

### Nomura Japan Shariah Active Core Fund - USD Class

### May 2025

### **Fund Commentary and Strategy**

In May, USD Class returned +4.15%. The Japanese stock market rose throughout the month, supported not only by favorable responses to capital policies such as share buybacks announced by major domestic companies during their earnings releases but also by progress in tariff negotiations among major countries, including the agreement between the U.S. and China to reduce additional tariffs.

Regarding style trends, the Growth index increased by +5.6%, and the Value index rose by +4.94% (Russell/Nomura indices). The progress in tariff negotiations among major countries under U.S. tariff policy helped ease concerns to some extent, leading to the strength of growth stocks and high-tech stocks engaged in global business, resulting in growth stocks outperforming value stocks.

The sector allocation effect contributed +0.17%, and the stock selection effect added +0.23% (FACTSET basis). In the factor attribution analysis based on GICS sectors, sector allocation positively contributed from Health Care (underweight), Consumer Staples (underweight), and Real Estate (underweight), while Consumer Discretionary (overweight), Financials (underweight), and Communication Services (underweight) had negative impacts.

For stock selection, Consumer Discretionary, Industrials, and Materials contributed positively, whereas Consumer Staples and Health Care detracted. At the individual stock level, HITACHI, LTD., DISCO CORPORATION, and PAN PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS CORPORATION contributed positively. Hitachi rose amid the repurchasing of high-tech stocks following the U.S.-China additional tariff reduction agreement, and PPIH rose due to the strong performance of its core discount store business amid an uncertain external environment, which was positively evaluated.

On the other hand, SHO-BOND HOLDINGS CO., LTD., ADVANTEST CORPORATION (Not Held), and MURATA MANUFACTURING CO., LTD. detracted. SHO-BOND HOLDINGS declined after reporting order results below market expectations in its May earnings announcement, following gains in April driven by its defensive qualities. Murata Manufacturing fell amid concerns over intensified competition in high-frequency communication modules amid increasing external uncertainties.

We increased holdings in a manufacturing company specializing in optical materials and electronic parts. The rationale is that, in terms of automotive applications, the adoption of ARF in mid-range EVs by China's leading manufacturers and the incorporation of new materials such as monitor photodiodes related to optical semiconductors indicate smooth business expansion. Considering these developments have yet to be reflected in the company's plans and the conservative assumption of an exchange rate of 135 yen to the dollar, we believe there is significant upside potential relative to the company's current plan. Additionally, we increased active weight within pharmaceutical stocks.

Conversely, we decreased positions in another electronic components manufacturer due to heightened risks of declining demand for capacitors used in high-end smartphones such as the iPhone amid worsening global economic conditions and intensified competition in high-frequency communication modules, potentially leading to margin deterioration. We also decreased positions in a machinery company specializing in factory automation; although its share price recovered somewhat after the announcement of mutual tariffs under the Trump administration, uncertainties remain, including global capital expenditure trends.

The Fund seeks to identify companies with strong competitiveness, growth potential, and the ability to sustain high ROE over the medium to long term, based on thorough analysis of long-term fundamentals, including structural industry trends. We maintain a disciplined investment approach, avoiding distractions from short-term earnings fluctuations or share price movements.

### **Cumulative Fund Returns (%)**

	YTD 31/12/2024 To 31/05/2025	1 Month 30/04/2025 To 31/05/2025	3 Month 28/02/2025 To 31/05/2025	6 Month 30/11/2024 To 31/05/2025	Since Commencement 7/11/2024 To 31/05/2025
Fund	1.79	4.15	5.73	-0.33	-0.91
Benchmark	4.65	4.07	7.18	2.86	2.36

Source: Refinitiv Lipper

### **Fund Objectives**

The Fund aims to achieve long-term capital growth.

### **Benchmark**

90% Dow Jones Islamic Market Japan Index + 10% BNM Islamic Interbank Overnight Rate

#### Investment Adviser

Nomura Asset Management Co., Ltd

### **Distribution Policy**

Distribution of income, if any, is incidental and may be made from realised gains, realised income and/or out of capital.

### **Key Facts**

17-Oct-2024	
Equity (Shariah-compliant)	
30 June	
USD 3.24 million	
USD 1.99 million	
2.01 million	
USD 0.9909	
Daily; 4:00 pm	
T + 10 business days	

### Sales charge

Up to 5.00% of the NAV per Unit.

# Management fee

Up to 1.80% per annum of the NAV of each Class.

### Trustee fee

Up to 0.03% per annum of the NAV of the Fund (including local custodian fees and expenses but excluding foreign custodian fees and charges), subject to a minimum fee of RM12,000 per annum.

#### Notes

Performance data is calculated based on the changes in the Fund's NAV price per unit for the specified length of time and on the assumption that any dividends declared are reinvested into the Fund. Performance figures are presented in cumulative basis, unless indicated otherwise.

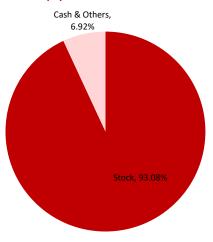
FUND'S PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT AN INDICATION OF ITS FUTURE PERFORMANCE



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### **Asset Allocation (%)**



Top 5 Holdings (%)
Hitachi.Ltd.

Hitachi,Ltd.	9.48
Tokyo Electron Limited	6.42
Fast Retailing Co.,Ltd.	6.23
Recruit Holdings Co.,Ltd.	5.97
Shin-Etsu Chemical Co.,Ltd.	5.38

All data presented are as of 30 May 2025 unless otherwise specified. Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

### Sector Breakdown (%)

Industrials	26.60%
Information Technology	23.40%
Consumer Discretionary	19.74%
Health Care	12.36%
Cash & Others	6.92%
Materials	6.60%
Consumer Staples	4.38%

### Country Breakdown (%)

Japan	93.08%
Cash & Others	6.92%

#### Disclaimer

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