

# DIFC Wills for Non-Muslim Expatriates in UAE

A DIFC Will offers significant advantages for non-Muslim expatriates in the UAE. It provides a legal framework for personal estate planning outside the default application of Sharia law.

**SHALLONLEGAL**





# Key Benefits of a DIFC Will



## Legal Protection

Safeguards your assets  
according to your wishes



## International Recognition

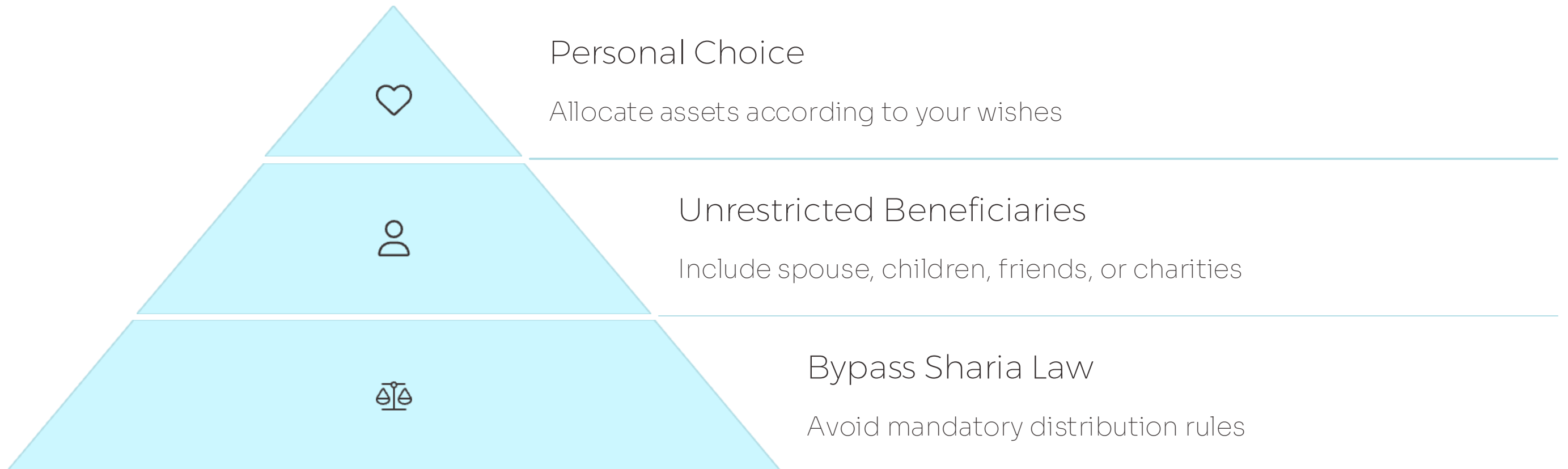
Respected across  
jurisdictions



## Peace of Mind

Ensures your legacy is protected

# Freedom to Distribute Assets



# English-Language Legal Process



## English Courts

DIFC Courts operate in English



## No Translations

Reduces need for document translation



## Faster Process

Expedites legal proceedings





## Arrangements for minor children



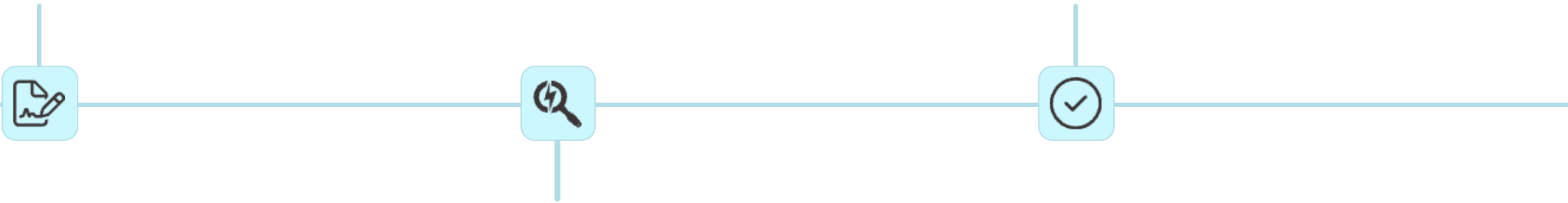
# Efficient Probate Process

File Application

Submit required documents

Grant of Probate

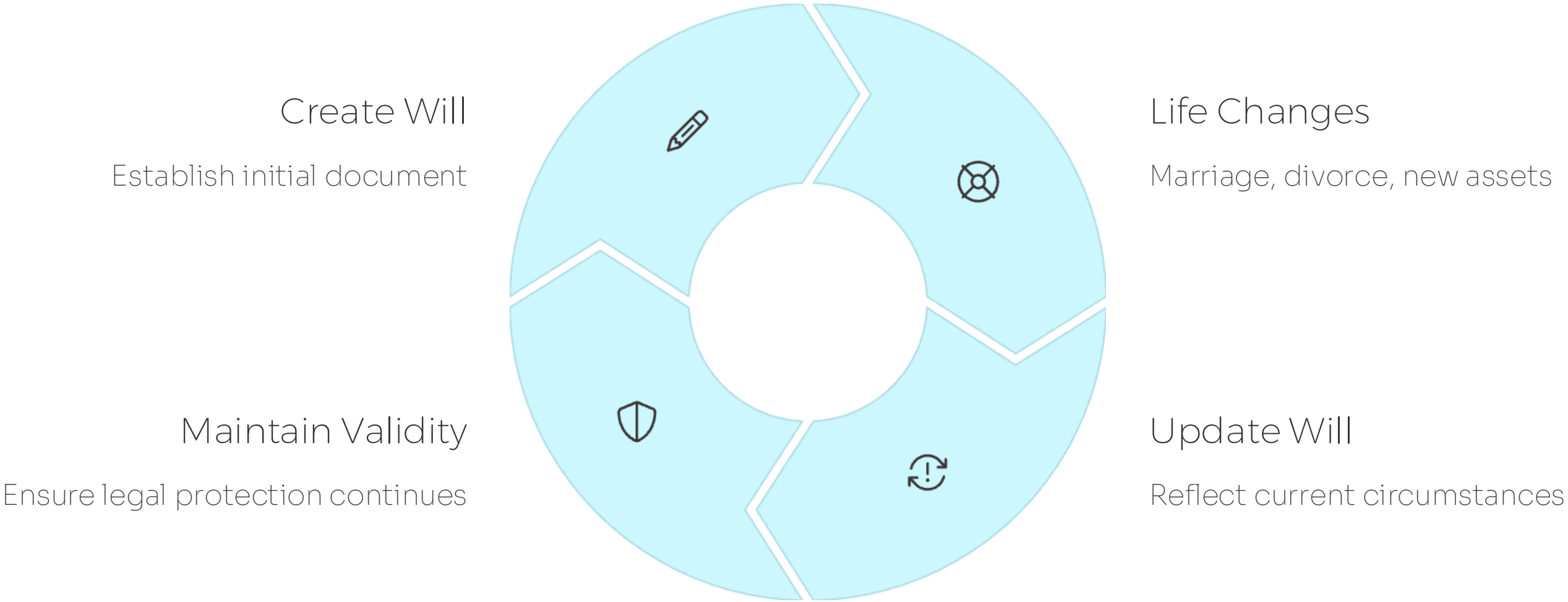
Often within one month



Court Review

Examination of the will

# Flexibility and Amendability



# Implications of Not Having a Will

## Sharia Law Distribution

## Potential Issues

- Distribution against personal wishes
- Unequal inheritance for children
- Limited options for non-family beneficiaries



# Inheritance Distribution Under Sharia Law

## When a Wife Dies First

Under Sharia law, when a wife passes away, her estate is distributed according to a fixed hierarchy and proportional shares as established in the Quran and Islamic jurisprudence.



### Husband's Share

The surviving husband typically receives  $\frac{1}{2}$  of his wife's estate if they have no children, or  $\frac{1}{4}$  if they have children.



