



Toowoomba Muslim Newsletter

Vol 2, Issue 4, May 2021



Successful Fundraising Ifter-Dinner on Saturday, 21 April

Alhamdulillah, in the Fundraising Ifter-Dinner on Saturday, 21 April we received pledges and donations totalling \$137,505 including

2 donors \$20,000 each
1 donor \$10,000 each
9 donors \$5,000 each
9 donors \$2,000 each
16 donors \$1,000 each

Huge thankyou to all donors and volunteers for their continuing support. May Allah accept everyone's contribution and reward with the best in both worlds.

The money help start the Final Stage of reconstruction of Toowoomba Mosque.

We hope more support will continue to come from the members of the community for the completion of the rebuilding of the Masjid.



Beginning of the program



Br Osman Idris addressing



Youngest donor of the night Esme Wania Khan (\$1000)



Family participants



Participants

Sharing your story: If you have a story to be included in the Muslim Community Newsletter please contact Prof Shahjahan Khan at Shahjahan.Khan@usq.edu.au



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Ramadan Appeal in Progress

Alhamdulillah, we have already passed half (pledge plus received over \$155k) of our Ramadan Fundraising Target of \$290k for rebuilding Toowoomba Mosque.

We are in the most blessed part of Ramadan, the part containing Lailatul Qadr. If we donate in every night during the last ten nights of Ramadan we will ensure the blessings of Lailatul Qadr Inshaa Allah.

Donations to take the opportunity to be a part of rebuilding of burnt Toowoomba Mosque in the blessed month of Ramadan can be made via

- 1) **Bank transfer to**
A/name: Toowoomba Islamic Charitable Organisation
BSB: 064459, Account Number: 10341586
Swift Code: CTBAAU2S
- 2) For **PayPal** and Credit Card Payments please donate online via
<https://toowombamosque.com.au/>
- 3) Send **cheques** to Toowoomba Islamic Charitable Trust, PO Box 336, Harling Heights, Qld 4350, Australia

Jazak Allah Khair for your care for a house of Allah.

In the Name of Allah, the Most Beneficent the Most Merciful

Ramadan Appeal - Final Stage Fundraising Toowoomba Mosque



Donate
AND GET THE REWARDS
HERE AND IN THE AFTERLIFE

TOOWOOMBA
MOSQUE
— EST. 2014 —

The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "Whoever builds a mosque for Allah, then Allah will build for him a similar house in Paradise." (Bukhari and Muslim)

\$290k Target

58 donors	\$5000 each
290 donors	\$1000 each
580 donors	\$500 each
2900 donors	\$100 each

Please join rebuilding the burnt house of Allah

Bank Account Details

A/name: Toowoomba Islamic Charitable Organisation
BSB: 064459
Account Number: 10341586
Swift Code: CTBAAU2S



Burned Mosque



85% work completed



Interior

Contact Persons
Prof. Shahjahan Khan +61421 081 048
A/Prof. Mainul Islam +61432 533 550

217 West St, Harristown QLD 4350
Website: www.toowombamosque.com.au
Facebook: www.facebook.com/ToowoombaMosque

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Payment of Zakar AlFitr and Zakat AlMaal

The Fitra for this year is at least \$12 per person. This must be paid for every member of the family before the Salatul Eid. You may pay it in the designated donation box place in the Mosque.



If you wish to pay your Zakat (AlMaal) through the Islamic Society of Toowoomba, please pay it to Associate Professor Mainul Islam. His mobile number is 0432533550. You may also pay it to Professor Shahjahan Khan or Br Omar Al Sakit. May Allah bless us with the best during this month, especially with the Laitatul Qadr.

First light in the new Moque Building after 6 year

As part of the Second Stage work of Toowoomba Mosuqe, on completion of electric work the electician trailed the lights in the night of 29 April 2021.

It is very exciting to see that after 6 years the building is standing proudly to glorify Allah with lights fitted inside.

Alhamdulillah, the lights of Allah will continue to be emitted from His new house even though His enemy wanted to extinguish His light.



First light in the new Mosque Building



Wudu area completed

Tarawi Prayers

Regular Tarawi prayers are being held in the Toowoomba Mosque every night. We could not pray in the Mosque during last Ramadan due to covid restrictions.

This year a good number of brothers and sisters are participating in this highly rewarding Quamul Lail. Br Omar Al Sakit and Br Abdu Mohamed are leading the prayers with the help of Dr Omar Alajarmeh.





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Work in Mehrab

Artist Dr Adis Elias is measuring the Mehrab. He will be working with Br Nedzad Izmirlic and Mr Adnun Khan for possible modifications with a view to reduce the cost and completing the work earlier.



Dinner with Imam Abdul Kader

On Friday, 2nd April a group of Muslims offered a dinner in honour of departing Imam of Toowoomba Mosque.

Funeral services of Br Ted Nordin Hobbs

Assalamu alaikum from Drayton Cemetery, Toowoomba. Please make duwa for Br Ted Nordin Hobbs (a revert married to Sr Norida from Malaysia) who passed away in Warwick. He died on 21 April at the age of 86. Reminds us of our ultimate destination. First Muslim buried here was Sr Khadija in 1995. May Allah accept all of them in Jannatul Firdaus.



