

مجلس الأئمة القادة الأسترالي

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL IMAMS COUNCIL



1st of February 2019

ANIC Expresses Serious Concerns About the Recent Comments Made by Justice Fagan Directed at Muslims

It is disappointing that, in the course of sentencing two individuals, Justice Fagan considered it appropriate to give broader commentary to Muslims, including about the Quran.

The Judge raised concerns about an “unqualified acceptance” of certain passages of the Quran by Muslims and called upon them to “explicitly repudiate” such verses. It is apparent on the face of the judgement that there has been no consideration given to the mainstream and orthodox Muslim position with regards to these verses.

Muslims categorically reject extremist interpretations of the Quran and the misuse of Islam by extremists. Indeed, extremists have caused immense suffering to Muslim communities around the world.

The Judge’s analysis, if applied to any religious text, can similarly form the basis of criticism of other faith communities. Such an analysis and approach is ill-informed and unjustified.

Of most concern is that the comments and opinions expressed by the Judge appear to exceed his duty of passing judgement on the specific case at hand rather than judging an entire faith community and its religious text.

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