

Islam & Cyberspace Newsletter



Office of Islamic Studies on Cyberspace | December 2022 | 11th Issue

ComTech Gold \$CGO Becomes the First %100 Gold Backed Token to Receive Shariah Certification in the MENA Region



Dealing with Problematic Social Networks



Snap Inc. launches Family Center in Saudi Arabia



Analysis on Opinions For and Against Filtering



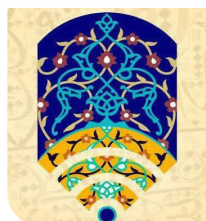
Dr. Raisi: Media Literacy Is Necessity for All

Ayatollah Raisi noted, «Development of media literacy and, more precisely, virtual literacy for all people and pillars of society is another necessity that should be taken into consideration».



Ayatollah Dr Raisi at the «Logic of Revolutionary Reconstruction of the Country's Cultural Structure» conference noted, «Development of media literacy and, more precisely, virtual literacy for all people and pillars of society is another necessity that should be taken into consideration».

He added, «Progressing things in the field of culture cannot be done only with directives and instructions, and it requires persuasion and removal of possible doubts, because when people are persuaded in this field, the decisions will be institutionalised and their implementation will be guaranteed in some way».



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Scientific Discussions about Cyberspace Is Essential

Hojjat al-Islam Habibullah Shabani The Imam of Friday Prayer of Hamadan visited the Office of Islamic Studies on cyberspace. He said: we do not have governance in the field of cyberspace, and it is partly due to the fact we do not have governance in culture. He added unfortunately our cultural activities are not carried out from the aspect of governance.

The representative of Wali-Faqih in Hamadan said: Those who were active and present in the violence and demonstrations of death of Mahsa Amini have grown and formed in cyberspace for two or three years. They were in a kind of abstract world, so when they enter the real world, they create such incidents and disturbances. He emphasized the role of the Office of Islamic Studies of the National Center for Cyberspace in the current situation: "We are now saying that we want cyberspace to be managed, but we do not know exactly what we want. For example, sometimes management means filtering, and sometimes it means supporting Iranian messengers; Now it is not clear what we want. The opinions of experts are completely different. We have to come to a conclusion with the dialogue and see where we want to go. You as a research center, should provide a ground for scientific discussions."

Dealing with Problematic Social Networks

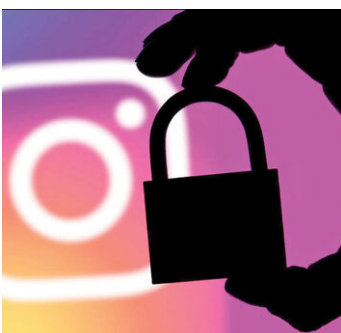
The free thought meeting of Religion and Cyberspace was held with the topic of «Examination of the Mechanism of Dealing with Problematic Social Networks».

In this meeting, which was held at the Office of Islamic Studies of the National Center for Cyberspace, some experts explained their opinions about filtering and ways to deal with problematic social networks.

Hujjat al-Islam Haj Hosseini, director of the Office of Islamic Studies of the National Center for Cyberspace, said: These global platforms, with the aim of managing governments, have become a problem in countries and these technologies change lifestyles in a targeted manner. But our decisions have never solved this problem, because the proposed solutions have never been as big as the problem. Hujjat al-Islam Haj Hosseini, referring to China's experience, added: China has a large population, and it is itself a global market; However, it does not work nationally. This country know that it must act globally in cyberspace. It has its infrastructure all over the world. Its hardware is available all over the world, many of its softwares are globalized. Thus, if America wants to create a problem for it, China can embargo America elsewhere.



Analysis on Opinions For and Against Filtering



One of the controversial issues these days in Iran, among the elite and common people, is the issue of filtering, especially Instagram filtering.

The Office of Islamic Studies of the National Center for Cyberspace has analyzed the positive and negative opinions of seminary and academic scholars and has finally expressed its opinion in this regard.

It is stated in the introduction of this article: Due to sabotage and disturbance in the country, the Islamic Republic of Iran has blocked access to some foreign social networks, including WhatsApp and Instagram. Some officials' statements indicate that this ban will continue. Therefore, the Office of Islamic Studies of the National Center for Cyberspace discussed this issue among seminarian and university elites and political and management elites, and widely, the opinions of both sides were heard. Then, an analysis of the arguments of supporters and opponents of Instagram filtering from economic, security, cultural and political aspects and the final opinion of this office was presented.

ComTech Gold \$CGO Becomes the First %100 Gold Backed Token to Receive Shariah Certification in the MENA Region

ComTech FZCO receives Shariah Compliance Certification for ComTech Gold Token (CGO), becoming the first in industry to be awarded a Shariah certification for Gold tokenization product in the Region. Shariah certification (Fatwa) was issued by Amanie Advisors Ltd, an entity specialising in field of Shariah-compliant investments and Islamic finance solutions.

