

ESTATE PLANNING AND ISLAM

"It is not permissible for a Muslim who has any assets to stay for two nights without having his Will written and kept ready with him." – Bukhari

FORGOTTEN FARD

As Muslims, we work hard to provide a halal income for our families and strive to fulfill all of our religious duties. We plan for every eventuality, but most of us forget to plan for the one certainty of life—that none of us will live forever.

The Quran specifically describes how our wealth must be distributed after our death. Without proper planning, your state's laws will automatically control those distributions—and they won't be consistent with Islamic law.

RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE

The Prophet Muhammad SAW emphasized the importance of Islamic Inheritance Law: "A person may do good deeds for seventy years but if they act unjustly when they leave their last testament, the wickedness of their deed will be sealed upon them, and they will enter the Fire. If, (on the other hand), a person acts wickedly for seventy years but is just in their last will and testament, the goodness of their deed will be sealed upon them, and they will enter the Garden." – Ahmad and Ibn Majah

TWO SHARIAH COMPLIANT OPTIONS TO FULFILL YOUR OBLIGATIONS

LAST WILL

A Will is a basic legal document that sets forth your wishes, including the executor of your estate, the distribution of your property and the guardians of any minor children. At minimum, every Muslim should have a Will.



Simple and easy to establish with low cost.



Must go through an expensive and lengthy probate process.



Public document that can be challenged once it has been filed in probate court.



Does not control any jointly owned assets or assets with beneficiary designations.



Minimal tax planning ability.

LIVING TRUST

A Trust is a more comprehensive structure. Think of it as a bucket. You'll place all of your assets in the Trust. As trustee, you'll control the assets while you're alive and determine where they go after your death.



Higher start-up costs than a will.



Ability to bypass the entire probate process.



Private document that is less likely to be challenged in court.



Greater flexibility, allowing a person to easily comply with Islamic inheritance rules.



Comprehensive tax-planning opportunities.

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Have questions or want
to get started?
CONTACT US TODAY!