

## Bank Cards ♦

The Fifteenth Fiqhi Seminar of the Islamic Fiqh Academy focused its discussion on the matter of various kinds of cards issued by banks to their customers to ascertain in what conditions the injunctions of Interest (*Riba*) will become applicable and in what conditions it will not? It is because Interest has been prohibited in Islam due to its exploitative nature, and it cannot be permitted in any case. In this background the following resolutions were arrived at.

- 20.1 While considering permissibility as central to every matter, there seems no objection from the Islamic viewpoint in using the ATM cards to withdraw one's own money deposited in the bank account.
- 20.2 It is permissible and apt to use debit cards in selling and purchasing things and transfer money from one account to the other.
- 20.3 It is permissible to pay money for acquiring the ATM or debit cards and to pay all charges involved in this regard, since such an amount would be deemed nothing but fee for the particular services provided by banks.
- 20.4 Since the prevalent pattern of credit cards is beyond doubt an Interest-based dealing, hence the use and possession of credit cards or any equivalent thing is not permissible.