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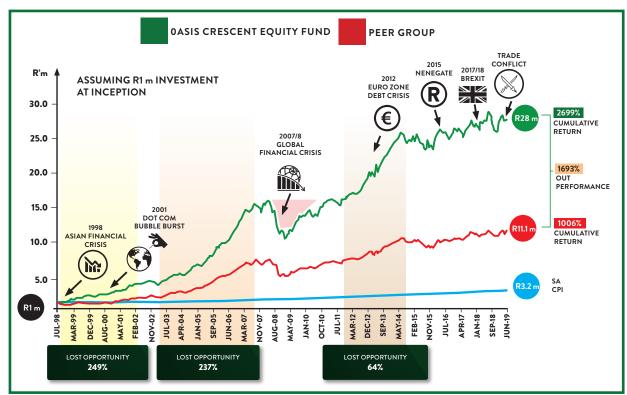
VIEWS FROM OUR CEO

he Oasis Crescent Equity Fund (OCEF) was launched in July 1998 as one of the first ethical investment products to fulfil the needs of investors in South Africa. As a trendsetter, it was the catalyst for the evolution of the regulatory landscape, by providing the legislative framework that contributed to the expansion of the ethical

legislative framework that contributed to the expansion of the ethical investment industry in the country at large. The objective at Oasis was to develop a product ecosystem that complied with international best practice from both a regulatory and Shari'ah governance perspective. This was achieved by incorporating the highest global standards of investment administration from the Accounting and Auditing Organization for Islamic Financial Institutions (AAOIFI) and by selecting a Shari'ah board comprising of the most experienced and eminent global scholars from across the world. The success of the fund led to the development of an end to end global wealth management solution comprising of a spectrum of pre- and post-retirement products, including mutual funds, tax free savings and endowment products, to meet the needs of a diverse client base. This also provided clients with a fully integrated solution to benefit from currency, geographical and asset class diversification through a singular service offering.

As an innovative fund, the Oasis Crescent Equity Fund set the benchmark for the investment industry and remains the largest Shari'ah compliant equity fund in South Africa and globally. It has been the recipient of multiple local and international awards and its goal of protecting and growing the real wealth of its clients, has remained unchanged. The investment philosophy underpinning this vision is centred on offering a low volatility approach to wealth creation, based on a long term investment horizon that incorporated the now contemporary elements of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) considerations in its share selection process. The hallmark of this philosophy has been to provide a greater downside protection compared to its peers, by actively investing in great companies with low debt on their balance sheets and strong cash flows, which can deliver sustainable returns throughout different market cycles.

The consistency of this investment philosophy over the last 21 years through multiple global economic and political events has resulted in a measurable improvement in the wealth of investors. During the Asian Financial Crisis of 1998, the Dotcom bubble in 2001, and subsequent Global Financial Crisis in 2008/9, the fund recovered sharply compared to its peers, as illustrated in the graph below. Most recently, global markets have been impacted by the volatility of Brexit and ongoing trade conflict between the USA and China. Despite these, the outperformance accrued to those who remained invested since inception, has been 1 693%¹. An investment of R1 million into the Oasis Crescent Equity Fund in 1998 is worth R28 million today compared to a return of R11.1 million from the average Shari'ah Equity fund and a minimum required value of R3.2 million to stay even with inflation². The initial investment has thus outperformed its peers by R16.9 million and inflation by R24.8 million³.



Performance (% returns) in Rand, net of fees, gross of non-permissible income of the Oasis Crescent Equity Fund since inception to 30 June 2019 (Source: Oasis Research; Morningstar Direct; Bloomberg)



Oasis has developed a comprehensive range of investment solutions that include pre and post-retirement products, including collective investment schemes, tax free savings and endowment products (including Hajj and Umrah) which cater for every life stage of a Muslim investor. These products include Equity, Property and Income funds, in addition to a Johannesburg Stock Exchange AltX listed Property fund. This is supported by a fully integrated in-house administration, marketing and client servicing team ecosystem in South Africa, London and Dublin, which utilises the best of breed technology and skills in order to cater to our clients evolving requirements. The vision of providing a complete investment offering with exceptional service and client centric commitment as a home grown South African company with global reach, continues to remain a focus of the group. In order to nurture the next generation of talent within the community, Oasis has developed a Bursary Program that invests in young South Africans as the future leaders and change makers of the country.

