

## Curriculum Vitae



**Keysar Trad**

I am the former president of *Muslims Australia - Australian Federation of Islamic Councils (AFIC)*.

I am a former president of the Lakemba-based Lebanese Moslems Association.

I have worked *closely with the first Grand Mufti of Australia, Sh. Hilali, as assistant, advisor, translator, spokesman and office manager from 1999 to 2007*

I am a roving Imam; I deliver Friday sermons at places Masajid and Mussallas around Sydney and interstate.

Between the years 2000 and 2017, I was a prolific spokesperson on issues relating to Islam and the Muslim community. In the same period, I gave thousands of interviews as well as cultural and religious briefings to the media, to government and quasi-government bodies, and to religious groups. I have spoken at many events, including interfaith and rallies for peace and human rights.

My articles have appeared in *the Sydney Morning Herald, Sun Herald, The Daily Telegraph, The Age, The Australian* and the *Canberra Times*; they have been on *Crikey, New Matilda, Online Opinion* and *Myrightorreply* websites.

My most recent published book (in English) **Forays of the Heart** is widely available:

<http://asenseofplaceblog.com/forays-of-the-heart-by-keysar-trad/>

I was successful in obtaining a public apology from powerful media personality Alan Jones for pejorative comments he made against Lebanese youth.

I have edited and made more than 800 corrections to the Abdullah Yusuf Ali translation with respect to the meaning of **The Holy Qur'an** (published and endorsed by the World Islamic Call), this edited translation can be found at: [www.mostinterestingbook.blogspot.com](http://www.mostinterestingbook.blogspot.com) .

I have translated several books about Islam and have written and translated articles on related matters.

My translated books include:

*Invitation to Think.*

*Invitation to Contemplate.*

*Islamic Education and the Revivalist Thought of Said Nursi.*

*The Human Being between Revival and Downfall.*

*I and the sponsor of the Orphan will be in Paradise; and*

*Children's Stories.*

I had been involved in interfaith activities for over twenty years.

I have hosted a Muslim community radio program in the 1990s for over 3 years,

I have worked closely with Australia's senior spiritual leaders,

I have served on the committees of several Muslim organisations.

I have shared platforms with Muslim and non-Muslim speakers including senior government ministers regarding religious and political matters.

I established the *Islamic Friendship Association of Australia Inc* in 2003.

[See <http://islamicfriendshipevents.blogspot.com.au/>]

The third edition of my book, **Islam for Your Information** received excellent praise from Tun Dr. Mahathir (Prime Minister of Malaysia, a copy of his letter will be made available at interview, amongst his comments: "... *It is very enlightening as it gives a true picture of what Islam is about. Muslims should read this paper as many are very confused in their understanding of Islam ...*" The fourth edition of this book is about to go into print.

## **Work experience:**

Chief Executive Officer, Australian International Islamic College (AIIC) (2012), Brisbane Queensland (1 year). This experience included the management of budget and staff, improvements around two campuses, setting a strategic direction and a vision for the college and the pupils, nurturing special talents and improving the standing of the college.

Australian Public Service (1984 to 1998) - 14-year distinguished career covering areas of management, negotiations, investigations, audits, debt collection and review of objections and appeals.

Cost Clerk (6 weeks in 1984)

## **History of volunteering:**

My work as a volunteer is extensive; beginning around 1990 it includes:

*United Muslim Women's Association* (early to mid-1990s).

*Australian Muslim Times* (approximately two years, early 1990s).

*Australian Islamic Media* (approximately two years in the 1990s).

*Multicultural Eid Festival and Fair* (a few months only in 93).

*Muslim Aid* (a few months only in 93).

*Islamic Council of NSW* volunteering over much of the 1990s.

*Australian Institute of Islamic Culture* volunteering in the late 90s.

*Australian Islamic Educational Trust* (founding trustee, mid-1990s-2012).

*Human Appeal International* (mid 1990s-2000).

*Supreme Islamic Council of NSW* (in 1999 only).

*Worked closely with the first Grand Mufti of Australia, Sh. Hilali, as assistant, advisor, translator and spokesman and office manager from 1999 to 2007.*

*Lebanese Moslem Association* (1999-2005) (secretary, Vice President and **president**);

*Islamic Friendship Association of Australia Inc.* (October 2003-present);  
Interim Chair, the *Islamic College of Brisbane* (late 2013 –August 2014); and  
*Muslims Australia - Australian Federation of Islamic Councils (AFIC)* **former president.**

**Studies:**

I hold accounting qualifications and have completed or partially completed studies in law, Science, Islamic Leadership (Da'wa Academy, International Islamic University, Islamabad), Media training and various other short courses.