

AFIC and ANSB Seek Unity in the declaration of the start of Ramadan

At a recent meeting of AFIC's National Sharia Board (ANSB) founding members and Imams, the Sharia requirements and long-standing opinions with respect to declarations concerning the starting and end of lunar months were thoroughly considered.

The Imams and AFIC debated the issue from scientific, historic and Islamic Jurisprudential perspectives.

AFIC and ANSB's prime goals in this effort are to promote the authentic observance of Islamic acts of devotion and to find harmony and utility in facilitating smooth worry-free Islamic practices.

AFIC is aware that prior to the meeting, some majority Muslim nations and internationally respected Fiqh (Islamic Jurisprudence) councils have already declared the commencement of the month of Ramadan based on scientific calculations. This method allows Muslims to **commence the fast and break the fast in unity and helps provide ease for people in accordance with the verse "Indeed Allah wants ease for you and does not want difficulties" (Qur'an 2:185).**

Based on the information at hand, AFIC and ANSB arrived at the conclusion through a majority vote that the month of Ramadan should be observed from **2 April 2022** and the first Taraweeh would be on the evening of 1 April 2022.



AFIC and ANSB call on Imams and all other Muslim groups and organisations within Australia to consider the adoption of this date. We remind our wonderful community that the word “Ra`a” (the root of “Ru`ya” and “Ru`yatih”) is an Arabic word that appears in various contexts in the Qur’an and its meaning depends on the context.

The eye-sighting of the crescent was in the past a means of discovering the onset of the month, in our time, the Ru`ya maybe accurately facilitated by other means.

We respect the diverse views and opinions in our community and ask that our adopted method is also respected and that it is not used as a cause for division or unwarranted reactions.

We wish everyone a blessed Ramadan, Ramadan Mubarak to all.

Authorised by:

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The Most Eminent Sheikh Abdul Quddoos Al Azhari, National Grand Mufti of Australia

AFIC’s Dar Al-Iftaa

AFIC’s National Sharia Board