

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Edition 1 | February 2026

AMAL is a registered Non-Profit Organisation (NPO No. 187-528) and a Public Benefit Organisation (PBO No. 930082337)



The Association of Muslim  
Accountants and Lawyers

Welcome to the Relaunch of our  
Quarterly Newsletter  
February 2026

*Our First Newsletter in a New Chapter  
Reconnecting, Reflecting and  
Renewing Together*

## Message from the Executive

As-salaamu 'alaykum wa rahmatullahi wa barakaatuh,

After a brief pause, AMAL is back with updates, events, and achievements. AMAL continues to serve as a professional and values-driven platform for Muslim accountants and lawyers.

Over the past year, the Association has focused on strengthening professional engagement, fostering collaboration, and creating meaningful opportunities for growth, mentorship, and community impact.

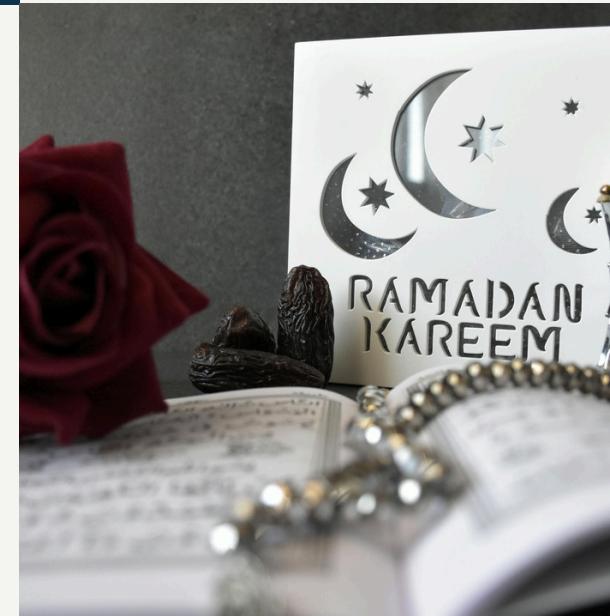
As the blessed month of Ramadan approaches, we reflect on a year of growth and step forward with renewed intention and purpose.

## About AMAL



The Association of Muslim  
Accountants and Lawyers  
(AMAL) is a professional body  
dedicated to:

- Supporting professionals in the accounting and legal fields
- Promoting ethical practice grounded in Islamic values



## TOP STORIES

### Message from the Executive

AMAL Executive Committee

### Highlights & Achievements

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Ramadan Reflection

### Get Involved

- Encouraging collaboration, mentorship, and professional excellence
- Creating platforms and networking for learning, dialogue, and community upliftment

# AMAL Executive Committee (EXCO)

## Shabir Chohan

### Chairman

(Chartered Accountant and Chief Executive Officer of Albaraka Bank Limited)

## Zain Fakroodeen

### Vice Chairman

(Attorney and Director at Fakroodeen and Randeree Attorneys Incorporated)

## Luqmaan Essa

### Treasurer

(Chartered Accountant and Director of Essa and Associates CA (SA) Incorporated)

## Faizal Suleman

### Assistant Treasurer

(Chartered Accountant and Auditor: In public practice as F Suleman and Associates)

## Imraan Subrathie

### Secretary General

(Accountant and Member of the National Assembly / Parliament)

## Abdul Carrim Khan

### Assistant Secretary

(Professional Accountant & Tax Consultant : Director at Natal Secretarial Services )

## Ashraf Parker

### EXCO Member

(Attorney, Notary and Conveyancer : Director at A. Parker and Associates)

## Munirah Osman

### EXCO Member

(Attorney & Academic Teaching, Learning & Innovations Manager at Regent Business School.)

## Aslam Mayat

### EXCO Member

(Attorney at Shaukat Karim & Company)

## Hafsa Suleman

### EXCO Member

(Attorney and Senior Associate at Fakroodeen and Randeree Attorneys Incorporated)

## Nafeesa Kadwa

### EXCO Member

(Attorney and Director at Nafeesa Kadwa and Associates)

## Yacoob Ballim

### EXCO Member

(Businessman, Founder & Executive Member of AMAL)

## Highlights & Achievements - Past Year

### III Public Benefit Organisation (PBO) Status:

AMAL is officially registered as both a Non-Profit Organisation (NPO) and a Public Benefit Organisation (PBO) in South Africa. This status reflects AMAL's longstanding commitment to public benefit activities and allows the organisation to operate with preferential tax treatment under South African law, further strengthening our capacity to serve the community and advance our mission.

