

Document:	Welcome Remarks for Tan Sri Amirsham A Aziz Chairman, Bursa Malaysia Berhad
Event:	Shariah Investing Fair 2018
Date:	21 - 22 July 2018 (Saturday - Sunday)
Time:	9.00 am - 5.30 pm
Venue:	Exhibition Hall 5, Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre

Yang Berhormat Tuan Lim Guan Eng
Minister of Finance

Yang Berbahagia Tan Sri Dato' Seri Ranjit Singh
Chairman, Securities Commission

Yang Berbahagia Datuk Seri Tajuddin Atan
Chief Executive Officer, Bursa Malaysia

Ms Selvarany Rasiah
Chief Commercial Officer, Bursa Malaysia

Distinguished Guests
Members of the Media
Ladies and Gentlemen

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh and a very good morning.

1. It gives me great pleasure to extend to all of you a very warm welcome to the Shariah Investing Fair 2018.
2. Y.B. Tuan Lim Guan Eng, I would also like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to you for accepting our invitation to officiate this event today.
3. The Shariah Investing Fair has grown to be a key event for Bursa Malaysia. Following the success of our inaugural event last year, we want to ensure the pace is maintained and establish this as a **flagship event for retail investor education**.
4. I am glad to share that despite the regional retreat in stock markets across the region in recent month, this week, we have started to see a reversal in trends. The Exchange has welcomed **3 new listings** this week alone. Despite the slight breather to close off the week, the 8 consecutive days of rise in the index is possibly the longest positive streak since October 2015. I believe, our equity market is poised for better times ahead.

5. As at June this year, our market has grown in strength over the last 2 years compared to peers in the region. For instance, growth in total **ADV of 23% is the 2nd highest in ASEAN.**
6. Growing participation from retail investors, **which has grown by 24% over the last two years,** is clearly a testament of the growing confidence in our marketplace.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

7. Given this robust landscape, the growing awareness and demand for investing in accordance to Islamic principles has led to Malaysia's flourishing Islamic capital market.
8. The importance of the Shariah component in our equity market is evident. As at June, the market capitalization of Shariah-compliant companies listed on Bursa Malaysia made up **62% of the overall market capitalization.**
9. We continue to pioneer and facilitate the growth and vibrancy of the Shariah equity markets, and the Shariah Investing Fair is one of our initiatives that will help support this growth strategy, serving as a comprehensive platform to **increase visibility and market access to retail investors.**
10. Nearly **700 companies or over two-thirds** of companies listed on Bursa Malaysia are Shariah-compliant. As such, the Shariah Investing Fair was organized as a platform for the public to **explore, learn and engage** with leading players across the equity market.
11. Whether you want to open a CDS account, invest in Shariah-compliant funds, save or protect yourself with the latest banking and insurance products, you can do it all here! There is certainly **"Something for Everyone"** at the Shariah Investing Fair.
12. As proponents of investor education and financial literacy, we want to ensure that investors are continuously equipped with the **necessary tools and information** so that they can grow their wealth from the stock market. Please come by to our booth this weekend. My team is readily available to extend their assistance to you.
13. This is particularly relevant as we move towards becoming a developed nation, with increasing income and spending power. We strongly encourage investors to explore avenues aside from mutual funds and unit trusts, and reap the benefits of active portfolio diversification to maximize their investment returns. As an illustration, the

3-year total shareholder returns have been exceptional for the technology, consumer and industrial sectors, registering at 76%, 39% and 31% respectively.

14. In conjunction with the today's event, we are also launching our newly enhanced Bursa Marketplace app. This new app provides easy access to information for investors, and bring the stock market closer to meet the needs of the new digital generation of Malaysians. I encourage you to download this now and learn more about this at our booth.
15. We strive to keep investors apprised of the latest market developments and the latest product offerings. Since the launch of BM-i, together with our industry partners, we have conducted over 150 direct engagements with market participants, including fund managers, institutional investors and over 45,000 individual retail investors.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

16. Over the past 12 months, investors have welcomed initiatives introduced by the government that have effectively reduced transaction costs and led to an increase in market vibrancy. This included the waiver of all stamp duty for trading in ETFs and shares of mid and small cap companies. The Exchange has also waived off all trading and clearing fees until 31 August this year.
17. We are also very grateful to the Government's initiative of zero-rating GST. In line with this announcement, all fees charged by Bursa Malaysia are now subject to 0% GST. With the abolishment of GST, , the transaction costs on the Exchange is now at parwith other regional market practice where only a single government tax or duty is imposed on trading of shares. I believe, this will be an important contributor to the development of the country's capital market and economy.
18. I am also pleased to announce today, that we will waive the opening fee for CDS accounts opened during the Shariah Investing Fair 2018 this weekend. It is my hope that this incentive will encourage many more to take their first steps towards investing in the stock market. We remain committed to creating opportunities and grow value for all investors out there.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

19. I am sure everyone is excited to tour the hall. On that note, I thank you once again for joining us here today, and wish you all a productive and informative weekend here at the Shariah Investing Fair 2018.

Thank you

Wabillahi taufiq wal hidayah wassalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh.
