

مَحَلَّسَنَى لَا مَتَ مَنْ الْفُلْبَرِ لَكُنَ الْمُسْتَقَلَقُ

3 July 2016

Eid Al-Fitr 2016 - 1437H Announcement

In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

All praise is to due to Allah, Sustainer of the worlds and May the peace and blessing of Allah be upon Prophet Muhammad, the most honourable of His prophets and messengers.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Every community possesses a number of constant principles which have always been accepted and applied. It is these principles which Allah has decreed as the basis for His legislation and human beings have submitted to them out of obedience. As a result, the human being has sought to transcend the basic necessities of life, sacrificing his or her food, drink and intimate relations during the days of Ramadan.

In this way, fasting plays a pivotal role in strengthening human aspirations, providing him or her with a capacity for continuous self-improvement, in addition to rectifying one's surrounding environment.

It is now when we must show our gratitude to Allah for He has allowed us to reach the end of the month of Ramadan, granting us the ability and strength to worship, fast, pray and feed others.

With much joy, I would like to convey to the Muslims of Australia the following points:

1. We have tried to unite the scholarly positions regarding the issue of the beginning of the lunar months, and by the grace of Allah, have been able to unite the majority of Imams.

Based on this, in addition to the information provided by astronomical observatories and scientific academies specialising in observing the crescent moon worldwide, it can be said that it will be **impossible to sight** the new crescent moon in Australia on Monday 4 July 2016 after sunset.

Therefore it can be established that Tuesday 5 July 2016 will mark the 30th day of Ramadan 1437 AH.

As a result, Wednesday 6 July 2016 will mark the 1st day of Shawwal 1437 AH, and the first day of the blessed Eid al-Fitr.





2. His Eminence, Mufti of Australia, Dr Ibrahim Abu Mohammad would like to affirm along with his colleagues of Imams, that it is of paramount importance to remain firm and united as Imams within the Australian National Imams Council. We also denounce the targeted media attacks from certain outlets upon Muslim community leaders, particularly members of the Imams Council. We do not entertain the media's seeking to interfere in the affairs of the Muslim community and the long established principles of the Islamic faith.

3. As we approach the festivities of Eid, we show great joy in the completion of a mighty act of worship. However we have been faced with global events of racism and terrorism. Some of the severest of these heinous acts is the genocide and ethnic cleansing which continues in several parts of the Arab world. Children, women and unarmed civilians are being killed in their homes. Weapons have been used to terrorise these innocent people. We also understand that such a coordination is in full swing between major political powers, given that the weapons of war are one, and the objective is one.

4. The Grand Mufti of Australia and the Australian National Imams Council offer their sincere condolences to all of the victims of such atrocities and call for the global community and the humanitarian conscience to bring to justice those who committed war crimes and acts of genocide. They must be tried before the International Criminal Court as war criminals and perpetrators of crimes against humanity.

His Eminence and the Australian National Imams Council hope that all Muslims can avoid importing foreign conflicts into this land of ours, whilst maintaining the safety and security of our country Australia.

We also call upon Muslims to maintain the validity and blessing of their fasting by being vigilant in the performance of pious acts of servitude during the rest of the months of the year.

We should also pray for our brothers and sisters in Syria, Palestine, Iraq, Egypt, Burma, Yemen and the rest of the lands of the Muslims. We should ask Allah to alleviate their suffering, end their wars, and spread peace and security in Australia and abroad.

We ask Allah to accept your worship, and pray you have a blessed and joyful Eid.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Ibrahim Abu Mohamed Grand Mufti of Australia

> Postal Address: P.O.BOX 145 Lakemba NSW 2195 Australia Ph: (61) 1300 765 940 - Fax: (61) 1300 765 964 Web: <u>www.anic.org.au</u> - Email: <u>info@anic.org.au</u>