

NZMA Announcement

13 May 2020

Asalaamu Alaikum WRBH

Ramadhan Mubarak. I pray that you and your family are safe in your bubble.

As you may be aware NZMA in conjunction with FIANZ (Br. Mustafa Faruk and Br. Anwar Ghani) has been working with NZ Police and government agencies re. the opening of our mosques and Islamic Centres across New Zealand under Level 2 lockdown. NZMA had developed detailed plans for managing its mosque operations and to ensure they meet the health and tracking requirements of the government.

Our understanding from these interaction and other communication from the government was that we will be allowed to have gathering of 100 people inside the mosque. However, to our surprise the government made a decision on Monday, 11 May, that the numbers attending the religious places will be limited to 10 people.

NZMA Executives met on Tuesday, 12 May 2020 to discuss the impact of this government decision. We discussed pros and cons of opening and keeping our mosques closed. NZMA Executives unanimously agreed to keep their mosques closed for the time being. This was undoubtedly the most difficult decisions that NZMA Executives had to make. We agreed to approach our government along with FIANZ to put forward a case which will allow a greater number of people to attend our mosques.

This morning, FIANZ President, Br. Mustafa Faruk, Br. Anwar Ghani and Br. Mohammad Fazal attended a meeting along with other faith leaders with the PM Rt Hon. Jacinda Ardern, Hon. Min Jenny Salesa and Dr. Ashley Bloomfield. Br. Mustafa spoke on behalf of our community and has urged the government to allow an increased number of people to attend religious places.

We have also made our views known through the media, inshallah, Newshub should televise an article tonight outlining our concerns.

I would like to assure our community that NZMA in working closely with FIANZ in raising our communities concerns with the government and NZ Police. Inshallah, we will keep you posted through NZMA and FIANZ facebook and websites.

www.facebook.com/fianz.info

www.fianz.info

www.facebook.com/nzma.kiwi.nz

www.nzma.kiwi.nz

Jazakallah Khairan



Ikhlāq Kashkari
President

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