### Strong Member Engagement and Governance:

AMAL hosted multiple high-impact professional development and networking events and workshops, webinars, and seminars throughout the year, all of which received excellent attendance. Notably, the Annual General Meeting (AGM) achieved quorum, resulting in the successful election of the current EXCO members.

### Social impact

- Strengthened collaboration between accounting and legal professionals
- Increased member participation and engagement
- Continued advocacy for ethical and values-based professional conduct
- Maintained active communication and outreach initiatives

# Workshops, Webinars & Seminars hosted by AMAL (2025)

- Companies Amendment Act – **Webinar**
- Muslim Marriages in South Africa – **Seminar**
- National Budget Speech – **Webinar**
- Zakaat Q&A Interview – **Al Ansaar Radio**
- Unpacking the National Budget – **Webinar**
- Business Rescue **Workshop** – hosted at Albaraka Bank
- NPO and PBO **Workshop**
- Trust **Seminar** – hosted at Albaraka Bank
- Succession Planning **Workshop**
- Annual General Meeting (**AGM**)

## Planned Events - 2026

- Budget Speech Webinar
- Professional skills workshops
- Networking and mentorship sessions
- Student and candidate practitioner engagement
- Community and outreach initiatives
- Strategic collaborations with aligned organisations
- Annual Tax Update

A decorative graphic in gold script font that reads "Save the Date".

## Donate - Make a Difference with your Contribution

Your donation to the Association of Muslim Accountants and Lawyers of South Africa (AMAL) directly supports a community-driven mission that fosters professional growth, ethical integrity, and societal welfare for individuals in South Africa. AMAL is committed to bridging the gap between legal and financial professions, ensuring access to expert insights while promoting justice and accountability within diverse communities. When you donate to AMAL, you contribute to a legacy of empowerment and impactful actions.

### Why Your Support Matters

AMAL plays an integral role in fostering an inclusive network of accountants and lawyers who work collaboratively to advocate for change and uphold principles of justice, fairness, and responsibility. Your donation allows the association to expand its outreach initiatives, conduct educational programs, and provide resources to strengthen communities in need. It ensures the sustainability of their dedicated efforts and paves the way for innovative programs catered to resolving societal challenges.

### How Your Donation is Used

When you donate to the Association of Muslim Accountants and Lawyers of South Africa, every contribution—no matter the size—leads to meaningful results. Donations aid in accounting and legal workshops, community outreach projects, and empowerment seminars targeting students and professionals alike. Your donations will create a lasting and measurable impact on individuals and the wider community.

Join hands with AMAL today and become a partner in championing progress, equity, and professional excellence. Together, we can build stronger, more promising futures for our community.

# Ramadan Focus - Zakaah

## A Pre-Ramadan Reminder

### Zakaah : A Professional Pre-Ramadan Reminder for Muslim Lawyers & Accountants

As Ramadan approaches, Sha'bān serves as an ideal time for professionals to review their Zakaah obligations with accuracy and intention. Given the nature of our professions — grounded in accountability, compliance, and stewardship — careful calculation and record-keeping are essential.

#### 1 Confirm the Nisāb

Zakaah becomes obligatory once your net Zakaatable assets equal or exceed the Nisāb.

#### 2 Identify Zakaatable Assets and their current value and these to include:

- Cash and bank balances
- Savings and fixed deposits
- Investments (shares, unit trusts, crypto held for trading)
- Business inventory and trade receivables
- Loans receivable (where recovery is expected)
- Gold and silver (including jewellery, subject to scholarly opinion)

#### 3 Deduct Allowable Liabilities

Deduct only short-term and immediately due liabilities, such as:

- Trade creditors
- Tax liabilities currently payable
- Short-term financing obligations
- Essential expenses due at the Zakaah date

(Long-term liabilities not yet due are generally excluded.)

#### 4 Calculate Zakaah Payable

Zakaah is calculated at 2.5% (1/40) of the net Zakaatable amount after deductions.

