



Help establish the first Masjid in Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia

My Dear Muslims:

Assalamu alaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuhu. Hope you and your family are well with best Islamic and working spirit.

Toowoomba, the Garden City of Australia, is 1.5 hour driving distance from Brisbane, capital of Queensland, Australia. The population of the city is around 150,000 of which over 1000 are Muslims. There has been a 100% growth of Muslims in the city in the recent 2012 census. There is **no Mosque in Toowoomba** or Lockyer Valley and Darling Downs regions. The nearest Mosque is in Brisbane. Currently, all Muslims in the city/region worship in a temporary facility provided by the University of Southern Queensland (USQ) which is old and inadequate to meet the current and future needs.

The Islamic Society of Toowoomba (IST) Inc, a **Government registered** non-profit Islamic organisation is **under contract** to purchase the **Church property** at 217-221 West St (**photos in next page**) Toowoomba, Australia. The total land size of the property is 2765sqm. The total cost of purchase and transforming to a Masjid is **AUD\$925,000**. Alhamdulillah, we have received donations totalling AUD\$440,000 and the current shortfall is \$485,000. Our target is to settle by the end of 2013.

We have received supporting letters from the (1) **Grand Mufti of Australia**, (2) **Mayor** of the City of Toowoomba, (3) **Vice Chancellor** of University of Southern Queensland, (4) President, Islamic Council of Queensland, and (5) President, Australian Federation of Islamic Councils (AFIC) testifying our Society and Masjid project. The Toowoomba Regional Council has issued a letter confirming that the new owner can use of the property as a **place of worship**.

There are around 1000 Muslims in Toowoomba, and many have **committed to donate one month salary** for the Masjid. We should be able pay up to one-third of the total cost. The IST has initiated a major fundraising to collect the other two-thirds. Muslims in Toowoomba request you to get the words out to potential donors in the local, national and international level with an appeal to make significant financial contributions (**Bank Account details below**) for the Masjid.

Please pray to Allah for the first Masjid in Toowoomba. Your direct contribution and drive to collect funds from other contributors will be highly appreciated. Medium term **interest free loan** will also be helpful.

May Allah Subhanahuwata'la accept your support and reward you unboundedly in both worlds. *Fiamanillah* and JAK.

Shahjahan Khan

(Professor Shahjahan Khan, PhD)

Founding President of Islamic Society of Toowoomba Inc., Phone +61421081048, Email: khans@usq.edu.au

Founding Professor of Statistics, University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia

Other Contacts: Dr Md Shahiduzzaman Ph +61458823191 and Br Abdulatif Al-Ammar Ph +61412894471

Bank Account Details

Commonwealth Bank, Toowoomba Plaza Branch

A/C Name: Toowoomba Islamic Charitable Organisation
BSB No 064459, A/C No 1034 1586
Swift Code: CTBAAU25XXX

Heritage Bank, Toowoomba Branch

A/C Name: Islamic Society of Toowoomba
BSB No 638060, A/C No 1300 9958
Swift Code: HBSLAU4T

Church Building facing Kaaba to be converted to a Masjid



Three Buildings in the Property

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

To Whom It May Concern

5 April 2013

The Islamic Society of Toowoomba Inc. is a Government registered non-profit Muslim organisation affiliated with the Islamic Council of Queensland and the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils (AFIC).

The Society is the only Muslim organisation in Toowoomba, a city of over 150,000 people. The Muslim population in the city is growing at a healthy rate, the Society has moved to purchase a property of 2765 sqm which includes existing use Church buildings to establish its first Masjid. The cost of the property including all fees is \$AUD900,000 (nine hundred thousand dollars Australian).

The Muslim community in Toowoomba does not have the ability to fund the Masjid project on its own, Toowoomba Muslims are in urgent need of support from Muslims outside their city.

I urge the reader to support this project in every manner within his or her means, establishing a house of God is a highly commended Islamic duty. Our prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings upon him, said: *Whoever builds a house for Allah, Allah will build a house for him in Jannah.* A Masjid is a community centre, it is a hub of social activities that brings together the Muslim community and provides an avenue for Muslim youth to become outstanding citizens. A Masjid is a beacon of light for any city allowing for greater understanding between Muslims and non Muslims.

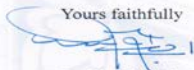
I urge every Imam of every Masjid in Australia and every community leader to take a leading role in supporting this project, including raising funds during Juma' prayers.

I commend this project to every reader and encourage the reader to assist in any way they can.

I pray to Almighty Allah for the success of the Islamic Society of Toowoomba Inc in establishing the Masjid and providing ongoing services to the Muslim and wider community in the years to come.

Thank you for supporting this worthy cause.

Yours faithfully



Dr. Ibrahim Abu Mohammad
Grand Mufti of Australia

3/37 Barbara Street Fairfield NSW 2165
Sydney Australia

Tel: (02) 9723 9524 Fax: (02) 9723 9716
Email: dribrahim@muftiofaustralia.com
Web: www.muftiofaustralia.com

Cr Paul Antonio
MAYOR

Office of the Mayor



Toowoomba Regional Council • City Hall, 541 Ruthven Street, Toowoomba
PO Box 3021, Toowoomba Village Fair Qld 4350 P 07 4688 6433 F 07 4631 9170 M 0429 954 109
E paul.antonio@toowoombaRC.qld.gov.au W www.toowoombaRC.qld.gov.au

Our Reference: DM 5502934
Contact Officer: Stewart Somers
Telephone: 131 872

20 May 2013

To Whom it May Concern,

Introducing the Islamic Society of Toowoomba Inc

This letter introduces the Islamic Society of Toowoomba and specifically their current activity to establish a permanent Toowoomba facility to service the regional Muslim community.

To date the University of Southern Queensland has been able to provide on-campus facilities for the Society. As membership of the Society has increased significantly, both through USQ staff and students and through Muslim migration to the region, a larger and more accessible facility is now required. The Toowoomba Regional Council is supportive of the Society's endeavour to locate and acquire a suitable facility.

While Toowoomba Regional Council is aware that the Society is contacting various members of the broader community for fundraising and sponsorship for the proposed facility, it has no role in that process and makes no undertakings in that regard other than the representation made within this letter of introduction.

Yours Sincerely



CR PAUL ANTONIO
MAYOR OF TOOWOOMBA REGIONAL COUNCIL