# Bank Cards: Concept & Provisions As Per Islamic Sharia

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#### ABSTRACT

Nowadays, Bank Cards have become of great importance in our lives, especially after the Spread of Covid-19 Epidemic, which has almost minimized the utilization of Cash Money, relying instead on using Bank Cards. As a matter of fact, they are considered the backbone of life, and Islamic Law has stipulated special provisions for these Cards. The Current Research shall attempt to address several issues related to Bank Cards, including definition, types, characteristics, importance, and the ruling applied on each type of these Cards as per Islamic law.

Besides, Bank Cards, that have become a major part of daily transactions, are classified into different types according to their function, which include Procuration, Transfer, Loan, and Warranty. A special Provision is applied on each of these types.

When a customer applies for a Bank Card, he shall be charged fees for membership, renewal, and replacement, and he could use his card to withdraw cash, provided that it does not result in usurious interest. However, it is possible that the Bank may impose a fee commensurate with the Cash Withdrawal Service.

Keywords: Bank Cards, Credit Cards, Islamic Banks, Post-Paid Debit Cards

# Introduction

Praise be to Allah, Lord of the Worlds, Blessings and Peace be upon our Master Muhammad Al-Mustafa Ibn Abdullah, His Family with His Companions, and those who have followed His Path until the Day of Judgment. And Henceforth:

Praise be to Allah who has guided us to Islam, and we would not have been guided had it not been for God to guide us, and I bear witness that there is no god but Allah alone with no partner, and I bear witness that our Prophet Muhammad is the Messenger of God. God Almighty says, "Oh you who have believed, fear God and speak right words, He will rectify your deeds for you and forgive your sins, and whoever obeys Allah and His Messenger, he has won a great victory". Truthful is Allah the Great.

Credit cards have become of great importance everywhere in the world and even in Islamic and Arab countries. Indeed, they are widely used nowadays in many transactions among people, and they are somehow becoming an alternative method of payment, i.e. they are now similar to money.

I do realize now that these cards are of unique importance, as they do facilitate Payment Process, and enable Cardholders to obtain many Financial as well as Non-Financial Services, meanwhile relieving them from carrying cash that might be exposed the risks of loss, theft and pickpocketing, particularly during crowding periods. In other words, Bank Cards are required by almost all people, regardless whether they are rich or poor.

Nevertheless, there has been a lot of controversy and discussion about using Credit Cards. According to an Islamic point of view, people have been split into two groups. While one group does approve utilizing these cards, considering such use as unavoidable necessity, the other group denies it, being, according to their viewpoint, a taboo, i.e. Haram. Accordingly, I do ask God Almighty to protect me from committing an error regarding this issue, and may Blessings and Peace be upon our Master Muhammad, His Family and Companions.

# Methodology

As for Methodology, a Descriptive Approach shall be adopted in order to introduce the Concept and Provisions of Credit Cards according to Contemporary Jurists' Views.

#### **Reasons for Choosing the Topic & its Importance**

There is no doubt that we have chosen Credit Cards to be the topic of our current research due to being essentially important, and most people if not all do prefer to deal with these cards. We believe, therefore, that there is a great need to get acquainted with its Legal Rulings, especially after some Islamic Banks have adopted using them. Besides, we are required indeed to explore the Credit Cards issue because they have been first designed and adopted by Western Countries, and thus bringing new rules and regulations, that could be more complicated, to financial transactions including contracts.

### **Research Objectives**

The Current Research aims to clarify the following:

- 1. Concept & Reality of Credit Cards
- 2. History of Credit Cards Establishment

- 3. Types of Credit Cards & Their Features
- 4. Importance of Credit Cards.
- 5. Legal adaptation of Credit Cards with their Rulings

# **Research Questions**

We shall attempt to find proper replies to the questions listed below:

- 1. What is the Concept of Credit Cards?
- 2. How and when were Credit Cards originated?
- 3. What is the importance of Credit Cards?
- 4. What are the types & features of Credit Cards?
- 5. What is the Real Legitimate Adaptation of Credit Cards?
- 6. What is the legal ruling of Credit Cards?