ComTech FZCO, a Dubai-based company redefining tokenization infrastructure (for real-world assets), started with digitization of Gold powered by XDC Network. Comtech Gold 'CGO' is listed on Global Exchanges like LBank, Bitrue. Investors can buy CGO by opening an account with these exchanges. Investors can hold tokens within the exchange wallets or with any of the Internationally accepted wallets like D'cent, Guarda, or through regulated digital Custodians like Propine, a MAS-regulated entity.

Supported by the guidance from Amanie Advisors Ltd, ComTech Gold Shariah certification was provided after confirming that the structure, mechanism, and relevant key legal documentation of Comtech Gold Token met all the necessary requirements in line with Shariah rules and standards defined by the Accounting and Auditing Organisation for Islamic Financial Institutions (AAOIFI).



Nigeria Islamic Court Orders Arrest Of Local Celebrities



An Islamic court in northern Nigeria has ordered police to arrest and investigate 10 local celebrities for "immoral conduct" on social media that could influence youth, a judicial official told AFP Thursday. The court issued the order on Tuesday last week after lawyers filed a lawsuit, calling for their prosecution for singing and dancing to "immoral" songs and sharing them online, Baba-Jibo Ibrahim, a judicial spokesman said.

The accused celebrities, four men and six women, include a popular hip-hop singer, a famous film actress and eight TikTok influencers with huge followings.

The order highlights strict measures often employed by authorities in Nigeria's Muslim-majority north to regulate social media content and force users to conform to tradition and religious norms.

Sharia law operates alongside criminal and civil law in Nigeria's 12 Muslim-majority northern states.

"The Upper Sharia court gave an order to the police commissioner to arrest the 10 suspects and carry out

Shariah-compliant Islamic Coin to Support SDG-compliant Ventures, Green Projects, and Philanthropy



Shariah-compliant Islamic Coin has recently launched a collaboration with the World Green Growth Organization and the International Youth Conference 6, taking place on September 25-22th and September 30th-October 1st, 2022, in New York.

As announced by the project's representatives, its native Evergreen DAO will be a direct contributor and supporter of UN-connected initiatives such as the WGGO. Supporting the global drive for sustainable development IslamicCoin aligns with international efforts to improve people's lives and support the transition to a greener economy by supporting innovation, youth employment, women in the workplace, and ventures aimed at UN Sustainable Development Goals.

%10 of each issuance will be deposited into the Evergreen DAO for further investment into Islam-related ventures or donated to Muslim charities, bringing direct economic value to the community." It is an honor and a pleasure to partner with WGGO and support their youth-backed initiatives to promote the resilient development of the climate. The values of Islam and sustainable development are incredibly close. At the end of the day, we are all working together to make this a safer, better planet", commented Islamic Coin co-founder Mohammed AlKaff AlHashmi.

Saudi Arabia Invests 142 Billion Riyals in Electronic Games Industry



According to the agency, the main goals of the Savi Group's strategy are to foster growth by making investments in the gaming and e-sports industries, creating a long-term investment plan, effectively using capital within the industry, presenting opportunities for participation, and strengthening partnerships in the electronic games industry, in addition to enhancing the player experience.

The Savi Group will invest in programmes and infrastructure at the local and global levels to provide training, education, and entrepreneurship opportunities as well as to attract foreign companies to Saudi Arabia through investments and partnerships that it will contribute to providing skills, transferring knowledge, and fostering entrepreneurship, she said, adding that the launch of the strategy comes to enable and support the recently announced national strategy for games and e-sports.

She continued by saying that the Kingdom will also endeavour to establish 250 electronic gaming companies, creating 39,000 employment and increasing the sector's contribution to the GDP to 50 billion riyals by 2030.

As the group will lead global investments in the field of games and e-sports, which will generate a sustainable return that enables the developers in the entire sector, she stated that the group's investments are based on four main pillars: enhancing returns and local impact, leaving a global footprint, and expanding.



Snap Inc. launches Family Center in Saudi Arabia

In collaboration with the General Commission for Audiovisual Media (GCAM), Snap Inc. has launched Family Center in the Kingdom, making it one of the first Arab countries to launch the service.

The new in-app tool gives parents more control over their children's online activity, allowing them to see their friends list on Snapchat and whom they have been communicating with without revealing the substance of those conversations. With the help of Family Center, parents can now easily and confidentially report any suspicious accounts directly to Snap's Trust and Safety team, a dedicated unit that works around the clock to help keep Snapchatters safe. Snap has also launched new tools to encourage constructive and open conversations about online safety.

Esra Assery, CEO of the General Commission for Audiovisual Media, said, «We are delighted to partner with Snap to roll out this feature in KSA, Family Center strikes the right balance between privacy and safety. The new service adds another layer of protection to existing safeguards, ensuring that teens must be mutual friends before they can start communicating with each other.»

