

## **DARULFATWA**

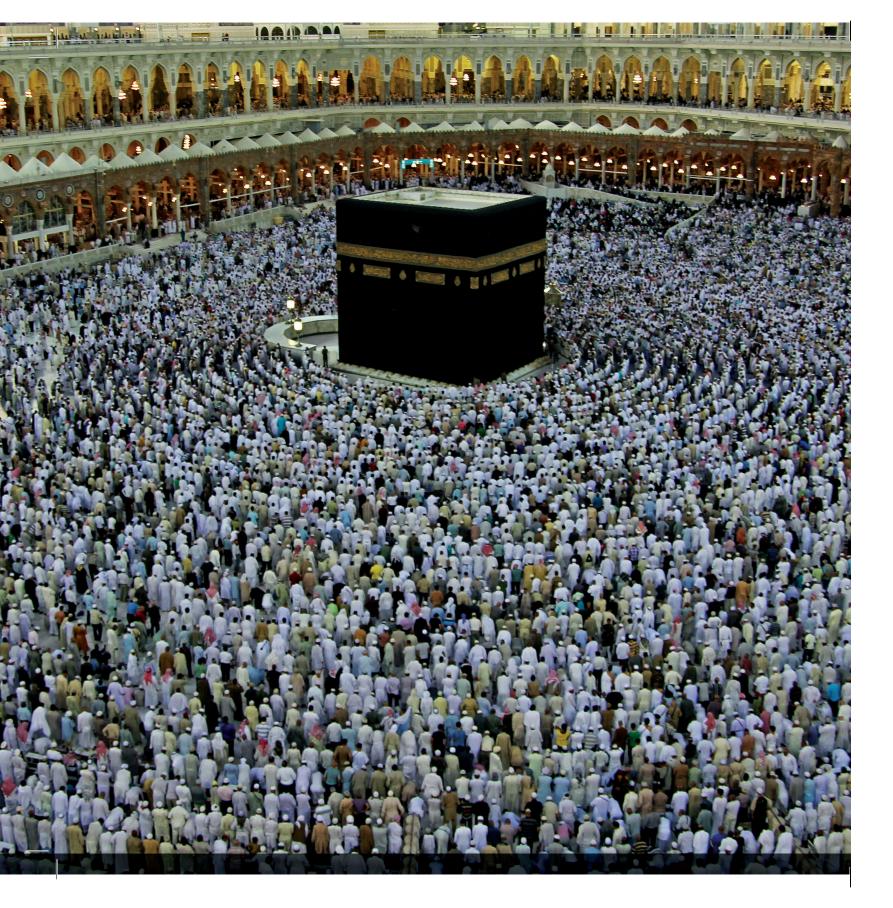
ISLAMIC HIGH COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA





# DARULFATWA ISLAMIC HIGH COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

- The pledge of social harmony -





# IN THE NAME OF ALLAH THE MOST MERCIFUL

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### **FORWARD**

Darulfatwa is the Arabic name for 'the house of Islamic edicts' (fatwas). Traditionally and historically, the office of Darulfatwa is recognized as, the highest Islamic reference of a region by all Muslims worldwide. It is the credible resort for those seeking scholarly edicts, Islamic knowledge and advice in any matter of individual and public interest.

A group of visionary imams and devout community figures and leaders identified the need for such a reliable and responsible body in Australia. They envisaged an educational body symbolizing an Australian-Islamic identity and backed by credentials and experience to facilitate Islamic education and resources in Australia – an institute to reflect the moderate views of the Muslim community.

The visionaries converged their long-standing knowledge of the Australian landscape, the Muslim community, Islam, and current affairs; and in 2004, established Darulfatwa - the Islamic High Council of Australia.

Darulfatwa Australia is the first and only institute in Australia to specialize in deducing fatwas from indisputable and moderate Islamic references, and provide a platform to mentor Australian imams.

Darulfatwa Australia represents dozens of Australian Muslim organizations, youth clubs, mosques, committees, and individuals of both genders from a plethora of demographic backgrounds. Darulfatwa Australia services reach approximately half a million Australian Muslims and interested parties across the country from its head-quarters in Sydney, New South Wales.



The Holy book of Al-Qur'an- The final revelation of peace and complete guidance



Darulfatwa Chairman Dr. Sheikh Salim Alwan with NSW premier Mike Baird - Parliament Iftar Dinner



بِسْسِهِ اللّهُ اللّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ مِنكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ عَامَنُواْ مِنكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ أُوتُواْ ٱلْعِلْمَ دَرَجَاتِ

Allah raises the ranks of those among you who believe and those who acquired the knowledge.