# **Research Plan**

It includes three parts, and as follows:

- 1. Concept of Credit Cards
- 1.1 Definition of Card
- 1.2 Definition of Credit
- 1.3 Economic Definition & Function of Credit Cards
- 1.4 History & Importance of Credit Cards
- 2. Types of Credit Cards & Their Features
- 2.1 Instant Debit Cards & Their Features
- 2.2 Deferred Discount Cards & Their Features
- 2.3 Loan or Instalment Payment Credit Card & its Features
- 2.4 Types of Credit / Debit Cards as per Their Benefits
- 3. Legal Aspect of Credit Cards

# 1. Concept of Credit Cards

In this part of the Research, we shall investigate four essential topics, including definition of both Card and Credit as well as Economic Definition and Function of these Cards all together with their History & Importance.

# **1.1 Definition of Card**

The term "Card" refers to a rectangular piece of paper, plastic, or metal, approximately 5.5 cm wide & 8.5 cm long, on which is written in embossed letters its Holder's Name, Date of Issuance, Expiry Date, Serial Number, Bank Name with its Logo (Othman, 2007). At the back of the Card, there is a Magnetic Tape on which some important information is recorded, such as Card Number, Holder's Personal Identification Number, Bank Code and the Issuing Organization (Suleiman, 1998).

We are obliged to note that the word "Bitaqa", an equivalent to the English Term "Card", has been mentioned in one of the Prophet's Sayings, i.e. Hadith, and we shall introduce it here:

It is narrated that the Messenger of God, Blessings & Peace Be Upon Him, said, "On the Day of Resurrection, ninety-nine scrolls on which the actions of one man from my nation have been spread around him and where he can see them. God Almighty will ask the man, "Do you deny any of these? And the man says, "No, Lord." God Asks again, "Do you have any excuse?" The man replies, "O No, Lord." God Almighty then says, "We do have a good deed for you, as there is no injustice against you today, and you have not been wronged. Therefore, your Actions Record will be placed in one pan, and Al-Bitaqa (the Card) will be on the other pan. There is no doubt that Al-Bitaqa or the Card shall be heavier than your Actions Record, as nothing can be heavier than the Name of God (Al-Turmuthi, 2002).

# 1.2. Definition of Credit

The equivalent word for the term "Credit" is (E'timan), which means "Entrust", i.e. the trust that leads to safety (Al-Razi, No Date). It has been stated in the Holy Quran as follows: If one of you has entrusted another, then let the Entrusted achieve this Trust, and fear God, his Lord." (The Holy Quran, Surat Al-Baqara, Verse No. 283)

Thus, and based on the existence of the origin of credit in Sharia, Researchers have come up with the following definition to the term E'timan / Entrust. "It is the trust that leads to delivering money to others, regardless of the purpose behind such delivery, whether it is for debt, achieving benefit as in bonds, preservation, or authorization" (Arafat, 2007).

Financially, the term Credit (E'timan) usually refers to a loan, or an Overdraft Account granted by a Bank to a person, whereas the Size of Credit means the total amount of Loans offered by the Banking System (Suleiman, 1998). However, Economists do confirm three meanings to the Term "Credit", and they are as follows:

- 1. The ability of a person to borrow the money he needs so as to carry out an activity
- 2. Borrowed money being identical to a Loan
- 3. A Credit between a Creditor and a Debtor through Commodities, provided that the price is paid in the future (Al-Alabi, 2005)

When referring to the meaning of the word "Credit" as stated in dictionaries, we find that it refers to one of the following: 1. Recognition of Competence; 2. Good Reputation; 3. Trust & Belief; and 4. Solvency (Suleiman, 1998; Ghanim, 2007).

We may confirm after all, that all these meanings do reflect one issue, and that is Reliability or Trustworthiness. If we move to the French Language,

the word "Credit" has been originally taken from the Latin word "Creder", which means "Reassurance". In short, the term "Credit" has been linked to the meanings of the following words: Performance, Debt, Mortgage, and Loan (Al-Alabi, 2005; Mustafa et al, N/D).

Economically, the meaning of Credit reflects "the ability to lend", and cards, in fact, are "Lending Cards", though cases of direct withdrawal from the balance, they are not described as lending, but "Payment Cards" (Al-Zuhaili, 2002). Finally, we are obliged to clarify that "Credit" has various forms, regarding "Time Validity" including 1. Short-Term Credit, less than eighteen months; 2. Medium-Term Credit, which is up to five years; and 3. Long-Term Credit, referring to more than five years (Othman, 2007).

