

## **Developing future leaders of Islamic finance for tomorrow**

**Kuala Lumpur, 12 November 2016** – At the 8<sup>th</sup> convocation of INCEIF, a record number of 254 students graduated, representing the university's largest since its inception in 2005. Amongst this year's graduates are students from Muslim-minority countries, including Italy, US and Japan. They are joined by graduates from Singapore and Indonesia as well as from the Gulf, Central Asia and African nations. The increasing diversity of INCEIF students is a source of pride for the university. It affirms INCEIF's role in developing world-class talent for the global Islamic financial services industry and reinforces Malaysia's position as the global hub for the industry.

Joining the ceremony today were 31 participants who undertook the Certificate in Islamic Finance (CIF) programme conducted by INCEIF, as well as five participants of the Professional Certificate in Islamic Finance. The CIF programme was conducted specifically for staff of regulatory bodies including from Bank Negara Malaysia and Securities Commission Malaysia. It is a modular programme, accredited by the Finance Accreditation Agency with an emphasis on the Shariah, legal and regulatory aspects covering Islamic Finance. It is designed for working individuals to fast-track them in these areas.

The graduands received their scrolls from INCEIF Chancellor, Tan Sri Dr. Zeti Akhtar Aziz at the convocation ceremony held in Kuala Lumpur today. Today's graduation takes the number of INCEIF alumni to a total of 1,332.

Of the 254 graduates, 17 received PhD in Islamic Finance; 11, Masters in Islamic Finance, 35 MSc in Islamic Finance, 115 Masters in Islamic Finance Practice and 76 Chartered Islamic Finance Professionals. The INCEIF academic programmes are customised to meet the changing demands of business, offering practical work experience and classroom-based theory at every level, up to scholars of international standing at PhD level.

In acknowledgment of their academic excellence, the recipients for the President's Award are:

1. Ms Alaa Alaabed, of Bahrain, for PhD in Islamic Finance
2. Ms Rosana Gulzar Mohd, of Singapore, for MSc in Islamic Finance
3. Ms Foo Toon Yin, of Malaysia, for Masters in Islamic Finance Practice

In his speech at the convocation ceremony, INCEIF President & CEO Mr. Daud Vicary Abdullah said at INCEIF, we see our Alumni as agents of change and the catalysts for innovation, not only in the Islamic financial services arena, but also in contributing towards building a sustainable community and an Islamic economy.

The continuing success of these students will be a reflection of INCEIF's on-going journey to be a globally recognised university of high repute for postgraduate studies in Islamic finance. It is all about making an impact. Every day every one of us has the ability to make change happen, he added.

Since the inaugural convocation in 2009, a number of INCEIF alumni have been singled out to participate in or lead Islamic finance initiatives such as the USD1.5-billion dual-tranche Malaysian Government sukuk. The support for INCEIF is visible through the presence of corporate leaders, policy makers and regulators who have contributed to the promotion and development of Islamic finance locally and globally at the convocation ceremony.

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ABOUT INCEIF

INCEIF, The Global University of Islamic Finance, is set up by Bank Negara Malaysia in 2007 to develop human capital for the global Islamic finance industry. Apart from its academic programmes, which are Masters of Islamic Finance Practice, MSc in Islamic Finance and PhD in Islamic Finance, INCEIF also offers customised executive training programmes and industry-focused applied research in line with its vision to be the knowledge and thought leader in Islamic finance.

INCEIF syllabus is structured with inputs from industry players to bridge the gap between academic knowledge and industry experience. INCEIF faculty members, who are globally respected among the Islamic finance academia and industry, have a combined wealth of experience and diversity. The faculty, coupled with continuous support from the industry, provides INCEIF students with strong mentoring relationships and opportunities for professional development. For more information, please visit [www.inceif.org](http://www.inceif.org).

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