

17 March 2023

The Commencement of The Holy Month of Ramadan 1444H - 2023

Following extensive consultations with the Imams from the Australian Fatwa Council, the Grand Mufti of Australia, Dr Ibrahim Abu Mohamad wishes to make the following statement regarding the Holy Month of Ramadan 1444H - 2023 for all the Australian states and territories:

Firstly: In Sydney, the sun will set on Wednesday, **22nd of March** at 7.04pm (AEST) and the moon will appear on the same day after sunset for 26 minutes until 7.30pm, where it will disappear thereafter from the horizon. In Perth, the sun will set on Wednesday at 6.25pm (AWST) and the moon will appear on the same day after sunset for 30 minutes until 6.55pm, where it will disappear thereafter from the horizon. This allows sufficient time to sight the moon under normal conditions with the absence of all that hinders the moon from being sighted. **Therefore:**

The Holy Month of Ramadan for this year 1444H- 2023 will commence on
Thursday, 23rd of March 2023

The first night of the Holy Month of Ramadan and Taraweeh Prayer will be on
Wednesday, 22nd of March 2023 after Sunset (After Isha)

Secondly: The method in which the Grand Mufti of Australia and the Australian Fatwa Council had determined the commencement of the month of Ramadan is based on the calculated birth of the moon before sunset, the duration of the moonset after sunset and the possibility of sighting the moon. This is a method that many prominent and reputable global scholars councils have adopted.

The Australian National Imams Council and the Australian Fatwa Council acknowledge, understand and respect the Imams and scholars who may hold a different opinion, and request all Muslims to respect the different opinions on this matter and work towards the unity of the Muslim community in preserving the common values and interests that they all have and share.



Finally: The Grand Mufti of Australia, Dr Ibrahim Abu Mohamad and the Australian National Imams Council call upon all Muslims to preserve their fasting whilst supplicating to Allah to protect our countries and spread peace, blessings and security around the world, and alleviate the suffering and hardships of all people and Muslims are facing.

May Allah bless this Holy Month for you, your family, the Australian Muslim community and the entire Muslim world and may your worship and fasting be accepted this year. AMEEN

Dr Ibrahim Abu Mohamad
The Grand Mufti of Australia
Chairman of the Australian Fatwa Council

