



5 March 2024

PUBLIC STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

We Reconfirm our Stand in Solidarity with all Advocates of Palestine and Reject the Biased and Malicious Targeting by Media Agencies

The Israeli occupation and aggression in Palestine, particularly in Gaza, continued to intensify since October 7, leading to a significant increase in civilian casualties, ongoing massacres and genocide perpetrated by the Israeli occupation. Recent reports indicate that over 30,000 Palestinians have been killed, mostly women, children and the elderly, with the number of injured exceeding 70,000. Additionally, more than 8,000 individuals are reportedly missing. In the Occupied West Bank, the death toll is over 400, and Israel continues to expand its illegal settlements in the Occupied West Bank illegally. The Israeli occupation has also destroyed over 60% of Gaza's infrastructure and buildings, including homes, hospitals, shelters, schools, mosques and churches.

It was just last Thursday more than 170 Palestinians were killed and some 800 others wounded after Israeli troops opened fire on hundreds waiting for food aid southwest of Gaza City, health officials say, as the besieged enclave faces an unprecedented hunger crisis. The 2.2 million people are living at risk of famine, and the Israeli Regime is systematically orchestrating to starve and kill the innocent Palestinians in Gaza. This barbaric act has drawn global condemnation and strong rejection.

The Australian Muslim and Palestinian communities have been deeply mourning the loss of their kin, brothers and sisters, since October last year. This grief is combined with the biased and misleading coverage of the recent events by many media outlets, which fail to uphold journalistic standards of integrity, transparency, and rigour.

Moreover, there's growing concern over the unfair and ongoing malicious targeting of Muslim and Palestinian advocates and prominent leaders by some mainstream media agencies. These individuals and leaders, exercising their fundamental right to free speech, the very core value and principle that journalism is founded on, have been unjustly targeted and negatively portrayed with their messages distorted. These biased and unfair reports include the use of extreme propaganda to falsely suggest that these advocates and leaders are causing disharmony, using extreme propaganda, implying to condone the killing of innocent people, etc.



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Most recently, some media agencies, with a long history and explicit agenda of bias against the Muslim and Palestinian communities, targeted the President of the Islamic Council of Victoria, Mr Adel Salman, who has been a strong advocate for the Palestinian people and calling for the end of their suffering. Mr Salman, who has a clear track record of advocating for multiculturalism and interfaith understanding, has been subjected to a malicious campaign twisting his words to suggest his approval of killing innocent people on October 7th. This targeting is appalling, and the distortion of his words is unequivocally rejected.

We, the undersigned organisations and individuals, strongly oppose and condemn this biased and unfair portrayal of Muslim leaders and Palestinian advocates. We stand in solidarity with all those who justly support the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian People. We urge Muslims, Palestinians, and Australians who value justice and humanity to unite in support of justice for Palestine and the Palestinians and those who advocate for this cause.

We also call for rejecting the misleading, inaccurate, and biased narratives propagated by certain media agencies, advocating for a fair and accurate representation and reporting of current events.

We also urge media agencies, journalists and reporters to uphold journalism's core values and contribute towards the country's social cohesion, particularly in a time when the country needs it most.

LIST OF THE UNDERSIGNED ORGANISATIONS BELOW.



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SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS:

ORGANISATION	STATE
1. Alliance of Australian Muslims (AAM)	NATIONAL
2. Australian National Imams Council (ANIC)	NATIONAL
3. Islamic Council of Victoria	VIC
4. Islamic Society of Victoria	VIC
5. Queensland Muslims inc	QLD
6. United Muslims of Australia (UMA)	NSW
7. Islamic Society of South Australia	SA
8. Werribee Islamic Center	VIC
9. ACT Muslims Australia	ACT
10. United Muslims of Northern Territories	NT
11. Hills District Muslim Society	NSW
12. Islamic Foundation for Education and Welfare	NSW
13. Islamic Association of Monash Mosque	VIC
14. Holland Park Mosque	QLD
15. Darul Tarbiyah Community Center	NSW
16. Alliance Against Islamophobia	VIC
17. The Queensland Charity and Welfare Association	QLD
18. Bendigo Islamic Association	VIC
19. Albanian Australian Islamic Society (AAIS)	VIC
20. Academy Alive Inc.	QLD
21. Seena Inc	NSW
22. iCAN - Islamic Circle of Australia and New Zealand	NATIONAL
23. Australasian Muslim Times AMUST	NATIONAL
24. Brothers in Need	NATIONAL
25. Virgin Mary Mosque	VIC
26. Indian Muslim Association of Australia	NSW
27. Gippsland Australian Muslim Community Inc	VIC
28. Granville Youth Association	NSW
29. Muslim Professionals Association	VIC
30. Australian Youth Community Centre (AYCC)	VIC



