



**NZMA**  
NEW ZEALAND  
MUSLIM ASSOCIATION

1st Shawwal 1445 | Eid 2024 Magazine | Issue 1

عيد مبارك  
EID MUBARAK

## In this Issue

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## FIANZ Community Services Update



### GAZA IS STARVING

FIANZ and its affiliate members have collected over HALF a million dollars to help



### FIJI WHEELCHAIR

1,000 wheelchairs have been donated to the needy in Fiji



### ISLAMIC EDUCATION MATERIAL

FIANZ has developed a Quora Curriculum for Islamic education for young children.



### MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

FIANZ has partnered with Ministry of education to support young Muslims in Maths, Science, and Technology.



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**Abdul Majeed** - 021 916 786

Chairman Avondale Islamic Centre

**Mohammed Bashir** - 021 132 4793

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## A message from the President New Zealand Muslim Association (NZMA)

### **Shameel Sahib**

Assalaamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi  
Wa Barakatuhu and Eid Mubarak

All praises to Allah SWT, the most  
Beneficent and Merciful.

On behalf of the New Zealand Muslim  
Association (NZMA), I extend warm  
greetings to everyone in New Zealand  
and abroad as we celebrate Eid-ul-  
Fitr. We're grateful for another blessed  
Ramadan bestowed upon us by Allah  
SWT and welcome the celebratory spirit  
of Eid-ul-Fitr.

Our holiest month of Ramadan gives us  
all an opportunity for self-reflection and  
to ensure we come closer to the values  
of gratitude, generosity and patience. It  
is a month where we constantly remind  
ourselves to be grateful for what we have  
and to share with others.

Eid-ul-Fitr is a day of celebration and  
reconnecting with our loved ones. NZMA  
looks forward to welcoming everyone to  
our masjids on the day of Eid-ul-Fitr.  
Congregating on the day of Eid gives us  
the opportunity to appreciate the diverse  
cultures we have and to connect with  
Muslims from different continents who  
have now chosen New Zealand as their  
home.

Alhamdulillah we are fortunate to live  
in a country that encourages diversity,  
respect and tolerance for people from all  
backgrounds. We are able to practice our  
faith freely and respect each other's faith  
and beliefs.

While we continue with our daily lives,  
we should not forget the humanitarian  
crisis that's unfolding in Gaza. We hope  
and pray for an immediate ceasefire.

I am grateful to the local teams across the  
five NZMA masjids for their hard work  
and sacrifice over Ramadan to ensure we  
offer daily iftaars and tarawih prayers  
at all our masjids. We also acknowledge  
countless community events, charity  
initiatives and interfaith events

organised and executed by the team, all  
of which strengthen our belonging and  
unity in the Muslim community of New  
Zealand.

I also want to thank the NZMA executive  
committee for their support and  
contribution over the past year. The  
NZMA family represents a group of  
committed and selfless people who want  
to do the best for our community, and  
who continuously uphold and emulate  
the pillars of NZMA of unity, diversity  
and strength.

Alhamdulillah.

I also want to acknowledge our  
forefathers who had the vision to  
establish NZMA in the late 1960s and we  
pay homage to them in this magazine.  
As community leaders we have a  
responsibility to walk in their footsteps  
and to ensure we continue to serve our  
communities to the best of our ability,  
while adhering to Islamic values at all  
times.

NZMA is proud of its work on promoting  
faith, diversity, inclusiveness and social  
advancement for all. We embrace this  
in our mosques and we work to these  
principles when engaging in dialogue  
with other Muslim and interfaith  
bodies, non-governmental organisations  
and government agencies. With this  
commitment, NZMA has become a  
credible voice for Muslims across New  
Zealand. We look forward to continuing  
this work in years to come.

I want to acknowledge my predecessor  
Br Ikhlakh Kashkari for his outstanding  
leadership over the past 8 years. While  
he leaves a very special legacy, NZMA  
is grateful that he continues to play an  
active role in various NZMA initiatives.

I wish you and your families all the  
best for Eid and pray for Allah SWTs  
continued guidance and blessings.

Eid Mubarak.

