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**Press Release**

**Salah Jassim Murad and Ahli Bank win CEO Leadership Achievement and Best Managed Bank in Qatar Awards**

*Singapore's OCBC Bank, Hong Kong's The Bank of East Asia, and Indonesia's Bank Central Asia also amongst 12 banks picked out for this triennial assessment of leadership and management capabilities of Asian and Middle Eastern banks*

- Ahli Bank achieved record core earnings, whilst maintaining good asset quality.
- The CEO led to bank through an ownership reorganisation and rebuilt its brand identity.
- All winning banks scored well in six criteria.
- Awards presented by former United States Congressman Barney Frank.

Hanoi, Vietnam, May 10<sup>th</sup> 2016 – Salah Jassim Murad and Ahli Bank received the CEO Leadership Achievement and Best Managed Bank in Qatar Awards at the prestigious Asian Banker Leadership Achievement Awards held at JW Marriott Hanoi on 10th May 2016.

The awards were presented to Murad by Congressman Barney Frank, former chairman of the US House Financial Services Committee. Also present were Nguyen Thi Hong, deputy governor of State Bank of Vietnam; and Cesar Virata, a member of the advisory council that decides on the award, and the former prime minister of the Philippines.

Bank Ahli underwent a significant change in ownership in January 2013 and continues to maintain its position as a top-tier, top-of-mind bank in Qatar. Under Murad's leadership, the bank realised a compound annual growth rate of 11% and average return on equity of 15.1% from 2013 to 2015.

He decoupled the bank's systems and processes, and created a new brand identity and awareness to drive a change in mindset and approach across the bank. He also implemented the necessary controls and governance procedures to make this transition seamless.

Murad has over 30 years of experience in commercial banking and has been the CEO of Ahli Bank QSC since 2013.

**The full list of winners of the Leadership Achievement Awards includes:**

**Leadership Award and Best Managed Bank in Qatar**

- Salah Jassim Murad, CEO, Ahli Bank, Qatar

**Leadership Award and Best Managed Bank in Singapore and Asia Pacific**

- Samuel N. Tsien, Group Chief Executive Officer, OCBC Bank, Singapore

**Leadership Awards and Best Managed Banks and Retail Banker of the Year**

- Jahja Setiaatmadja, President Director, Bank Central Asia, Indonesia

**Leadership Awards and Best Managed Banks**

- Mohammad Abdul Mannan, Managing Director, Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited
- Aravinda Perera, Managing Director, Sampath Bank, Sri Lanka
- Chao Chin Tung, Chairman, CTBC Bank, Taiwan
- Banthoon Lamsam, Chairman and CEO, Kasikornbank, Thailand
- Le Cong, CEO, Military Commercial Joint Stock Bank, Vietnam
- Ala'a Eraiqat, Group CEO, Executive Director, Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank, United Arab Emirates

**The Best Managed Banks**

- Blom Bank
- Shinhan Bank

**The William “Bill” Seidman Award for Lifetime Achievement in Leadership in Financial Services Industry and Best Managed Bank in Hong Kong**

- David K.P. Li, Executive Chairman and CEO, The Bank of East Asia, Hong Kong

The press releases for each country’s winners are being issued separately.

Photographs of the awards presentation are attached with this press release.

**About The Asian Banker**

The Asian Banker is the region's most authoritative provider of strategic business intelligence to the financial services community. The Singapore-based company has offices in Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Beijing and Dubai as well as representatives in London, New York and San Francisco. It has a business model that revolves around three core business lines: publications, research services and forums. The company's website is [www.theasianbanker.com](http://www.theasianbanker.com)

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