FINANCIAL ADVISORY

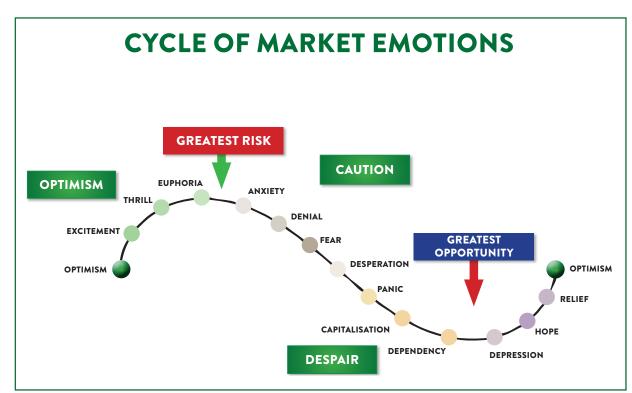
At Oasis our value proposition focuses on the highest quality of service and wealth creation. This correlates with our investment philosophy of protecting and growing your capital over the long term. Our approach is driven by strong downside protection where we identify quality stocks that protect your investment during adverse market conditions.

As a prudent investor with clearly defined investment goals, empowering yourself and with the assistance of your financial advisor, this would ensure that your long-term investment objectives are achieved. An investor's investment decisions are guided by their individual goals, risk tolerance and future needs for investment capital. Investors that employ long-term strategies would often experience greater wealth creation over an extended period of time. The recommended investment time horizon to be invested in the OCEF would be a minimum of 20 years, in order to enjoy real returns (taking into account the effects of inflation) and outperformance relative to the market. A continuous short-term mind set may be costly as under investment in valuable long-term positions could lead to the destruction of potential wealth creation and failure to exploit inefficiencies in the market, which staying invested through the cycle would offer. Oasis has a complete spectrum of product offerings to cater to investors with a shorter term investment horizon.

The objective of the OCEF is to provide long term wealth creation, offering lower levels of volatility than its peers. Over time, there have been numerous market-moving events, at times scaring investors into the assumed safety of bank deposits.

info@oasiscrescent.com | www.oasiscrescent.com | 021 413 7860 | 0860 100 786

Very often however, it is at these times when equity market returns recover to their highest levels. As shown in the previous graph, if a client had been invested in the OCEF and sold their investment after the Asian Financial Crisis of 1998, they would have missed an opportunity to grow their wealth by 249% in the three years that followed. Similarly, if they had stayed invested in OCEF through the Global Financial Crisis, they would have grown their real wealth by 64%. It is clear that by selling your investment when markets experience a large negative movement, you may miss out on an opportunity to grow their wealth, as these are often the periods when equity markets are most attractive. Staying invested through the market cycle can therefore prove to be one of the most effective ways to build your wealth over the long term. During market cycles, investors typically experience a mix of emotions, driven by cognitive biases that result in actions that may not be in the investor's best interest. Your financial advisor would play a key role in ensuring that your investment decisions are based on your original objectives and not driven by fear or greed.



Source: https://www.stlouistrust.com/late-cycle-investing/

Being a successful investor would require you to have the patience and commitment to stay invested when faced with market moving events. The age old adage of, it is not about timing the market but rather the time spent in the market that would yield the best outcomes. At Oasis we have a proven long term track record of a successful investment philosophy and our commitment to our investors is unwavering.





Over the past month, a number of Oasis clients departed to the holy cities of Mecca and Madina to perform their obligatory Hajj. We wish them and all pilgrims the very best with this sacred journey and pray that they fulfil all their duties of this holy undertaking and return home safely to their loved ones. We also take this opportunity to extend our warmest Eid-ul-Adha greetings to all Muslims around the world who will celebrate this blessed occasion. May this be a time of peace, understanding and contentment for us all.

1. Oasis Research; Morningstar Direct; Bloomberg 2. Oasis Research; Morningstar Direct; Bloomberg 3. Oasis Research; Morningstar Direct; Bloomberg.

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