**ZAKAAH DUE = NET ZAKAATABLE ASSETS × 2.5%**

#### Professional Note:

Zakaah is payable once a full lunar year (hawl) has passed from the date wealth first reached the Nisāb. Consistency in valuation dates and documentation supports both Sharī'ah compliance and sound financial governance.

*As professionals entrusted with public confidence, fulfilling Zakaah correctly is not only an act of worship, but a reflection of ethical responsibility and amanah.*

# Membership Growth & Strategic Collaboration

AMAL is proud to announce that our membership continues to grow, reflecting the trust, engagement, and dedication of our community. In an exciting development, AMAL will now be **collaborating with the Muslim Students Associations (MSA)** of both state and private universities, opening new avenues for engagement, mentorship, and leadership development among young Muslim professionals and future leaders.

This strategic collaboration marks a significant milestone in AMAL's journey, strengthening our reach, fostering intergenerational knowledge-sharing, and ensuring that our initiatives have a meaningful impact across both academic and professional spheres. We look forward to welcoming these new members and working together to further AMAL's mission of integrity, service, and empowerment within the Muslim community.

## Membership Overview

AMAL's membership includes Lawyers, Accountants, Candidate Attorneys, Trainee Accountants and Business persons.

AMAL's membership continues to grow, reflecting increased engagement across both professions.

## Get Involved

Members are encouraged to:

- Participate in upcoming events
- Contribute articles or insights for future newsletters
- Mentor younger professionals
- Share ideas to strengthen AMAL's impact

## Ramadan Reflection

Ramadan is a time of reflection, discipline, and service. As professionals, it reminds us to align our work with integrity, compassion, and accountability. AMAL encourages members to use this blessed month to reconnect with purpose—both personally and professionally. AMAL warmly extends its heartfelt greetings to all esteemed members and their families on the blessed month of Ramadan.

This sacred month offers a time for reflection, self-discipline, and heightened consciousness of Allah ﷺ. It reminds us of the enduring values that guide both our faith and our professional commitments — integrity, accountability, compassion, and service to the greater good.

We pray that Allah ﷺ accepts your fasts, prayers, and acts of charity, and that Ramadan brings spiritual growth, renewed purpose, and abundant barakah to you and your loved ones. May it strengthen unity, sincerity, and devotion within our community. As we prepare for Ramadān and the celebration of Eid thereafter, we wish all our members and their families a meaningful and blessed season.

**Ramadan Mubarak to All!**

تَقَبَّلَ اللَّهُ مِنَّا وَمِنْكُمْ

Taqabbalallāhu minnā wa minkum

May the Almighty accept (good deeds) from us and from you.



# Fun Facts

## Legal Profession

- The average lawyer spends **more time reading than speaking**, despite the stereotype. Courtroom drama is real — but paperwork wins every time.
- Lawyers are trained to spot risk so well that many admit they **can't watch movies without pointing out legal inaccuracies**.
- One of the most common phrases in legal practice worldwide remains: “It depends.”
- Modern courts still rely heavily on **centuries-old legal principles**, proving that precedent is the original “version control system.”
- Fun truth: if lawyers were paid per document reviewed rather than per hour, **the profession would collapse overnight**.

## Accounting Profession

- Accountants don't “love numbers” — they **love numbers that balance**. There is a difference.
- The phrase “Just one small adjustment” has caused more late nights than any deadline.
- Accountants are statistically among the **most trusted professionals globally**, largely because numbers are harder to argue with than opinions.
- Fun fact: accountants often finish other people's sentences with “...but where's the supporting schedule?”
- Recent reality: cloud accounting has reduced paper — but **increased the number of emails saying “Please see attached (again)”**.

## Lawyers Accountants (Shared Realities)

- Both professions know that the **real work begins after the meeting**.
- “Urgent” usually means it was urgent last week.
- Compliance is often blamed for being boring — until something goes wrong.
- Both lawyers and accountants have perfected the art of **remaining calm while internally recalculating everything**.
- Recent trend: AI can draft documents, but it still can't replace the professional instinct that says “Something about this doesn't sit right.”

## Contact AMAL



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[www.amal.co.za](http://www.amal.co.za)



#amalsouthafrica