# About NZMA

## A brief history on the beginnings of NZMA

By Br Umarji Mohammed

The history of NZMA goes back to around 1958, based in a centre located in Hargrave St in Ponsonby. At the time there were no national Muslim organisations in New Zealand. The only existing organisation was one in Wellington consisting of international students. It was therefore called the International Muslims Associations of New Zealand. Naturally NZMA became the de facto national organisation of Muslims of New Zealand, however, its activities were confined to Auckland.

The NZMA structure of that period consisted of Late Haji Abdul Samad Bhikoo (President), Mehmood Bhikoo (Secretary) and Mohammed Moses (Secretary). Late Br Mazhar Kasniqi, who was from former Yugoslavia, was an active member who also served as President of NZMA. He was one of the founding fathers of FIANZ in 1978.

By the late 1960s there were around 20 Muslim families living in Auckland. They mainly consisted of families from Gujrat India, some from former Yugoslavia and a few from Fiji.

There were around 10 Muslim students from Fiji. Some of them were late Brothers Abdul Rahim Rasheed, Abdul Hafiz Rasheed, Ayub Khan, Br Sainik, Br Farook Mohammed. Other Muslim students came from Fiji later. These were late Brs Abbas Ali, Abu Bakr. We had Br Faheem, Abdul Wahab, Br Shaukat Ali. There were some 20 or so Malaysian students also.

A simple wooden house at 33 Pompallier Tce was used as a centre, with the lounge of the house converted to a prayer room. I was approached as a young student to live in this house and give adhan and keep the place occupied clean and tidy. I was also the unofficial interpreter translating the speeches of Maulana Patel who was the Imam then, into English for brothers who did not understand Urdu.

The first regular Jummah commenced around April of 1969 when a Tableegi Jamat from Bombay visited NZ and encouraged locals to begin Jummah.

The centre operated until around 1972. The Government acquired the property for a school, and we were paid a compensation of around \$3,500. We had to move to a new premises and



eventually bought the one at Vermont St, where the present masjid is situated. It was purchased for \$23,000.

The house at Vermont St, had two flats. One was rented out and the rest was converted as prayer rooms. I remember late Br Suleman Ali (son of late Abbas Ali one of the first Fijian Muslim to migrate Zealand), a handy man with carpentry tools, grouped a few of us got together with saw and hammer and converted a few rooms to be used as prayer rooms.

There were about 40 Muslim students at the University of Auckland and Auckland Technical Institute (now called AUT). We had a Muslim Students Association then and we used to pray at one of the rooms allocated to us in the Student Union building in the University.

# NZMA Presidents since 1958

- |                                     |                           |                                      |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Br. Marhum Suliman Ismail Bhikoo | 7. Br. Raheem Rasheed     | 13. Br. Muhammed Sahil               |
| 2. Br. Abdul Samad Bhikoo           | 8. Br. Imtiaz Bhikoo      | 14. Br. Haider Loane                 |
| 3. Br. Ebrahim Bhikoo               | 9. Br. Mehboob Hoosain    | 15. Br. Firoz Patel                  |
| 4. Br. Marhum Nazmi Mehmet          | 10. Br. Haroon al Rasheed | 16. Br. Ikhlq Kashkari (2015-23)     |
| 5. Br. Mazhar Krasniqi              | 11. Br. Mohammed Bashir   | 17. Br. Shameel Sahib (2023-current) |
| 6. Br. Mahmood Bhikoo               | 12. Br. Faiyum Khan       |                                      |

## NZMA today

Through the hard work of our forefathers and a passionate group of volunteers today, NZMA has five masjids operating across Auckland. These are in Ponsonby (the first mosque in NZ), Ranui (one of the newest mosques in NZ), Avondale, Kelston and Birkenhead. We have close to 500 children enrolled at madrasas across the five mosques. The mosques also offer programmes for women, youth, interfaith activity. Our Imaams provide advice and counselling support where they can.

NZMA has been operating a janaza service for many years and is now a registered funeral director.

We provide ghusl facilities at the Ranui and Ponsonby Masjids. The NZMA Janaza Services team works closely with the SAMA janaza team where we need to support each other. The NZMA Janaza Co-ordinator is Tazib Hussain.

