300 asnaf with an allocation of more than RM9 million.

"This year, the Bank Islam continues its Housing Aid Programme by collaborating with the Baiti Jannati Programme managed by DBKL to provide homeownership to the urban poor living in DBKL's PPR housing scheme. Bank Islam also refurbishes and furnishes the house with additional furniture and electrical equipment to make their living space complete and comfortable."

Mohd Muazzam added, "Although the COVID-19 pandemic situation still unabated, we are very grateful because this project was completed before Hari Raya Aidilfitri. Hopefully, these small contributions may bring joy to the whole family in celebrating the festival."

In addition to homeownership, AMAL Bank Islam also donated vouchers for breaking fast, Hari Raya hampers and cash to the recipients.

Bank Islam's initiatives to facilitate homeownership for the eligible group is not limited to the Housing Aid Programme. In July last year, Bank Islam pioneered a homeownership financing scheme for the asnaf group known as the Asnaf Personal Financing-i facility. The scheme is implemented through a joint venture of the State Zakat Management Agency, in which both parties each funds half of the house financing involved.

Through this scheme, asnaf with a fixed income of below RM1,500 per month can own a house on their land or with the landowner's permission.

"Through the pilot project collaboration with Kedah State Zakat Board ("LZNK"), two (2) houses were handed over to eligible recipients in February. We aim to hand over 30 units of houses under this financing scheme this year and continue to work to expand it nationwide with interested State Islamic Religious Council," said Mohd Muazzam.

He added, "The prosperity gained by Bank Islam is the outcome of the trust and support given to us by customers. Therefore, Bank Islam remains committed to assisting customers and the community in facing the current challenging period, especially following the increase in COVID-19 infection rates nationwide."

For further information, please visit www.bankislam.com.

About Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad

Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad was established in 1983 as the nation's first Islamic bank. To date, the Bank has a network of 144 branches and more than 900 self-service terminals nationwide. To meet the diversity of the public's financial needs, Bank Islam offers more than 70 *Shariah*-based banking products and services which cater to Muslims and non-Muslims. For more information on Bank Islam products and services, visit www.bankislam.com or call Bank Islam Call Centre at 03-26 900 900.

For further information, please contact:

Wan Norkhairi Wan Samad Head, Group Corporate Communications Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad Level 31, Menara Bank Islam No. 22, Jalan Perak 50450 Kuala Lumpur Tel: 03-2782 1232 Mobile: 019-339 4491 Fax: 03-2781 2998 Email: wnorkhairi@bankislam.com.my Web: www.bankislam.com.my	Omar Atin Assistant Vice President Public Relations Group Corporate Communications BIMB Holdings Berhad Level 31, Menara Bank Islam No. 22, Jalan Perak 50450 Kuala Lumpur Tel.: 03-2781 2943 Mobile: 019-391 9144 Fax: 03-2781 2998 Email: omar@bimbholdings.com Web: www.bimbholdings.com
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