

OPEN LETTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER

21 May 2021

**The Hon Scott Morrison MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600**

Dear Prime Minister,

The undersigned Australian Muslim organisations from across the country, write you this letter with deep and sincere concern on the lack of consideration for the sanctity of human life shown by the Israeli occupying forces. In the past week, excessive force has been used against the Palestinian people resulting in the death of hundreds of innocent civilians, and injuring thousands more with targeted airstrikes on dense civilian areas.

These airstrikes have mercilessly targeted critical locations such as local hospitals, roads, and essential infrastructures. This has left the impoverished Palestinian population with no adequate access to emergency services, utilities, food, and other critical supplies.

The Israeli government's brutal act of state-sanctioned aggression towards innocent civilians in Sheikh Jarrah, Palestine, in the sacred month of Ramadan, who were merely exercising their fundamental right to manifest their religion at the third holiest site in the Islamic faith, Masjid Al-Aqsa in Jerusalem, according to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 18). These brutal attacks and illegal settlements in the Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood and the sacred area of Masjid Al-Aqsa blatantly disregard international treaties and fundamental human rights.

Israel continues to convey its violent assault without repercussions or condemnation from the international community including Australia. The silence of our Australian government is deafening. The recent comments made by yourself, such as ***"Israel unquestionably has the right to defend itself and its people, unquestionably"***, raise serious concerns to our community and many Australians. These comments are perceived as being one-sided and unjustifiably in support of Israel, whilst the civilians in Palestine are suffering offensively at the hands of the Israeli forces.

We expect our Australian political leaders and governments to speak out against these heinous crimes and call them out for what their excessive and disproportionate use of force against defenceless civilians.

The Palestinian people, as all humans, have the right to live in peace and security without fear of attack or fear of being killed or displaced.

We, as Australians, are appalled by the brutal scenes unfolding in Palestine and have found ourselves disappointed and extremely concerned over the silence of our political leaders towards this disproportionate use of force against defenceless civilians and injustice.

The Australian government must not turn a blind eye to the atrocities perpetrated by the Israeli forces. Such aggression contravenes fundamental human rights and Australian values.

The most pressing matters that our representing Australian political leaders must address are as follows:

- 1. To Strongly condemn the attacks on innocent worshippers and people in and around Masjid Al-Aqsa, East Jerusalem, Gaza and Palestine generally.*
- 2. Hold to account the acts of oppression towards innocent Palestinians.*
- 3. Demand the end to Israel's illegal eviction, demolition of Palestinian homes, and state-sanctioned violence and settlement on Palestinian-owned land.*
- 4. To work with the international community, the Arab League, Organization for Islamic Cooperation (OIC), European Union, UN and others, to support a multilateral approach to solve the Israeli Palestine issue based on international law and UN Resolutions.*

We look forward to hearing your position on the matters mentioned above with urgency.

Thank you.

Regards

Khalid Mousa

**Khalid Mousa
Coordinator**

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CC: The Hon Marise Payne - Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Undersigned Organisations:

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>State</u>
1. Alliance of Australian Muslims	National
2. Australian National Imams Council	National
3. Islamic Schools Association Australia	National
4. Islamic Forum for Australian Muslims	National
5. Islamic Practice and Dawah Circle	National
6. ASWJ Australia	National
7. United Muslims of NSW	NSW
8. United Muslims of Australia	NSW
9. Council of Imams NSW	NSW
10. Islamic Society of Manly Warringah	NSW
11. Community Academy	NSW
12. Intro to Islam Foundation	NSW
13. Rahila Association	NSW
14. Carramar mosque	NSW
15. Muslim Women Australia	NSW
16. Hills District Muslim Society	NSW
17. Diyanet Foundation Australia	NSW
18. Abu Hanifa Institute	NSW
19. Masjid As-Sunnah	NSW
20. Sunnah Foundation	NSW
21. Islamic College of Australia	NSW
22. Granville Youth Association	NSW
23. Minchinbury MCYAS Mosque	NSW
24. IQRO Foundation	NSW
25. Islamic Association Western Suburbs Sydney	NSW
26. Lebanese Muslim Association	NSW
27. Australian Iraqi Muslim Society	NSW
28. Greenacre Muslim Community Centre	NSW
29. Darul Tarbiyah	NSW
30. Australasian Muslim Times, AMUST	NSW
31. Seena Incorporated	NSW

