

## AFIC celebrates the birth of Muhammad, peace and blessings upon him, the prophet of peace, love and goodwill

**Media Statement**

**11 October 2022**

**This lunar month, peace loving people around the world are celebrating the life of prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings upon him, the prophet of peace, love and goodness**

### **Context:**

Prophet Muhammad, born in 570 AD in Mecca grew up as an orphan and earned a reputation of being fair, truthful and trustworthy to the point that his nickname in Arabia was “Assadeq Al Ameen” (The truthful and trustworthy).

It was not until he started preaching the message of Islam openly, after reaching the age of 40, that Meccan elites felt that Islam’s egalitarian message threatened their powerbase. It was at this stage that some of those wealthy and powerful elites began to concoct slanderous allegations in order to deter people from egalitarian societal reform.

The message of Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings upon him, spelled out freedom for the oppressed, it meant an end to female infanticide and it meant a revolution to women’s rights giving them the right to inherit and to assert their views and argue their points, even if it be with the messenger of Allah himself, as evidenced in chapter 58 of the Noble Qur’an.

Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings upon him, introduced true democracy that is based on genuine consultations. Even though he was supported by divine revelations, he still consulted his community and accepted the consensus in addressing emerging challenges. Refer Chapter 42 of the Holy Qur’an

### **Beautiful message:**

Amongst his teachings:

“Show mercy, you will be shown mercy, forgive and you will be forgiven”

“Forgo with those who wrong you”

“You will not truly believe until you love one another ... promote peace among you.”

“Love for your brother what you love for yourself.”

### **Forgiveness in action:**

Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings upon him, endured tremendous persecution, boycotts, loss of property and loss of loved ones yet he remained resolute and resilient in preserving and conveying the message given to him by the Almighty God. When he returned to Mecca victorious after all the losses he suffered at the hands of Mecca's elite leadership, he asked them: what do you think I should do with you.

They replied: (you will only do) good, you are a noble brother, the son of a noble brother.

He, peace and blessings upon him, replied: There will be no retribution on this day, you are all free.

### **Prayer and observation:**

"May Allah bless Australia and all Australians and allow us to learn more about the beautiful messenger of Allah and celebrate his great contributions to the human family." Said the Most Eminent Sheikh Abdul Quddoos Al Azhari, National Grand Mufti of Australia.

"Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings upon him, taught me to make every sacrifice possible to keep my society safe and prosperous and to bring people together on a platform of friendship, love and goodwill." Said AFIC President Dr Rateb Jneid.

**Dr Rateb Jneid**

**AFIC President**

**The Most Eminent Abdul Quddoos Al Azhari**

**National Grand Mufti of Australia**