

مجلس الأئمة القدر إلى الأسترالي

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL IMAMS COUNCIL



15 May 2023

75th Year Anniversary of the Nakba (The Catastrophe)

On 15 May, the Australian National Imams Council (ANIC) join Australians and the global community to commemorate the 75-year anniversary of the Nakba (*The Catastrophe*), which involved the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians and obliteration of Palestinian communities as a means of establishing the State of Israel in 1948. Over 750,000 Palestinians were either forcibly expelled or fled their homeland.

Palestinians today continue to experience the “Nakba” through the ongoing application of brutal Israeli policies which involve forced evictions, expansion of illegal settlements, arbitrary arrests and restrictions on movement due to military checkpoints and the separation walls.

ANIC and the Australian Muslim community condemn the ongoing attacks on the Palestinian people around Palestine and especially towards worshippers at Al-Aqsa Mosque who are frequently harassed and abused by Israeli forces and illegal settlers.

ANIC calls upon the Australian Government to exercise pressure on Israel to cease its continued oppression and harassment of Palestinians and adoption of illegal policies which contravene international law. ANIC and the Australian Muslim community demand real action to be taken by the Australian Government to do more in protecting the rights and freedoms of the Palestinian people and to take proactive steps towards the recognition of Palestine.

We also call upon both Australian Muslims and those who stand up for human rights to utilise their civil and democratic rights by expressing and promoting this message to their local MPs and political representatives. Additionally, we recommend that they seek further information and understanding about the continued struggles faced by the Palestinian people, as well as educate themselves and others on this ongoing plight and catastrophe.