32.	Australian MEFF Consortium	NSW
33.	Islamic Foundation for Education & Welfare IFEW	NSW
34.	Australian Islamic Society of Bosnia Herzegovina	NSW
35.	Australia India Muslim Forum AIMF	NSW
36.	Alquds Community Centre	NSW
37.	City Conferencing Centre	NSW
38.	Parramatta Mosque	NSW
39.	Ashabul Kahfi Islamic Centre	NSW
40.	Albayan Institute	NSW
41.	Qubaa Association of Western Sydney	NSW
42.	Centre for Islamic Dakwah and Education	NSW
43.	Deccan Australian Welfare Association	NSW
44.	Islamic Culture and Propagation Centre Sydney	NSW
45.	Bangladesh Islamic Centre	NSW
46.	Muslim league of NSW	NSW
47.	Auburn Islamic Community Centre	NSW
48.	Australian Islamic House	NSW
49.	Brothers In Need	NSW
50.	Gallipoli Turkish Cultural Foundation	NSW
51.	Australian Islamic Mission	NSW
52.	Islamic Circle of Australia and New Zealand	NSW
53.	Muslim Care	NSW
54.	Qk Radio	NSW
55.	ACWA (Australian council of women affairs)	NSW
56.	Centre for Cultural Relations	NSW
57.	National Zakat Foundation	NSW
58.	Darul Ulum Sydney	NSW
59.	Australian Muslim Women's Association	NSW
60.	Markaz Imam Ahmad	NSW
61.	Foundation of Islamic Studies and Information	NSW
62.	Islamic Community Milli Gorus Guildford	NSW
63.	Islamic Council of VIC	VIC
64.	Board of Imams VIC	VIC

65.	Bendigo Islamic Association	VIC
66.	MyCentre	VIC
67.	Mercy Mission Australia	VIC
68.	Islamic Society Of Melbourne Eastern Region	VIC
69.	AusLanka Muslim Association	VIC
70.	Albanian Australian Islamic Society	VIC
71.	Werribee Islamic Centre	VIC
72.	Islamic Society of Victoria	VIC
73.	Australian Muslim Social Services Agency	VIC
74.	Bosnia-Herzegovina Islamic Society	VIC
75.	Green Crescent Australia	VIC
76.	Islamic Education and Awareness of Casey Association	VIC
77.	Australian Youth Community Centre	VIC
78.	Islamic Association of Monash Mosque	VIC
79.	Al Taqwa Mosque	VIC
80.	Gippsland Australian Muslim Community	VIC
81.	Indonesian Muslim Community of Victoria	VIC
82.	Islamic Community Milli Gorus Dandenong	VIC
83.	Islamic Council of QLD	QLD
84.	Council of Imams QLD	QLD
85.	Slackcreek Mosque	QLD
86.	Islamic society of Gladstone	QLD
87.	Iqra Academy Australia	QLD
88.	Islamic Society of Central Queensland	QLD
89.	Kuraby Masjid (Mosque)	QLD
90.	Townsville Islamic Society	QLD
91.	Muslim Organisation of Sunshine Coast	QLD
92.	Islamic Women's Association of Australia	QLD
93.	Mareeba Islamic Society	QLD
94.	Al-Mustapha Institute of Brisbane	QLD
95.	Southport Mosque	QLD
96.	Islamic Society Gold Coast	QLD
97.	Islamic Care QLD	QLD
98.	Brisbane Islamic Centre	QLD

99.	Muslim Charitable Foundation	QLD
100.	Darul Uloom- Buranda Mosque	QLD
101.	Holland Park Mosque	QLD
102.	Australian Muslim Advocacy Network	QLD
103.	Council of Imams SA	SA
104.	Islamic information Centre of South Australia	SA
105.	Islamic Arabic Centre	SA
106.	Muslim Women's Association of South Australia	SA
107.	ATTAQWA	SA
108.	Islamic Society of South Australia	SA
109.	Council of Imams WA	WA
110.	Masjid Al-Rahman Gosnells	WA
111.	Masjid Ibrahim	WA
112.	AUSLAMWA	WA
113.	United Muslims of Northern Territory	NT
114.	Council of Imams ACT	ACT
115.	Islamic society of Belconnen	ACT
116.	Tasmanian Muslim Association	TAS
117.	Islamic Council of Christmas Island	CI