



# الاتحاد الاسترالى للمجالس الاسلامية AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF ISLAMIC COUNCILS INC.

AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL ISLAMIC ORGANISATION

A.R.B.N. 002 757 155

29 January 2009

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## AFIC SCHOOLS

**Malek Fahd Islamic School**  
Tel: (02) 9642 8766  
Fax: (02) 9642 5479

## Islamic School of Brisbane

Tel: (07) 3841 3645  
Fax: (07) 3841 4320

## Islamic College of SA

Tel: (08) 8340 7799  
Fax: (08) 8340 9988

## Langford Islamic College

Tel: (08) 9458 5206  
Fax: (08) 9258 5661

## Islamic School of Canberra

Tel: (02) 6241 9554  
Fax: (02) 6241 5448

- Halal Certification & Accreditation
- Muslims Australia Magazine
- Islamic Schools Projects
- Zakat & Charitable Services
- Imams & Religious Services
- Dawah Work
- Interfaith Dialogue
- Political Advocacy

## MEMBER STATE COUNCILS

Muslim Council of NSW  
Islamic Council of VIC  
Islamic Council of QLD  
Islamic Council of WA  
Islamic Council of SA  
Islamic Council of ACT  
Islamic Council of NT  
Islamic Council of TAS  
Islamic Council of  
Christmas Island

## MEMBER SOCIETIES

Over 100

## AFIC - Gaza Fundraising Dinner



The Australian Federation of Islamic Councils would like to thank the attendees on behalf of its Executive Committee and staff for attending the fund-raising dinner for Gaza on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2009 held at Malek Fahd Islamic School.

The event was a tremendous success and the attendees were far more than expected and were a mix of young and old, brothers and sisters, children and people from all ethnic and religious background. The mix attendance made one realise that the recent events of Gaza had really touched a sensitive nerve amongst a lot of people in the community. The attendance of around 500 was so overwhelming that Br Ikebal Patel requested restraint when the guests were serving the food as the catering was for only 300 but *Alhamdu Liillah* there was more than enough food with the left over food sold for further fund raising for Gaza.

Br Asem Judeh, a well known activist for the Palestinian cause travelled from Melbourne to talk about the history of the occupation of the Palestinian homeland. Br Riyadh Al Addassi, a visiting nurse from Gaza also spoke about the reality of the situation facing the people of Gaza specifically.

Sheik Tageddine El Hilaly detailed the fund raising efforts of the Australian people and how the money collected will be distributed in Gaza. Sheik Taj acknowledged the efforts of the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils and especially AFIC's President Br Ikebal Patel's attendance at various rallies on Gaza in Melbourne, Canberra and in Sydney at the Town Hall and Hyde Park as well as the dissemination of information on the conflict and the engagement with the press.



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The fundraising started in earnest with pledges of \$5,000, \$3,000, \$1,000 and so on. The most touching part of the fund-raising was when a seven year old girl went up to AFIC President, Br Ikebal Patel and tried to hand him her money tin. Br Ikebal assumed she was collecting funds for Gaza and thanked her and sent her on to the guests, some of whom put some notes in her tin confusing the little girl who returned to Sr Uzma, the AFIC Administration Manager and the main organiser of the fund raising event.



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Sr Uzma then explained to Br Ikebal that the child, Umrah Syeda wanted to donate her money tin, her collection of money for the last 2 years. When she was asked publicly as to what she wanted to do with her money, she said “I want to donate it to the needy in Gaza”. A total of \$166.20 was counted in this money tin with some Saudi Riyals, New Zealand currency and Indian Rupees as well. *Alhamdu Lillah* this is the spirit of generosity that Muslims are known for and that was seen through out the night. Some people who did not have the money with them made pledges and others auctioned their jewellery to raise funds.

Once again AFIC wishes to thank every one for attending the fund raising dinner and for their very generous donations. AFIC also acknowledges Al Aseel Restaurant for their discounted catering. Sheik Taj took time from his busy schedule to assist with the fundraising and we acknowledge his efforts. AFIC acknowledges the assistance of students and staff from Malek Fahd Islamic School and all the other volunteers who helped us in making it a success. Finally, this function would not have been a success without the work of AFIC Staff.

The required target for the replacement of the ambulance was reached and the rest of the funds will be used for purchasing medicine and medical supplies.