AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL IMAMS COUNCIL



23rd of June 2020

PUBLIC STATEMENT Performing Hajj for the Year 2020-1441H

The Ministry of Hajj and Ummrah of Saudi Arabia recently issued an official statement declaring *"A very limited number of pilgrims from various nationalities who already reside in Saudi Arabia, would be able to perform it (Hajj for this year)." The statement read.*

Unfortunately, this means that Australian Muslims residing outside Saudi Arabia will not be given the opportunity to perform Hajj this year. It is the first time in this day and age that Muslims globally will miss performing the Hajj pilgrimage.

This decision no doubt would have been hard to make but the Australian National Imams Council (ANIC) respects and supports the decision, which is in the best interest and wellbeing of Muslims and controlling the spread of virus both locally and globally.

This year has been difficult and challenging for Muslims around the world. Not being able to attend Mosques and social gatherings in Ramadan was arduous and not being able to perform Hajj this year has added to that challenge.

The Australian National Imams Council (ANIC) urges Muslims to continue being patient and cooperative during these unpredictable times. One must take advantage of working on their spiritual self and maintaining their Islamic practices using accessible resources for Allah rewards his servants for their capabilities: Allah the Almighty says:

"Allah does not impose upon any soul a duty but to the extent of its ability; for it is (the benefit of) what it has earned and upon it (the evil of) what it has wrought}" (2:286)

May Allah make it easy for us all and alleviate this hardship.

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