#### 1.3 Economic Definition & Function of Credit Cards

A Credit Card can be defined economically as "a Special Card issued by the Bank to its customer to enable him, through the use of that card, to buy goods and services from certain Stores or Markets, and the seller of these goods or services shall retrieve his money at presenting the related invoices to the Bank, that has issued the Credit Card. Meanwhile, the Bank provides the customer with a Monthly Statement of the total value, to be paid or deducted from his current account (**Badawi**, **1984; Suleiman**, **1998**). This "Statement" is defined as: "a document given by its issuer to a natural or legal person based on a contract between them, enabling the latter to purchase goods or services from whoever approves the process without immediate payment, as it includes the issuer's commitment to pay the prices of sold goods or services." (Al-Zuhaili, 2002)

As for a Banking Definition, it is posited that a Credit Card is "a banking tool used for carrying out obligations that are widely accepted locally as well as internationally by Individuals, Trade Institutions and Banks as an alternative to cash money to pay the Value of Goods or Services, offered to a Card Holder in return for signing a receipt with the value of his obligation resulting from purchasing commodity or obtaining a specific service, and the Merchant shall collect that value from the Bank that has issued the Credit Card. However, the Settlement Process performed between Banks is called "Electronic Payment System", which is implemented by International Card-Issuing Bodies (Omar, 1997).

Another definition assumes that a Credit Card is "a nominal instrument issued by a Bank on behalf of its client, giving him the right to purchase the goods or services he needs through the use of that Card, according to specific terms agreed upon between them. If the Customer can use the Card to withdraw cash money from his balance, in this case it is called "Automatic Debit Card" (Othman, 2007).

A Credit Card, therefore, is some kind of a relationship between three parties, the first is the Card Issuer, usually being the Bank, the second is the Cardholder, whereas the third is the Merchant who accepts the Card instead of Cash Money. After verifying the validity of the information related to the Cardholder's identity and the Expiry Date of the Card, the Merchant often registers the Card's Number and its Holder's Signature on a Voucher showing the price of the purchased Commodity or Service with the date. Sometime later, the Merchant can submit this Voucher to the First Party, i.e. the Card Issuer or the Bank. Accordingly, the Merchant gets the amount written on the Voucher minus a fee ranging between 1% - 8%, and the First Party, being the Bank or the Card Issuer, is obligated to pay the amount as soon as the data is confirmed, regardless of whether the Cardholder has paid to the Bank, the Card Issuer, or not, due to being the Cardholder's Guarantor The amount hence is transferred to the Merchant's Account, and in turn, the Bank sends an Invoice to the Cardholder once a month, which includes all his purchases through the use of the Card, and the latter should pay this amount on time (Al-Qary, 1992).

In conclusion, we may come up with the fact that the term "Credit Card" is prevailing everywhere in the world, and there is no room for other Terminology, as it is a Tool for payment of debts, rights, services and prices of purchases, instead of Cash Money, whether inside or outside the Country (Al-Zuhaili, 2002). Another fact that we should take into consideration is that the whole process is constituted of two related contracts, and they are as follows:

- 1. A Contract between the Card Issuer, being a Bank, an Organization, or others, and a Customer, the person to whom the Card is issued.
- 2. A contract between the Issuer, being a Bank, an Organization, or others, and the Commodity or Service Provider, being a Company, an Institution, a Bank, or others, who agrees to deal with the Cards in question, provided that a Commission is paid to the Card Issuer (Othman, 2007).

# **1.4 History & Importance of Credit Cards**

The Process of Credit has initially appeared in the form of instalments, and the First Declaration of Credit is dated back to 1730, when a British Merchant named Christopher Thompson offered to sell furniture for weekly payments. Moreover, and during the period lasting for almost one hundred years, up to the Twenties of Last Century, British Merchants used to sell clothes for weekly instalments as well, recording all merchandise Data on Wooden Boards, which include two categories, one for Withdrawals of Commodity, and another for Payments

The first step towards what has been later known as Credit Cards, took place during the Twenties of Last Century, when a System appeared in the United States, called at that time "Buy Now & Pay Later", where a small piece of metal on which the Merchant Name or Shop with a Series of Numbers referring to the Customer & his Account have been engraved (Al-Alabi, 2005).

As a matter of fact, Credit Cards came into existence at the beginning of the Twentieth Century when some hotels in the United States started issuing Cards for their Preferred Customers who needed to stay in the hotel frequently. The purpose of these Cards was to facilitate transactions and shorten their time. During the same period, Shops and Fuel Stores issued Cards for similar objectives (Al-Qary, 1992; Arafat, 2007; Omar, 1997; Othman, 2007).

