

AAM Board Report 2023

- 1. The AAM has elected new Board members in last year's 5th AAM Summit, representing the Muslim community from different states and territories. It has held 3 Board meetings over zoom in the past year with good attendance and participation.
- 2. The AAM Board has established and fostered a robust, open, healthy relationship and understanding in working together for the greater Muslim community and the AAM.
- 3. We have constantly engaged with key stakeholders from the Muslim community, particularly the Imams, Dua'at, Islamic organisations and centres. In addition, we exerted all efforts to include community leaders in discussions and consultations on Muslim community affairs and its future.
- 4. The AAM had an increase in members from all around Australia. We currently have over 220 organisations representing different states and territories.
- 5. We continue to look for ways to develop AAM policies and procedures and look to engage with professional consultants in different areas and with different expertise.
- 6. The AAM has been advancing its presence on social media and other platforms, particularly on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn, and ultimately resulting in a better online presence.
- 7. The AAM was a partner in organising the second and the largest National Muslim community Iftaar last Ramadan with Imams, Community leaders, political leaders, Government officials and other guests with a turnout of over 600 guests including the Prime Minister of Australia, NSW Premier, NSW Governor, Leader of the House and various federal and state ministers and members of parliament. The key agenda items raised on the night include the need for federal religious vilification laws and a commitment by the NSW Minns Government to implement a NSW Religious Vilification law within 100 days of their election. The Muslim community and other faith communities welcome this commitment as a means of combating Islamophobia and religious vilification.
- 8. AAM coordinated and united the efforts of the Muslim community in Australia in the 2023 March NSW state Election, whereby it engaged with the different political parties and nominees and raised the Muslim community's concerns.
- 9. AAM was part of organising a NSW dinner with the NSW Labor leader and 18 of their shadow ministers. It is becoming evident that political parties are realising the importance of the Muslim vote in Australia.
- 10. The AAM has constantly raised awareness on the rise of Islamophobia and anti-Muslim sentiment, and this includes participating in the commemorating of the



Christchurch mosque massacre and solemnly reflecting on the tragic events and the innocent lives lost.

The 15th of March 2019 is now a date etched into the collective minds of Muslims around the world. It is a date on which 51 men, women and children were murdered and many more injured at two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand. It was a massacre against a people simply because of their religious beliefs and activity.

- 11. AAM members also attended the commemoration of The Srebrenica massacre, also known as the Srebrenica genocide, that killed more than 8,000 Bosnian Muslim men and boys in and around the town of Srebrenica, during the Bosnian War.
- 12. The AAM was a strong supporter and advocate for the Voice to Parliament and the recognition of the First Nations people. AAM has held numerous workshops and meetings on the VOICE, including the attendance of the Prime Minister, MPs and other dignitaries.
- 13. AAM worked with other Muslim grous to actively keep the Muslim community united and engaged during the recent Israeli Defence Force attacks on the Gaza. This includes engaging the Muslim community leaders and holding weekly forums to maintain the focus and objectives in advocating and supporting their brothers and sisters in Gaza Palestine during this challenging time.
- 14. The AAM has been actively lobbying and engaging with the Government and the Labor Party to recognise the State of Palestine.
- 15. The AAM conveyed a strong voice in support of our brothers and sisters abroad and in foreign affairs, particularly Palestine, East Turkistan, India, and others.
- 16. The AAM will continue to work collaboratively and united with the major Muslim community stakeholders. The purpose of the AAM is to provide a platform for communication and collaboration amongst key stakeholders.
- 17. Most recently the AAM held a community workshop on Mental Health especially in context of the current situation. The AAM will look to hold more similar events into the future.

The purpose and role of the AAM:

OVERVIEW

- ➤ The Alliance of Australian Muslims (AAM) is a representative body of Australian Muslims, comprising of over 200 grassroots mainstream Muslim organisations across Australia.
- > The Alliance of Australian Muslims is a Not for Profit Organisation operating to serve Muslims of Australia while seeking the pleasure of Allah and following the path of his messenger Mohammad (Peace Be Upon Him).



- ➤ The AAM aims to engage all segments of the Muslim community to unite, collaborate, and network. Our objective is to represent Muslims in Australia and create a more established and brighter future for all Australian Muslims.
- AAM works towards overcoming the challenges that the Muslim community is encountering in Australia, by being proactive, transparent and professional in its presentation

VISION

➤ The Alliance of Australian Muslims (AAM) aims to be a leading collaborative platform enhancing and advancing a faithful, productive Australian Muslim Community.

MISSION

- ➤ To effectively coordinate and promote a wholesome Muslim identity, enhance media and political engagement, strengthen public relations and advocate for the protection of civil rights.
- The AAM is not there to tell its members how to run their organisations or their activities/events, rather the AAM looks to support its members based on the agreed common denominators and interests.
- The AAM's goal is to create a platform for communication and collaboration between its members and the key stakeholders in the Muslim community.
- The key item is that the common denominators and interests are not independent silos but work in harmony with one another.

The future of the AAM:

- 1. The last few years, the AAM has been working to build community engagement and understanding of the common denominators and interests and strive together and collectively towards achieving them.
- 2. The establishment of communication platform(s) for members to communicate key activities, achievements and events.
- 3. Sharing of knowledge, experience and resources so members of all sizes can leverage and benefit from. This opens up training and mentoring across organisations and for future generations.
- 4. Working with member organisations on key events and activities for each common denominator and interest as required, such as a dedicated event/ summit/ activity to focus mainly on the common denominators and interests driven by the members and supported by the AAM.



- 5. To unite the mainstream Muslim community on one platform and on the common denominators that will preserve the common interest of the Australian Muslim community.
- 6. Agree and establish frameworks for how we operate as a community, for example, Lobbying and Political Advocacy, defending the rights of Muslims, where all organisations take part in.
- 7. Engage with, and learn from, local or international organisations/institutions that have successfully worked towards the common denominators and interests in contexts similar to Australia.
- 8. Importantly to preserve the traditional and authentic understanding of Islam.
- 9. To represent Islam and the Muslim community on all levels in the media, Government, political parties etc, in the most professional and dignified way and form.
- 10. To positively engage with the wider Australian society and contribute to the country's and its people's greater good.
- 11. To advocate for human rights in general, especially on issues pertaining to the Muslim community.
- 12. To Educate the community and raise awareness on civil rights, political engagement, and their role in being the best Australian Muslim citizens.

Finally, we thank all the AAM Board members for their dedication, commitment and hard work in serving the Muslim community and for their support in growing and advancing the AAM.

We also thank all the AAM members, organisations, brothers and sisters for their ongoing support, trust and confidence in the AAM and for their contribution towards the establishment and growth of the AAM.

We look forward to working together and continuing the collaboration, preserving Islam and advancing the interests of the Muslim community in this country.

Thank you and Jazakom Allahu Khairan.

Khalid Mousa

AAM Secretary

On behalf of the AAM Baord

25 November 2023