

Madinah forum to discuss Islamic finance progress



Last year's symposium brought together financial leaders, experts, and representatives from around the world. (File Photo)

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- Scientific sessions will cover early foundations, current industry analysis across economies, and regulatory and technological shifts

JEDDAH: Under the patronage of Madinah Gov. Prince Salman bin Sultan, Al-Baraka Islamic Economics Symposium will be held on Wednesday under the theme “Islamic Banking in 50 Years: Achievements of the Past and Hopes for the Future.”

Hosted by Prince Muqrin University’s female campus, the event’s 45th edition will gather ministers, financial leaders, experts, and representatives from more than 15 countries.

The two-day symposium will explore six main topics and over 20 sub-themes, focusing on Islamic banking’s role in economic development, justice, and sustainability.

Scientific sessions will cover early foundations, current industry analysis across economies, and regulatory and technological shifts.

Future-focused discussions will highlight Shariah governance, financing mechanisms, Islamic windows, acquisitions, and the sector’s contribution to sustainable development.

Distinguished individuals and institutions will be honored for advancing Islamic economics in theory and practice.

Abdullah Saleh Kamel, the forum’s chairman, said that since 1981, Al-Baraka has been a key platform for dialogue on Islamic economics.

He said the 50-year milestone offers a chance to reflect and look ahead, reaffirming the commitment to innovation, financial inclusion, and Shariah-compliant progress.

Several cooperation agreements will also be signed, reinforcing the symposium’s role as a hub for intellectual exchange.

A documentary titled “Glimpses of Islamic Banking: From Inception to Contemporary Reality” will be screened, tracing the evolution of Islamic banking and its pioneers.

The symposium will also announce this year’s nomination topics for the Saleh Kamel Award for Islamic Economics, which honors his legacy and supports excellence in research.