# Does Islamic finance need you?

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#### Disclaimer

- Career planning is a complex subject and almost all issues require specific professional advice.
- Nothing in this presentation is intended to constitute professional advice.
- The presenter accepts no responsibility to anyone who may act, or refrain from acting, as a result of anything shown or said during this presentation.

#### **Mohammed Amin**



Until 31 December 2009, Mohammed Amin was a tax partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP and led their Islamic finance practice in the UK.

#### He is:

- a chartered accountant, a chartered tax adviser and a qualified corporate treasurer
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#### Overview

- The demand for jobs
- The supply of jobs
- A job in Islamic finance?
- What the industry needs
- Career planning suggestions

#### The demand for jobs

- Many young Muslims enthusiastic about Islamic finance
- Growing number of university courses. Three examples
  - Reading university MSc partnering with INCEIF, launched 2008.
  - Aston University MSc Islamic Finance
  - Durham University MA and MSc in Islamic Finance
- Many people doing IFQ, CIMA and IIBI qualifications

#### The supply of jobs

**UK** Islamic banks

Bank	Headcount
BLME 31.12.2010	68
EIIB 31.12.2010	35
Gatehouse 31.12.2009	36
IBB average 2010	120
QIB (UK) 31.12.2008	20

Add: Window operations (e.g. HSBC Amanah, Lloyds TSB etc.) and conventional investment banks with structured Islamic finance desks

#### A job in Islamic finance?

- No such generic role
- Is there such a thing as a generic job in conventional finance?
- Employers need specialists

### What the industry needs

- Shariah experts
- Lending officers
- Internal auditors
- Regulatory specialists
- Risk specialists
- IT specialists
- Etc.

#### Career planning suggestions

- Pre employment university degree subjects?
- Professional qualifications? E.g. ACA
- Conventional bank training programmes
- Specialised conventional banking experience

"My religious beliefs prohibit working for a conventional bank....."

## Graduate training in UK Islamic banks



### Conclusions

There is no such thing as a generic Islamic finance practitioner.

What is your area of expertise?

How are you going to acquire that expertise?