Community Services

- Halal Meat Delivery – Contact Br Murad on 04 0669 1749
- Toowoomba Police Contact Officer Tony Rehn 04 1269 7555
- 1800 RESPECT www.1800respect.org.au
Support for people impacted by sexual assault, domestic or family violence and abuse. Interpreter 13 14 50
- Business advertisement contact: Shahjahan.Khan@usq.edu.au

Communication with Mosque via Technology

Imam Abdul Kader: gaderqsis@yahoo.com
General contact email: admin@toowoombamosque.com.au
Website: www.toowoombamosque.com.au
Facebook: www.facebook.com/ToowoombaMosque
WhatsApp: Toowoomba Mosque Matters / MSA Toowoomba
Madrasah: via Zoom, Meeting ID: 379 889 2083



Article on supporting Uyghur Muslims in China by Professor Shahjahan Khan

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UMMAH AMUST

In search of supporting Muslims in China

Professor Shahjahan Khan

In spite of lots of verbal debates on the persecution of Uyghur Muslims in China there is no real movements or efforts from anyone to help them on the ground. Who will be helping them if the Muslims don't come forward in their support?

What are the practical ways to help them?

Why Muslim Governments are silent?

Many in the West are asking, why Muslim Governments are in silence against China atrocities whereas they were furious against Charlie Hebdo?

They are also asking, why in July 2019, many leading Muslim-majority states helped to block a Western motion at the United Nations calling for China to allow "independent international observers" into the Xinjiang region?

Most of the leading Muslim countries have significant economic and political stake with China. In many cases this is imbalanced against them, and China is using its economic power to exert political influence.

Understandably, Muslim Governments decided not to engagement with China including not issuing any public statement, even expressing any verbal criticism or concern.

They seem to have forgotten that friends need to look after friends by communicating what is good and bad to friendship.

What Muslim citizens could do?

Undeniably, China is taking over the US as the most powerful nation on earth, how Muslims should engage with the nation which already has a dominant role in the regional and international stage?

Muslims in the West are actively engaging with the governments and communities for peaceful co-existence with respect and dignity.

Not only Muslims opening their Mosques for members of the wider community, they are also taking leading role in many multi-faith and multicultural activities, not to mention significant contribution in education, business, sports and professional jobs.

They are very much a part of the success story of multiculturalism in many Western

A young Uyghur activist holds up a poster during a demonstration outside the Foreign Office in Berlin before talks between the Chinese and German foreign ministers on Sept. 1 2020.



countries. This is well recognised by everyone both at the government and community levels.

Why can't Chinese Muslims do the same, if not better, if they get the opportunity?

Should conscious, educated and professional Muslim citizens and community organisations join their Governments to sit idle and do nothing while Muslims in China need their urgent help?

What about the highly educated and well-established Muslim professionals and community leaders living in the West?

We all know the devastating impact of boycotting English language in the subcontinent when the British took over India from Muslims in the eighteenth century.

Should we adopt the old 'boycott' policy and disengage with China abandoning the already isolated millions of Muslims there. Or we should engage with China to know the facts on the ground about Uyghur and other Muslims in Xinjiang and other regions in China.

Even though Muslims in general are very worried about their brothers and sisters in China, it is highly unlikely that any Government in Muslim countries will seriously ask China about the situation of Uyghur Muslims.

They have too much at stake in doing so. They are increasingly becoming more dependent on China as the US slides down its

global position.

Engagements for common ground

Muslims, especially those living in the west, should seriously think about citizen-level intellectual, professional and faith-based engagement with their China counterparts.

They need to verify if the claims of the western media and governments accusing China of genocide and ethnic cleansing of Muslims is true or not.

This is more important as China is consistently denying any wrongdoings, and labelling it as pure western propaganda.

If China is worried about terrorism, they should know that Islam is a religion of peace and against any form of terrorism. We are very clear about this and no country, let alone China, should be under the threat of terrorism by anyone, especially from Muslims.

The present-day world is becoming more concerned about the far-right extremism than anything else.

As for their claim of separatist or independence movement in the north-west China, should we be taking any side as no Muslim country has the commitment and ability that would benefit anyone?

Given the current global geopolitics, would it be wise to put the Muslims in China under greater risk by giving only lip ser-

vice? We need to be realistic in our approach and should pursue a long-term goal of living in peace with the culturally diverse population.

Our main focus should be to help protect the lives, properties and religious freedom of Muslims in China. We also need to keep in mind that there are many Muslims in other parts of China who are not facing the same kind of persecution and systematic oppression as the Uyghurs.

It would be unwise and unhelpful if anyone's act endangering their way of life.

This may be a good time to remember the situation under which Prophet Muhammad (s) accepted and signed apparently the most humiliating conditions of Hudaibya Treaty that was later termed in the Qur'an as Clear Victory.

The wisdom behind this was to achieve peace which was, and still is, a precondition for the spread of Islam. We can learn from the history and benefit.

Moving forward for peace

Seriously speaking, we have two options either to accept the status quo and let Muslims continue to suffer amid contradictory claims of the west and China, and silence of Muslim governments, or initiate a citizen-level engagement process with China to understand mutual concerns and make a headway to assess and improve the grass-root level situation of Muslims in China.

If Chinese Government and citizens care for the long-term good economic and political relationship of Muslim nations and counter US influence in the Muslim countries they should come forward to meaningfully engage with Muslim leaders at different levels.

Such engagements will help remove any misunderstanding, create scopes for cooperation, and build strong mutual trust to work for mutual benefit of both parties.

The proposed citizen level engagements may pave the way for some Muslim Governments to discuss and achieve friendly goals in improving the situation of Muslims in China.

It is worth mentioning the ground breaking role of the civil society in negotiating the peace in Mindanao between the Philippine government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

For more information, please visit the link below

https://www.amust.com.au/2021/03/in-search-of-supporting-muslims-in-china/?fbclid=IwAR09FXpNxxG4LDIjA9_z_SShnMmk5JAfc3wOHIZOBZdiaNSSAa7vub9F9X8