### Children's Shares

Sons receive twice the portion of daughters. If only daughters survive, they typically receive a fixed share (e.g., two or more daughters share  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the remainder).



### Parents and Relatives

Parents may receive  $\frac{1}{6}$  each. If no children, siblings may be entitled to shares depending on their relation to the deceased.

This distribution system ensures that wealth is spread among family members according to established principles, though it differs significantly from Western inheritance practices.

# Inheritance Distribution Under Sharia Law

## When a Husband Dies First

When a husband passes away without a Will, his estate is distributed according to Sharia law principles based on the Qur'an and classical Islamic jurisprudence.

Heir	Share	Notes
Wife	1/8 (12.5%)	Fixed share when deceased has children
Son	Residue (2 parts)	Sons receive twice the portion of daughters
Daughter	Residue (1 part)	Half the portion of sons
Father	1/6 (16.67%)	Fixed share when deceased has children
Mother	1/6 (16.67%)	Fixed share with children and siblings

## Key Distribution Principles

- Wife's share is 1/4 if no children, 1/8 with children
- Parents receive fixed shares even with children present
- Sons inherit double what daughters inherit
- No automatic joint ownership between spouses

Without a DIFC Will, expatriates' assets may be distributed according to these principles rather than personal wishes.

# Conclusion

## Establish a DIFC Will

Ensure your estate is distributed according to your preferences

## Gain Peace of Mind

Provide clarity for yourself and your beneficiaries

## Seek Professional Guidance

Get assistance tailored to your specific circumstances