We are obliged now to emphasize what has already stated before, that Credit Cards are actually of essential importance as they facilitate payment of Debts, Rights, Services and Purchase Prices instead of Cash Money, whether inside or outside the Country. Besides, having a Card, shall protect its Holder from being subject to losing his Cash Money, in addition to increasing sales and achieving considerable profits to Card Issuers (Al-Zuhaili, 2002; Arafat, 2007).

#### 2. Types of Credit Cards & Their Features

This part of our Research includes three main topics, and they shall be investigated as follows:

# 2.1 Instant Debit Cards & Their Features

This type of Cards is familiarly known as Debit Cards, and issuance of such a card requires the Cardholder to open a Current Account at the Bank that issues the Debit Card, and he should deposit in this Account an amount of money, exceeding what he may spend on his purchases. The Commodity or Service Seller, in turn, sends the Purchasing Documents to the Bank, which directly debits this value from the Customer's Current Account. Besides, the value of cash withdrawals is also deducted whether taken from ATMs or Banks. At the end of each month, the Bank sends an Account Statement to the Debit Cardholder. It should be noted that Current Account Deposit shall be kept in its allowed minimum, and if the amount paid to Merchants exceeds the Balance, the bank shall charge the Cardholder an Interest as stipulated in the Card Issuance Agreement. In other words, dues are paid from the amounts deposited in the account, and thus, a Debit Card represents an Implementation Tool only, i.e. no credit is granted to the customer. However, this type of cards is more prevalent in Arab Banks than the American or Western Banks in general (Al-Alabi, 2005; Omar, 1997; Suleiman, 1998; Al-Zuhaili, 2002).

A Debit Card cannot be considered a Credit Card, due to having different features. In fact, some Islamic Banks do issue this type of Cards as they are approved by their Sharia Boards (Al-Qary, 1992). Below are the main Characteristics of a Debit Card:

- 1. It is issued to any customer having an Account with considerable deposit.
- 2. A Debit Cardholder can withdraw or pay for goods and services according to his available balance

- 3. A Customer does not bear fees for using a Debit Card in most cases, unless the customer withdraws cash or buys another Currency through an Institution other than the one that has issued his Card.
- Some Institutions do charge its customers having Debit Cards a percentage of the Purchase Dues and those of Services (Suleiman, 1998; Accounting & Auditing Board of Islamic Financial Institutions, 2007).

### 2.2 Post-Paid Debit Cards & Their Features

Issuance of this type of cards does not require payment in advance. Instead, a Monthly Account Statement is sent to the Cardholder, including details of the amounts of Purchases and Cash Withdrawals, provided that these amounts should be within the Card's Maximum Limit, and the Cardholder is obligated to do the payment during a period already specified by the Bank in the Account Statement, and this period however ranges between 25 - 40 days. Besides, the Agreement concluded between the Bank and the Customer stipulates that if the latter does not pay the amounts as mentioned in the Statement during the specified period, he shall be charged with Interest ranging, as previously stated, between 1.5 - 1.75 per cent of the total amount.

It is assumed that this type of cards is used as a tool of Obligation and Credit, since the period between purchase and payment represents the Credit Duration allowed by the Bank to the Cardholder in the form of an Interest-Free Loan, or we may consider it as a short-term credit. Some Arab Banks have started issuing this type of card, though very limited, in addition to some Islamic Banks, which deals with this Card (**Omar, 1997; Arafat, 2007**). However, we list below the main features of Post–Paid Debit Cards:

- 1. In addition to being an Obligation Tool, a Post–Paid Card can be considered a Credit Card for a limited period.
- 2. This card is often utilized for Purchases Payment and Cash Withdrawals.
- 3. The Card System of this type does not provide renewable Credit Facilities, as Purchases Payment is due within a limited period, as soon as the Cardholder receives his Monthly Account Statement.
- 4. If the Cardholder does not pay the due amounts on time, a specific interest shall be imposed on him
- 5. The Card Issuer, i.e. the Bank, does not charge any fees of the Cardholder for Purchases or Services. Instead, the Bank obtains some type of Commission paid by the Merchants who deal with the Card as tool for their Sales or Services.
- 6. The Bank is committed within the Credit Limit to pay the prices of goods and services to the Merchants who have agreed to deal with the Post-Paid Debit Card through their Transactions.
- 7. The Bank who issues this Card has the right to retrieve all amounts paid on behalf of the Cardholder, due to the relationship arising

between the three parties, the Bank, the Cardholder and the Merchant who accepts dealing with the Card in question according to the contracts concluded between them (Accounting & Auditing Board of Islamic Financial Institutions, 2007).

