December 2023



FUND OBJECTIVE

Aims to achieve consistent capital appreciation over a medium to long-term by investing in equities and other approved investments, which harmonise with Islamic philosophy and laws.

FUND DETAILS						
Launch Date	01 December 2009	Domicile	Malaysia			
Currency	Ringgit Malaysia	Launch Price	RM1.0000			
Units in Circulation	23.33 million units (29 December 2023)	Fund Size	RM44.66 million (29 December 2023)			
Unit NAV	RM1.9143 (29 December 2023)	Dealing	Daily (as per Bursa Malaysia trading day)			
Investment Manager of the Target Fund	AHAM Asset Management Berhad	Target Fund	AHAM Aiiman Growth Fund (FKA Affin Hwang Aiiman Growth Fund)			
Benchmark	FBM Emas Shariah Index (FBMS)	Taxation	8% of annual investment income			
Risk Profile	 Suitable for investors: Have a medium to long term investment horizon Are risk tolerant Seek higher returns on the investment that comply with Shariah requirements 	Fees	 Sun Life Malaysia does not impose any fund management charge on Sun Life Malaysia Islamic Equity Fund. Up to 1.5% p.a. fund management charge is applied on the Target Fund's NAV by AHAM Asset Management Berhad. 			

ASSET ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND			
Equity	Cash		
Min 70%; Max 100%	Max 30%		

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SECTOR ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND				
Industrials	17.50%			
Financials	16.10%			
Consumer Staples	12.10%			
Health Care	10.10%			
Telecommunications	9.60%			
Utilities	6.50%			
Technology	6.00%			
Energy	5.90%			
Basic Materials	3.80%			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	12.40%			
Total	100.00%			

TOP HOLDINGS OF THE TARGET FUND			
Tenaga Nasional Bhd	6.50%		
Axis Real Estate Invt Trust	5.70%		
Solarvest Holdings Berhad	4.30%		
TIME dotCom Berhad	4.10%		
UOA Development Bhd	3.70%		
IHH Healthcare Bhd	3.30%		
Axiata Group Bhd	3.10%		
Sime Darby Plantation Bhd	3.00%		
Top Glove Corp Bhd	3.00%		
ITMAX SYSTEM Bhd	2.80%		
Total	39.50%		

PERFORMANCE RECORD

This fund feeds into AHAM Aiiman Growth Fund ("target fund") with the objective to achieve consistent capital appreciation over a medium to long-term by investing in equities and other approved investments, which harmonize with Islamic philosophy and laws.

Table below shows the investment returns of Sun Life Malaysia Islamic Equity Fund versus its benchmark as at 29 December 2023

%	YTD	1M	1-Year	3-Years	5-Years	10-Years	Since Inception
Fund*	4.90	2.61	4.90	-7.44	28.38	32.37	91.43
Benchmark	0.46	0.54	0.46	-16.49	-4.48	-15.81	30.46

^{*} Calculation of past performance is based on NAV-to-NAV

Notice: Past performance of the fund is not an indication of its future performance which may differ. The fund performance is not guaranteed.

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FUND MANAGER'S COMMENTS

- The fund continue to thrive and outperform its benchmark on YTD basis as mentioned above. It also performed on Month to date ("MTD") basis by 2.6%, with the fund standing at 2.1% in December.
- For the Global Macro, US equities capped off the year on a positive note, bolstered by growing bets that the US Federal Reserve is done with its interest rate hike cycle. The S&P 500 index rose 2.80%, while the tech-heavy Nasdaq gauge climbed 3.90% in December as the Fed makes a dovish pivot.
- At its final FOMC meeting of 2023, Fed Chair Jerome Powell painted a dovish outlook on rates, signalling optimism that inflationary pressures have been contained. The Fed also voted unanimously to keep benchmark interest rates unchanged at a targeted range between 5.25%-5.50%. With inflation rate easing and the economy holding up, the Fed also pencilled in 3 rate cuts (totalling 75bps) for 2024 in its revised dot plot. Powell further acknowledged that interest rates are currently at a reasonable level and is inclined to let it run its course.
- On the domestic front, the benchmark KLCI held steady at 0.10% largely on the back of profit-taking activities. There was stronger positive momentum in the small-cap space which climbed 1.50% as risk appetite improved.
- After much speculation, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim announced a significant reshuffling of his Cabinet which was well received by the market. The appointment of an experienced technocrat to the role of Second Finance Minister as well as the return of several credible individuals to helm crucial ministries bodes well for the government's reform agenda.
- Aside from the political frontier, in terms of noteworthy developments, the government unveiled the Central Database Hub (Padu) to streamline all data related to the implementation of targeted subsidies. This initiative is expected to improve the efficient distribution of subsidies to eligible demographic groups, aligning with the government's broader goal of reducing its subsidy bill and narrowing the fiscal deficit.

