

# Opportunities for Gold in Islamic Finance

Shaokai Fan World Gold Council

## The Shari'ah Standard on Gold



AAOIFI Standard No. 57 on Gold and its Trading Controls (the "Shari'ah Standard on Gold") was published in November 2016

#### Why is a Shari'ah Standard on Gold necessary?

"Ribawi"

Gold is subject to more stringent religious rules

Limited Guidance

Existing Shar'iah guidance on modern gold products was limited and fragmented

#### What does the Shari'ah Standard on Gold do?

Removes Uncertainty

An AAOIFI-issued standard carries widespread recognition throughout the Islamic community

**Definitive Guidance** 

The Standard provides definitive guidance on all the modern financial uses of gold, enabling more Islamic gold products

### The Potential for Gold in Islamic Finance



Islamic finance suffers from a lack of diversity and liquidity in its investible universe. Adding gold greatly expands the possibilities within Islamic finance.

**Benefits of Gold for Islamic Investors** 

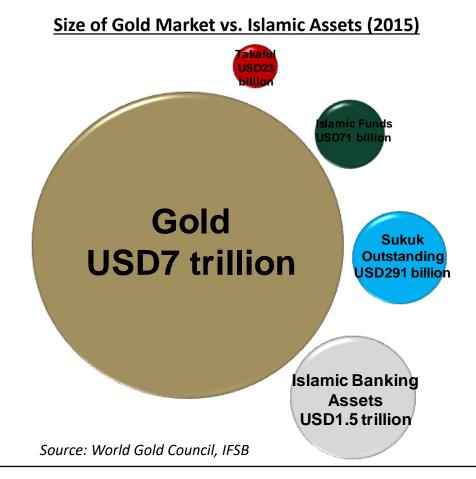
**Large, Liquid Asset Class** 

**Fills Critical Gaps in Islamic Finance** 

**Ultimate Safe Haven** 

**Powerful Diversification Benefits** 

**Can Enhance Returns** 

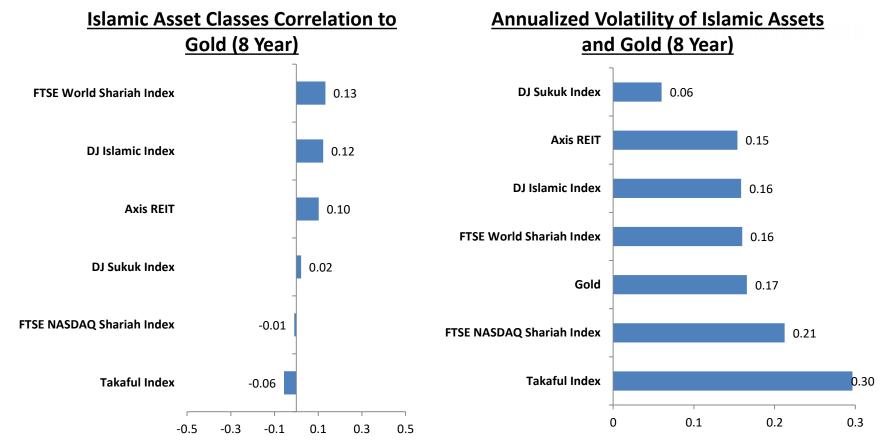


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## The Potential for Gold in Islamic Finance



Gold shows almost no correlation to existing Islamic asset classes, and is not more volatile than existing assets.



Source: World Gold Council, Bloomberg. 8-year returns and correlations used due to limitations on data availability for Islamic assets

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## Advancing Islamic Finance Through Gold



With the Shari'ah Standard on Gold in place, we are engaging the broader Islamic finance community on gold's potential.

#### **New Product Development**

- Working with Islamic financial institutions on creating new gold-based products
- Developing solutions that fit the needs of all Islamic investors – including retail, high net worth, institutional, and others

#### **Outreach and Education**

- Engaging Islamic institutional investors and other buyside institutions on the case for gold in Islamic finance
- Outreach to policymakers and industry groups on the potential for gold to advance Islamic finance