

Agenda

 **October 23, 2025**  **Grand Hyatt Dubai**

09:00 AM – 09:05 AM	Opening Remarks – Rashid Al Qubaisi, CEO at Mawarid Finance
09:05 AM – 09:20 AM	Keynote Presentation – Chetan Parekh, MP at Cedar MCI
09:20 AM – 09:35 AM	Keynote Presentation – Mohammad Alblooshi, CEO at DIFC Innovation Hub
09:35 AM – 09:50 AM	Keynote Presentation – Samer Soliman, CEO at AFS
09:50 AM – 10:15 AM	Panel 1: Integrating Islamic Finance into the Digital Economy
10:15 AM – 10:40 AM	Panel 2: Open Banking Unlocked – From Compliance to Collaboration
10:40 AM – 11:15 AM	Networking Break
11:15 AM – 11:25 AM	Keynote Presentation – Arsalan Ahmed, Director Fintech at Mastercard
11:25 AM – 11:35 AM	Keynote Presentation – Haroun Dharsey, CEO at Dharsi
11:35 AM – 11:45 AM	Keynote Presentation – Raji Challita, CEO at BML Istisharat
11:45 AM – 11:55 AM	Keynote Presentation – Maher Mikati, CEO at Areeba
11:55 AM – 12:20 PM	Panel 3: Financing the Future – Closing the SME Gap with Innovation and Values
12:20 PM – 12:45 PM	Panel 4: Blockchain and Stablecoins – the Next Era of Finance
12:45 PM – 01:00 PM	Awards & Closing Remarks
01:00 PM – 02:00 PM	Networking Lunch
02:00 PM – 03:00 PM	FinTech Lab - Live Product Spotlight



EVENT PARTNERS



Panel 1:

The Embedded Imperative – Integrating Islamic Finance into the Digital Economy



Ahmed Abdeltawab
CEO & Shareholder
OGOLD



Raji Challita
CEO
BML Istisharat



Rashed Hareb Al Mheiri
Co-founder and CEO
Rentify



Nameer Khan
Chairman
MENA Fintech Association



Murtaza Shaikhally
Associate Partner
Cedar IBSi-Capital

Panel 2:

Open Banking Unlocked – Shaping the Future of Financial Ecosystems



Ehsan Rahman
Co-Founder & CEO
Kamel Pay



Uttam Nayak
CEO
Yalamanchili



Altaf Ahmed
COO
Pay Ten Payment Services



Harish Karunkaran
Head of Product Strategy
Pine Labs



Sharad Gupta
Sr Partner
ALP Tech

Panel 3:

Financing the Future – Closing the SME Gap with Innovation and Values



Samer Soliman
CEO
AFS



Thomas Kuncheria
SVP, Head of SME for EEMEA
Mastercard



Dr. Allan Villegas
Group CEO
Liabify



Hari Padmanabhan
Chairman
Uncia



Deepak H Saluja
Founder and CEO
KEE Platforms

Panel 4:

Blockchain and Stablecoins – Trust, Transparency, and the Next Era of Finance



Nauman Hassan
Regional Director for MENA
Paymentology



Omair Ansari
Co-Founder and CEO
Abhi



Filip Bloch
Founder and CEO
PAYS. Solutions



Rohit Ramana
Co-Founder & CFO
Mintoak



Malek Moubasher
Senior Management
Consultant-Principal
Mentor Global Consultants

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