The Holy Qur'an Surat Al-Mujadalah, Ayah 11



Dr. Sh. Salim Alwan and the Grand Sheikh of Al-Azhar Ash-Sharif, Egypt, Dr. Ahmad El-Tayeb at the Awqaf Ministry Conference, Egypt



Darulfatwa Aust. Chairman Dr. Sh. Alwan (2<sup>nd</sup>L), the Grand Mufti of Egypt Shawki Allam (5<sup>th</sup>R) and President of Egypt Al-Sisi (6thR) at the Fatwa International Conference - Cairo



### THE VISION

Darulfatwa Australia preserves its traditional legacy by implementing objectives and guidelines in adherence to the Holy Qur'an.

The objectives and guidelines of Darulfatwa Australia serve the Australian Muslim way of life and are underpinned by its primary principle: To teach the pure Islamic knowledge and issue edicts (fatwas) deduced from the Holy Qur'an and the sayings of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him).

Darulfatwa Australia undertakes to be non-partisan and to remain an independent academy of Islamic knowledge, delivering a service that benefits the wider Australian community.

By its allegiance to the true teachings of Islam and powerful leadership, Darulfatwa Australia will provide the community with sound guidance and knowledge to immune them against extremist ideologies and protect them from abhorrent acts of terrorism.



Dr. Sh. Salim Alwan, delivers motivational speech on integration at the Multicultural Mawlid Concert-Sydney Dec 2015



Dr. Sh. Salim Alwan, speaking on integration, at the Annual ICPA Ramadan Dinner – Sydney



Dignitary guests at the Darulfatwa Community Appraisal Dinner hosting imams, officials and community leaders

– Melbourne

# بِسْ بِالسَّهِ الرَّمْزِ الرَّهِ وَ السَّهِ الرَّمْزِ الرَّهَ وَ السَّمَا لَا الْحَادِ وَ الْمُ الْمَ اللَّهِ اللَّهُ الللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللللْمُلْمُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ الْمُلْمُ الللْمُلْمُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللْمُلْمُ اللَّهُ الْمُلْمُ اللَّهُ اللْمُلْمُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللْمُلْمُ الللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللْمُلْمُ الللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللْمُلْمُ اللَّهُ اللْمُلْمُ

Thus We [Allah] have made you a nation of balance and moderation so that you may witness the people [and guide them] and the Messenger of Allah will bear witness to your deeds.

The Holy Qur'an, Surat Al-Baqarah, Ayah 143

"Be warned of extremism as it destroyed the people before you"

Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him)



NSW Senator the Hon, Concetta Fierravanti-Wells (2<sup>nd</sup>L), NSW Governor the Hon, David Hurley (5<sup>th</sup>L), Deputy of Al-Azhar Dr. Abbas Shouman (7<sup>th</sup>L) among thousands at the Multicultural Mawlid Concert, Sydney Olympic Park, Dec 2015



### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

To mobilize its objectives, in 2004 the Board of Darulfatwa Australia elected his Eminence, Dr. Sheikh Salim Alwan Al-Husainiyy, as Chairman, for his upstanding reputation of deep-rooted knowledge and practice of moderation. Under the iconic leadership of his Eminence, Darulfatwa Australia set forth, reaching out to all Sydney Muslims and interested parties.

Diligently and with compassion, Darulfatwa Australia conveyed the true teachings of Islam to individuals, groups, community figures and authorities through its diverse pool of imams and teachers. Darulfatwa's credible educators of men and women, held seminars and classes at venues across New South Wales. These efforts drew in male and female Muslims of various ages and diverse ethnic, linguistic, educational, and socio-economic backgrounds. Darulfatwa implemented special programs to attract the youth to focused community events, to nurture their Australian Muslim identity and immunize them against radicalism.

The Australian Muslim community responded eagerly to the call of unity and security. Darulfatwa Australia won the hearts of its constituents by adhering to the approach taught by Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him): 'What can be achieved by a kind approach cannot be achieved by violence'.



NSW Parliament acknowledges Darulfatwa's leading community role - Certificate of Commendation 2011



NSW Government acknowledges Darulfatwa's services
- Multicultural Marketing Award 2015



NSW Police acknowledges Darulfatwa's proactive involvement - Certificate of Participation in Community Consultative Committee 2010



"I thank Darulfatwa and everyone in attendance for your commitment to diversity, and to preserving the values that underpin our open, democratic society."

Prime Minister of Australia Hon. Malcolm Turnbull MP., in a letter to Darulfatwa Australia addressing Muslims at the Annual Multicultural Mawlid Celebration 2015.

"That this House congratulates: Darulfatwa, the Islamic High Council of Australia, for bringing Australian Muslims together and acting as the leading representative for Muslims in Australia, and [congratulates] all Al-Azhary Shari^ah Course graduates for the past 12 years."

In a certificate issued by the Parliament of New South Wales, November 2011 to Darulfatwa Australia. Statements moved by the Hon. Shaouquett Moselmane MLC.