#### 2.3 Loan or Instalment Payment Credit Card & its Features

Sometimes, it is called a Renewable Credit Card, and it is based on the principle of No Payment in Advance, and thus it is unlike a Post-Paid Debit Card in which dues are paid on a monthly basis. As for a Loan Credit Card, dues are paid in the form of Periodic Instalments, and interest is calculated on the Balance as per the rates already stated before. Once more, we may assume that this type of Cards represents an Obligation and Credit Tool, as it leads to the creation of a Renewable Debt estimated as per Monthly Purchases or Cash Withdrawals. In every Periodic Instalment, the Cardholder shall pay the accrued interest and part of the principal debt, bearing in mind, however, that there is a maximum limit to the Value and Duration of this debt.

As a matter of fact, limit of value and time is determined according to the Agreement concluded between the Bank and the Cardholder through which the former grants the latter a Credit, which permits him to pay the dues resulting from using the Card in periodic instalments plus an interest to be duly calculated. This type of cards is the most widespread type in USA and Western Countries, but Islamic Banks have not issued it yet (Omar, 1997; Arafat, 2007).

# 2.4 Types of Credit / Debit Cards as per Their Benefits

According to granted benefits, Credit/Debit Cards might be classified into three types and as follows:

# 1. Regular Silver Card,

This type of Cards has relatively low credit limits, and it is often granted to most Customers when the minimum requirements do apply to them.

# 2. Gold Card

A Gold Card indeed has high credit limits, being sponsored by some Organizations, such as Visa, for example, and sometimes it has no limits, like the American Express, which is issued to Customers with High Financial Capacity, and in addition to that, its holder enjoys some extra free benefits, including Accident Insurance, Access to Medical or Legal Advices, Messages Delivery to all Parts of the World, Access to General Information, Priority Reservations for Hotels & Airlines. However, the subscription fee is usually more than that of a Silver Card (Omar, 1997; Al-Qary, 1992).

3. Revolving Credit Card:

This Card is an Obligation & Credit Tool within limits, but renewable at intervals to be determined by the Card Issuer. Its holder can use it to pay for his purchases of goods and services as well as Cash Withdrawals within the granted limits. Besides, he is given a certain period in which he can pay his dues for purchases only without interest though he can postpone payment, and in this case, he is obliged to pay an interest (Accounting & Auditing Board of Islamic Financial Institutions, 2007).

# 3. Legal Aspect of Credit Cards

In this part of the Current Research, we shall deal with two main issues, and as given in the following sub-sections.

# 3.1 Credit Card Legal Adaptation

We could confirm that a Credit Card is widely connected to its Issuing Bank, the Merchants who accept to deal with it, i.e. the Credit Card, and other Banks in order to obtain the dues already spent by the Cardholder on purchasing Goods and Services or Cash Withdrawals. A Credit Card, therefore is some kind of a method used for payment of purchases. In other words, it is merely a document that bears the Issuer's commitment towards the Merchant who accepts dealing with its issued card that all dues shall be paid back.

When we compare between the method used by Credit Cards for payment of debts and that of Islamic Institutions, we find that both refer to Authorization, Transfer, Loan and Guarantee.

When the Card is considered as an Authorization, we find that this feature can be applied to the first type of Debit Card, as if the Cardholder is authorizing the Issuer to pay his debts to Merchants from the money deposited in his Current Account that has been opened at the Card Issuance. As for the second and third types of Credit Cards, the process falls within the scope of borrowing rather than Authorization. It is indeed more included within the scope of Guarantee. Thus, even if we consider the issuer as an agent to the Cardholder in payment of debt, the Contract concluded between the Bank and the Merchant obligates the whole process. The Card Issuer, i.e. the Bank, acts as a guarantor to the Cardholder. Thus we may conclude that the meaning of Authorization in Credit Cards is incomplete (Omar, 1997; Arafat, 2007).

If we look at the Card as a Transfer, a Cardholder is assumed to be on an Obligatory Debt, which cannot be found in a Card Agreement, since neither the Bank nor the Merchant is in debt towards the other. Secondly, a transfer in which there is no debt, it can be adapted therefore according to Sharia, that it is either a loan, an authorization, or a guarantee, based on three viewpoints, which all consider the Card a Transfer.

