



Australian Federation
of Islamic Councils

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

AFIC launches Australian Dar Al-Iftaa inside Parliament House in Canberra

Media Statement

25 March 2021

The peak body for Australian Islam, the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils formally launches Australian Dar Al Iftaa, a one stop board of scholars that will address the emerging nuanced challenges facing Australian Muslims.

Leading to this launch, AFIC together with a representative from its National Sharia Board received and reviewed applications from candidates from all over the world for the position of Da'wa and Iftaa Manager. AFIC's distinguished selection committee comprising Sheikh Riad El Rifai, Dr Rateb Jneid, Mohamad Berjaoui and Harun Abdullah selected an Australian born and raised Islamic scholar to the position of Da'wa and Iftaa Manager to manage Dar Al-Iftaa and coordinate with AFIC Imams in the service of Australia and our diverse multicultural nation.

"Reciting the beautiful verses from Sura Ar Rum, inside parliament warmed my heart and brought tears to my eyes." Said Sheikh Khaled Taleb, founding member of AFIC's National Sharia Board.

"With this launch, I reclaim AFIC's role in uniting the community, not just the Muslim community, but uniting our wonderful community with all Australians." Said AFIC president Dr Rateb Jneid.

"AFIC is the loving father and mother of mainstream Islam in Australia, I am proud to be associated with this well-established organisation that is represented in all states and territories around Australia. This long-awaited Australian Dar Al-Iftaa will be one of Australia's greatest assets." Said Sheikh Riad El Rifai, Founding member of AFIC's National Sharia Board.

"I have never worked with a group of sisters and brothers that is as sincere to the progress of Australian society and the Muslim community as AFIC. AFIC is consultative, supportive, dedicated and has the courage and will to take society forward." Said Sheikh Mohamad Abou Eid, Victoria's leading Imam.



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AFIC launches Australian Dar Al-Iftaa inside Parliament House in Canberra (continued)

"We are blessed with a group of scholars united in their love for society, learning, listening and sharing the beauty of our faith far and wide." Said Sheikh Riad El Rifai.

"Questions requiring Islamic interpretation will now be addressed by our learned Imams and our National Sharia Board as will issues relating to Da'wa and Iftaa." Said Dr Jneid.

"I am humbled to be working with my learned fellow Imams and to be selected to oversee the work of Australian Dar Al-Iftaa." Said Imam Abdul Quddoos Al Azhari.

Authorised by:

Dr Rateb Jneid,
AFIC President

And

Sheikh Riad El Rifai,
ANSB