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31.	Australian Muslim Media	VIC
32.	Somali Muslim Association	NSW
33.	United Muslims of NSW	NSW
34.	Maryam Masjid	SA
35.	Islamic Information Center of South Australia	SA
36.	Human and Moral Development Centre Inc (HMDC)	VIC
37.	Masjid Al Farooq - Kuraby Masjid	QLD
38.	Islamic Schools Association of Australia	NATIONAL
39.	United Sri Lankan Muslim Association of Australia	VIC
40.	Indonesian Muslim Community of Victoria (IMCV)	VIC
41.	Penshurst Mosque	NSW
42.	Auburn Islamic Community Centre	NSW
43.	Australian Muslim Advocacy Network (AMAN)	NATIONAL
44.	Hurstville Mosque	NSW
45.	Roselands Mosque Association	NSW
46.	Darul Ulum Sydney Incorporated	NSW
47.	Australian Muslims Initiative	NSW
48.	Tamil Muslims of Victoria	VIC
49.	Australian Palestine Advocacy Network	NATIONAL
50.	The House of Guidance, Launceston	TAS
51.	Al-Mustapha Institute of Brisbane	QLD
52.	Arkana College	NSW
53.	BOSNIAK ISLAMIC COMMUNITY OF MELBOURNE	VIC
54.	Australian Multicultural Community Centre (AMCC)	VIC
55.	Islamic Museum of Australia	VIC
56.	Islamic Society of Belconnen	ACT
57.	Canberra Islamic School	ACT
58.	Canberra Islamic Centre	ACT
59.	Slacks creek Mosque	QLD
60.	Bendigo Islamic Community Center	VIC



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61.	Eldannieh sons charity association	NSW
62.	The Quranic Society	VIC
63.	Shifa Disability Care Pty Ltd	VIC
64.	Usmaa Seniors	VIC
65.	Pulse with Purpose	VIC
66.	Somali Australian Council of Victoria	VIC
67.	Badayel House	VIC
68.	Unity for our community	VIC
69.	Unity Quran College	NSW
70.	Association of Muslim Professionals Australia	VIC
71.	Muslim Legal Network	VIC
72.	IQRO FOUNDATION	NSW
73.	Palestine Fundraiser Australia	VIC
74.	TAQWA perth INC	WA
75.	Mycentre	VIC
76.	Suffa Incorporated	NSW
77.	Coolaroo Multicultural and Welfare Association of Victoria	VIC
78.	IFAM Islamic Forum for Australian Muslims	NSW
79.	Islamic Society of Geelong/Geelong Mosque	VIC
80.	Arabian Heritage Association Inc.	WA
81.	Alhidayah Centre (Wangara)	WA
82.	Islamic Women's Welfare Association	NSW
83.	Islam Empowering Women	VIC
84.	Golden Wattle Mosque	VIC
85.	Qaswa House	WA
86.	Islamic Practice and Dawah Circle Inc	NATIONAL
87.	Muhajirin Association for Community Development Inc.	NSW
89.	Muslim Legal Network NSW	NSW
90.	Muslim Charitable Foundation	QLD



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91.	Latrobe Faith Community Inc	VIC
92.	Benevolence Australia	VIC
93.	Werribee Islamic Center	VIC
94.	Islamic Practice and Dawah Circle	NATIONAL
95.	The Sanctuary Community Centre Inc	VIC
96.	Surau Sydney Australia	NSW
97.	South East Qld Islamic Association Inc.	QLD
98.	Education In Need Australia	WA
99.	ISLAMIC COUNCIL OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND	WA
100.	Palestinian Australians Welfare Association Inc	NSW
101.	Australian Muslim Initiative	NSW
102.	Islamic Society of Mackay	QLD
103.	Australian Islamic Medical Association	NATIONAL
104.	Muslim League of NSW	NSW
105.	The Indonesian Islamic Economic Society Chapter Australia	NATIONAL



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