# Islamic legal services

Providing dynamic solutions for Muslims worldwide under the aegis of UK Law





## **Expert advice**

Slater and Gordon is one the UK's leading consumer law firms providing innovative family law solutions under UK and Islamic law.

We provide specialist help to achieve the right solution for you, covering Islamic divorce, financial settlements upon divorce, mediation and marriage guidance and counselling.

# How can Islamic legal services help you?

#### Islamic divorce

We're the first UK firm to arrange an Islamic divorce from respected Sharia Councils nationwide, as well as a UK law divorce.

# Islamic divorce financial settlements

We can obtain a payment of the wife's 'Mehr' and wedding jewellery as part of the divorce settlement or by issuing a Civil Claim.

If your marriage isn't recognised under UK Law but you've made contributions to the family assets our lawyers can recover your share under Trust Law.

#### Islamic mediation

We offer access to specialist mediation and arbitration in accordance with Islamic principles, on issues ranging from financial settlements after divorce and arrangements for children to commercial disputes and inheritance issues. We work closely with highly trained Muslim Marriage Guidance Counsellors, both male and female, who are able to assist you in the most delicate of situations.

### Islamic marriage contracts

We provide tailor made Islamic Marriage Contracts which can incorporate pre-nuptial agreements enforceable under UK law as well as a host of other clauses, such as women's rights on divorce.

## Why choose us?

# No obligation initial consultation

All our services come with an initial discussion giving you the chance to raise your concerns without any obligation to use us. We'll be able to consider your position and let you know what the next steps are and find the best solution for you.

### Flexible payment options

We'll always discuss with you the most suitable and appropriate payment plan, including the use of fixed or capped fees, hourly rates appropriate to each aspect of your case and instalment options.

## A highly skilled legal team

We've a team of highly trained lawyers and advisors who can handle all your family law issues as well as identifying any need for Islamic services. When appropriate, we work closely with barristers and QCs to obtain the best possible result.

#### **Emergencies**

We're specialists in safeguarding our clients from domestic violence, abduction and forced marriage, as well as in obtaining Freezing Orders to protect financial assets.

Contact us:

Telephone: 0800 916 9015 Email: enquiries@slatergordon.co.uk Website: slatergordon.co.uk



# Islamic family law terms – reference guide

We're often asked about the meaning of the most commonly used terms in Islamic family law so we've set-out below a quick reference guide.

**Nikah:** The Nikah is a verbal commitment by both man and woman to live together as husband and wife. It's essentially the Islamic marriage ceremony.

Nikah Contract: The Nikah Contract is signed by both parties when they agree to become husband and wife. The contract may contain conditions of the marriage that both parties have agreed between themselves. This is a marriage contract. Whilst many people sign "standard" contracts produced by can be tailored to individual couples and we always recommend that they're prepared individually.

Mehr: The Mehr is known as the dowry. The Mehr is a gift given by the husband to the wife and can include money, property, jewellery or other asset. The Mehr is a condition of the Nikah Contract. The Mehr can be paid at the time of the marriage, during the marriage or at the time of the Islamic divorce.

Sharia Councils: Sharia Councils are often run by qualified scholars to resolve marital disputes between Muslim couples by providing mediation and divorce services. Sometimes, they can also assist with the Islamic divorce.

**Islamic Divorce:** There are four ways to obtain an Islamic divorce.

- I. Talaaq: Talaaq is the divorce declared by the husband to the wife either verbally or in writing. There are three different types of Talaaq and each type affects the type of separation and methods of reconciliation.
- 2. Khula: Khula is separation by way of consent between the parties. The parties will come to an agreement that the husband will pronounce Talaaq. Most commonly, the parties may agree that the wife is to repay the husband the Mehr, upon which the husband pronounces Talaaq.
- 3. Faskh: The husband may unreasonably withhold his consent to a divorce.
  The Faskh divorce allows the wife to make an application to a Sharia Council to have the marriage dissolved without the husband's consent.
- **4. Tafweedh:** Divorce can be pronounced by the wife as long as the husband transfers his right of Talaaq to the wife.

Nikah Halala (also known as tahleel marriage): This is a practice in which a woman, after being divorced by triple talaaq, marries another man and consummates the marriage. The woman then gets divorced in order to be able to remarry her former husband.

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