According to the First Viewpoint, which applies to the first type of Cards, a Cardholder refers the Merchant to the Card Issuer to collect the Purchase

Dues from his Current Account, keeping in mind that at the time of issuing the Card, its holder is not in debt to the Merchant. A saying of one Jurist may apply to this situation. He says, "If a man is not in debt to someone who is in debt to another, in this case it is not a Transfer, but an authorization".

As for the Second Viewpoint, which applies to the other two types of Cards, as when the Cardholder's Debt to the Merchant arises and he submits his Card with the benefit of referring the Merchant to the Card Issuer. However, the Card Issuer is not in debt to the Cardholder so that he could refer the Merchant to him. We refer again to the saying, which argues that "If someone who is in a debt, i.e. the Card Holder, and transfers his debt to someone who has no debt, the Card Issuer in this case, such process cannot be deemed a Transfer, but a Loan. Others may claim it is an Authorization. A third group define it as a Guarantee, since the Transfer Process cannot be applied to someone who is not in debt. Thus, we find that the meaning of Transfer is not fully relevant to a Credit Card (Omar, 1997; Arafat, 2007).

The Third Viewpoint Considers the Card as a Loan because of the possibility of adapting the Card to a Loan from the Card Issuer, i.e. the Bank, to the Cardholder. We should keep in mind that this adaptation does not apply to the first type of Card, simply because the Cardholder has a deposit at the Bank within the limits accepted for issuing the Card. As for the Second and Third Type, the process falls within the scope of ordering "Cash Money", and adapted to borrowing by the one who orders it. But the Card, by all means, cannot be considered a Loan simply because the relationship is not confined between the one who requests the money, being the Cardholder, and the Card Issuer, since the latter is linked to another party in the process, and that is the Merchant to whom he is obliged to pay the Purchase Dues of the Cardholder (**Omar, 1997; Arafat, 2007**).

# 3.2 Sharia Ruling on the Credit Card

Institutions may have the right to issue Instant Debit Cards as long as its holder only withdraws money from his balance, and no Usurious Interest is involved in his dealings (Accounting & Auditing Board of Islamic Financial Institutions, 2007). Moreover, he might withdraw more his balance, provided that the Bank permits him to do that without stipulating interest, and in this case, it becomes a Legitimate Loan taken from the Bank that has the right to charge the one who receives the money, and he is the Merchant in this case, a certain percentage of the Purchase Dues (Al-Zuhaili, 2002).

A Post-Paid Debit Card may be issued, but it should be according to the following conditions:

1. The cardholder shall not pay usurious interest if Dues Payment has been delayed.

- 2. Any profits resulting from the Cash Money that that has been deposited in the Bank as a condition for issuing the Credit Card, shall be divided between the Cardholder and the Bank as per a specific percentage agreed upon.
- 3. The Bank shall stipulate in the concluded Contract that the Cardholder is not allowed to use the Card in matters prohibited by Sharia, and the former has the right to withdraw the Card if such act is committed (Accounting & Auditing Board of Islamic Financial Institutions, 2007; Al-Zuhaili, 2002).

Banks, on the other hand, shall not issue Credit Cards with a revolving debt that the Cardholder has to pay in deferred instalments with interest (Accounting & Auditing Board of Islamic Financial Institutions, 2007), and thus contradicting the Provisions of Islamic Sharia (Al-Zuhaili, 2002).

#### Conclusion

It has been clarified that the Legal Provisions, ruling Cards are eight, and they are as follows:

- 1. It is permissible for Banks & Financial Institutions to join International Organizations, specialized in sponsoring Cards, provided that any violation to Islamic Sharia shall be avoided.
- 2. Banks and Financial Institutions may pay subscription and service fees to these International Organizations provided that no interest is included.
- 3. A Card Issuer can deduct a percentage out of the Purchase Dues &, provided that it is agreed upon and stated in the Contract concluded with the Merchant who accepts dealing with its Card.
- 4. it is permissible for the Bank to charge the Card holder specific fees for Membership, Renewal, and Replacement, in addition to the possibility of paying these fees in instalment.
- 5. A Cardholder can buy gold, silver, or money with all Cards issued by Islamic banks if these Banks are able to pay to the customer the amounts required without delay.
- 6. A Cardholder can also use the Card for Cash Withdrawals, provided that such process does not lead to payment of Usurious Interest.
- 7. Islamic Sharia Provisions do include the permissibility for the Bank to impose a fee commensurate with the Cash Withdrawal Service.
- 8. Banks may grant appropriate privileges to Cardholders, such as booking travel tickets with discounts, but they are not allowed to offer benefits that are prohibited by Islamic Sharia.

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