National and State government officials commend Darulfatwa Australia for its annual Al-Azhary Course, graduating tens of moderate men and women teachers and imams – 2015



## NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Darulfatwa's membership numbers grew across Australia and its volunteers and affiliates multiplied, as the name 'Darulfatwa Australia' spread in repute. Its services became more in demand by Australian Muslims across the states, especially in New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia.

Supported by its member organizations, Darulfatwa Australia implemented its objectives by providing the community with the needed religious and educational services across the states. These services include, to:

- Issue religious edicts (fatwas) in response to inquiries
- Coordinate the register and activities of imams, educators and Muslim marriage celebrants
- Organize mentoring and academic programmes of various levels, for imams and religious teachers, such as the recognized Al-Azhary Course
- Represent Islam in communique and academic functions
- Facilitate resources for educators, imams and counsellors
- Provide dispute resolution services
- Raise awareness to the important role of women, address their concerns, and facilitate a platform for their contribution
- Endorse the engagement of the Muslim community in national activities and major community events in the Islamic calendar

Darulfatwa Australia has proudly received accolades from various authorities, demonstrating its positive impact on the community, through its services and commitment to its noble cause.



Darulfatwa Chairman greets His Majesty, the King of Morocco, Mohammad VI, during his visit to Morocco by exclusive invitation – Ramadan 2016



Darulfatwa Chairman representing Australian Muslim communities in talks with His Majesty, the King of Malaysia, Tuanku Abdul Halim



Dr. Sh. Salim Alwan representing Darulfatwa member imams at Indonesia's highest council of scholars - Majelis Ulama Indonesia



"The one who adheres to the true form of Islam will inevitably be adopting the path of moderation."

Deputy of Al-Azhar Ash-Sharif Egypt, Professor Dr. Abbas Shouman. Al-Azhar's Historic visit to Australia December 2015.

"Islam is moderation and it is the responsibility of our imams to emancipate this message and lead by example."

Chairman of Darulfatwa Australia, His Eminence Dr. Sheikh Salim Alwan Press Release 30 May 2016.





Darulfatwa Chairman Dr. Sh. Salim Alwan represents Australian Muslims at the International Summit of Moderate Islamic Leaders – Jakarta



### **GLOBAL REPRESENTATION**

The name 'Darulfatwa Australia' became known worldwide, advancing it to represent Australian Muslims globally. Darulfatwa Australia reached out to the hundreds of millions of Muslims around the world to further the call of mainstream moderate Islam, and disintegrate calls of radicalism made by minority sects.

Through its harmonic approach, Darulfatwa Australia affiliated with international figures and global Islamic institutions. Dr. Sh. Salim Alwan has been appointed numerous executive positions and religious posts. His Eminence has been hosted as a lecturer at several universities and mosques in Africa, Australasia, Europe, Middle East and South East Asia. Darulfatwa Australia delegates have also engaged in international academic activities to aid Darulfatwa's representation of moderate Australian Muslims abroad.

Darulfatwa Australia has consequently helped crystalize the association between moderation and Islam to the contemporary world, and has paved the way for new international dialogue. Over the years, Darulfatwa Australia has invited and hosted prominent global Muslim figures, building bridges between them and Australian officials and authorities. In 2015, in an inaugural move, Darulfatwa Australia invited the Deputy of Al-Azhar Ash-Sharif of Egypt Arabia. Darulfatwa Australia hosted his Eminence, Professor Dr. Abbas Shouman, who represents the international and world-renowned institute for Islamic resource and academics. This historic visit was a result of long-standing relationships, and Al-Azhar Ash-Sharif's endorsement of Islamic resources, published and distributed by Darulfatwa Australia.

Darulfatwa - the Islamic High Council of Australia and its members are proud of its recognized achievements. It will remain steadfast on its mission to issue credible edicts (fatwas) and serve the interests of the wider Australian community. Darulfatwa Australia will continue to educate the local and global Muslim community to dismantle radicalism and terrorism, and spread the moderate teachings of Islam that call for world peace.







Darulfatwa Chairman Dr. Sh. Salim Alwan speaks to thousands on moderation. Muslims celebrating the moderate guidance of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and his birth – Sydney Australia Jan 2015





### **PLEDGE**

"The creed of Al-Azhar Ash-Sharif is the creed of Al-Ash^ariyyah, which is the creed of Ahlus-Sunnah wal-Jama^ah (the People of the Straight Path). The majority of the scholars of the nation are Ash^ariys, may Allah reward them."

Al-Azhar Ash-Sharif, Egypt Arabia

"We are of the mainstream Muslims, adhering to the Ash^ariyyah route of knowledge in belief and the Shafi^iyyah school of Islamic jurisprudence in practical rules. We acknowledge all four famous schools of Islamic jurisprudence – Hanafiyy, Malikiyy, Hanbaliyy, and Shafi^iyy as well as other recognized schools, as schools of guidance. We apply their methodology to serve the community and preserve its dignity and heritage."

Darulfatwa Australia Board



### **DARULFATWA**

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