STRATEGY:

- Transaction wise, the fund was net buying in December. The fund has reduced its exposure in technology, and Healthcare Sectors.
- The proceeds from the reduced exposure were channel into Telecommunications, Energy and Utilities sector.
- The fund still maintain its defensive positioning with some tactical positions for short to medium term opportunities.
- The fund currently maintained cash levels of around 13%.

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RISKS

All investment carries some form of risks. The potential key risks include but are not limited to the following:

Market risk

Market risk arises because of factors that affect the entire marketplace. Factors such as economic growth, political stability and social environment are some examples of conditions that have an impact on businesses, whether positive or negative. Market risk cannot be eliminated by diversification. It stems from the fact that there are economy-wide perils which threaten all businesses. Hence, investors will be exposed to market uncertainties and no matter how many Shariah-compliant securities are held, fluctuations in the economic, political and social environment will affect the market price of the Shariah-compliant investments either in a positive or negative way.

Fund management risk

This risk refers to the day-to-day management of the target fund by AHAM Asset Management berhad which will impact the performance of the target fund. For example, investment decisions undertaken by AHAM Asset Management berhad as a result of an incorrect view of the market or any non-compliance with internal policies, investment mandate, the deed, relevant law or guidelines due to factors such as human error, fraudulence, dishonesty or weaknesses in operational process and systems, may adversely affect the performance of the target fund.

Performance risk

There is no guarantee in relation to the investment returns.

Inflation risk

This is the risk that your investment in the target fund may not grow or generate income at a rate that keeps pace with inflation. This would reduce your purchasing power even though the value of the investment in monetary terms has increased.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises in two scenarios. The first scenario is where the target fund's investment cannot be sold due to unavailability of a buyer for that investment. The second scenario exists where the target fund's investment, by its nature, is thinly traded. This will have the effect of causing the target fund's investment to be sold below its fair value which would adversely affect the NAV of the target fund.

Credit/Default risk

Credit risk relates to the creditworthiness of the issuers of the investment (Islamic money market instruments) and their expected ability to make timely payment of interest and/or principal. Any adverse situations faced by the issuers may impact the value as well as liquidity of the investment. In the case of rated investments, this may lead to a credit downgrade. Default risk relates to the risk of an issuer of the investment either defaulting on payments or failing to make payments in a timely manner which will in turn adversely affect the value of the investment. This could adversely affect the value of the target fund.

Equity investment risk

This is the risk associated with investing in a particular equity. The value of individual equity is mainly determined by its potential growth in earnings, sound management, and treatment of minority shareholders, as well as a myriad of other factors. Failure to achieve these would result in declining investment value which in turn affects the performance of the target fund. This can be mitigated by diversifying the target fund's portfolios.

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RISKS (CONTINUED)

This risk refers to the risk that the currently held Shariah-compliant securities by the target fund may be reclassified to be Shariah non-compliant in the periodic review of the equities by the Shariah Advisory Council of the Securities Commission Malaysia (SACSC), the Shariah Adviser for the target fund or the Shariah boards of the relevant Islamic indices.

Reclassification of Shariah status risk If this occurs, AHAM Asset Management Berhad will take the necessary steps to dispose of such equities. There may be opportunity loss to the target fund due to the target fund not being allowed to retain the excess capital gains derived from the disposal of the Shariah non-compliant equities. AHAM Asset Management Berhad will be required to dispose of these equities immediately if the prices are above the purchase price. Should the prices be below the purchase price, AHAM Asset Management Berhad may choose to hold on to these holdings until the prices meet the purchase price. Nevertheless, should AHAM Asset Management Berhad decide to dispose of these equities below the purchase price, the target fund will be faced with the risk of realising its losses, thus negatively impacting the NAV of the target fund.

Shariah-compliant warrants investment risk

The value of the Shariah-compliant warrants ("warrants") will depend on the pricing of the underlying security whereby the growth and performance prospect of the underlying security would consequentially affect the value of the warrants. In addition, the value of the warrants may decrease exponentially as the warrants approach its maturity date and the potential gains from a favourable price movement of the underlying security may be offset by aggressive time decay. AHAM Asset Management Berhad may consider unwinding these warrants if there are material adverse changes to its value with the aim to mitigate the risk.

Source: AHAM Asset Management Berhad

Date : 29 December 2023

Disclaimer:

The benchmark performance is not a guide to future performances which may differ. The performance of the fund is not guaranteed. The value of the fund will fluctuate and may fall below the amount of contributions paid and the fund value depends on the actual performance of the underlying investment. This material is for information purposes only and is subject to change at any time without notice. Sun Life Malaysia does not guarantee its accuracy, completeness, correctness or timeliness for any purpose or reason. This information should not be considered as advice or recommendation in relation to your account or particular investment objectives, financial situation or needs. You may not revise, transform, or build upon this material without prior written consent of Sun Life Malaysia. Before acting on any information you should seek independent financial advice. Sun Life Malaysia may suspend the unit pricing and defer the payment of benefits, other than death and total and permanent disability benefits, subscription or redemption of units, switching of funds, under this contract for a reasonable period in exceptional circumstances, such as and including intervening events resulting in temporary closure of any stock exchange.