NZMA also works closely with government agencies such as the NZ Police, Immigration, Government Security and Communications Bureau (GCSB), and Ethnic Communities Office to speak on behalf of the Muslim community and ensure our voices are reflected in their work.



Al-Rahman Masjid, Ranui

NZMA is one of the founding members of the Federation of Islamic Associations of NZ, and NZMA has four seats on FIANZ's Governing Council.

NZMA also contributes to FIANZ activity in the areas of social cohesion, government relationships, advice to the commercial arm and Waqf and Dawah work. A lot of this work is undertaken by Br Ikhlq Kashkari, Br Ahmed Zainuddin and Br Javed Khan.



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## A message from NZMA Immediate Past President

### Ikhlaq Kashkari

As-Salaam-Alaikum WRBH and Eid Mubarak

Eid-ul-Fitr marks the culmination of a month of fasting, prayer, and reflection. It is a time of joyous celebration, where we come together with family and friends to express our gratitude to Allah for His countless blessings.

It is also a time to remember people of Gaza and those less fortunate and extend a helping hand to those in need.

As I reflect on this blessed occasion, I am filled with gratitude for the opportunity to have served as the President of NZMA for 8 years. It has been a privilege to work alongside our dedicated volunteers who are committed to the betterment of our community and the propagation of our faith.

I am proud of what we have accomplished together, but I know our work is far from over and NZMA under the leadership of Br. Shameel

Sahib is doing an exceptional job. I am confident that our organization will continue to thrive, guided by the principles of faith, unity, and service.

On this joyous occasion, I pray that Allah accepts our fasting, prayers, and good deeds, and blesses us with peace, prosperity, and happiness. Eid Mubarak to you and your loved ones!

Masalaama



## A message from Chairman of NZMA Shura Council

### Javed Khan

Assalamu alaikum warahmatullahe wabarakatahu, dear brothers and sisters.

I pray to Allah subhanahu watallah that your fasting and ibadah during the holy month of Ramadan have had a positive impact on your day to day affairs and lifted your spirits to a much higher level, ameen

The NZMA Shura Council was formed more than 15 years ago when the Constitution of NZMA was amended by a Special General Meeting whereby the Shura was mandated to appoint the president of NZMA and the chairmen of its branches every two years.

Prior to this, the President and the committee members of NZMA and the chairmen and committee members of the branches were appointed through the process of elections. The election process at times was very intense and combative with opposing parties making factions

and polarizing the community into different groups. This was seen to be counterproductive to having a cohesive and united ummah. Over the past years, Shura has played a major role in bringing the community together by consultations and other means prior to appointing the Presidents and the chairmen.

As a united ummah, the branches of NZMA have undertaken many positive actions to improve Masjid facilities and thus making all masjid user friendly and welcoming not only to their members but also to non-Muslims providing Dawah and interfaith dialogue.

It is also to be understood that Shura is the ultimate body for resolution of any dispute where they could not be settled at NZMA or branch levels.

The current members of the Shura Council are:

- Javed Khan - Lawyer and former President of FIANZ
- Abdur Rahman - Quran Hafiz and Lawyer
- Ahmad Zainudin - Entrepreneur
- Mohammed Faiaz - Trade Unionist and former President of NZMA
- Molvi Ramzan Ali - Religious Leader and former Imaam of Ranui Mosque
- Yakub Namazi - Chairman Auckland Co-Op Taxis

On behalf of Shura members, I wish you all a very happy Eid-ul-Fitr. Please do remember our brothers and sisters in Palestine in your duas and give generously towards relief initiatives in Gaza.

Wassalamu alaikum warahmatullahe wabarakatahu



A message from the President of  
Federation of Islamic Associations of New Zealand  
(FIANZ)

## Ibrar Sheikh

Assalaamu Alaikum  
Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh  
(May the peace and blessings of  
Allah be with you)

On behalf of  
the Federation  
of Islamic  
Associations of  
New Zealand  
(FIANZ), I extend  
warm greetings and  
heartfelt wishes  
for a joyous and  
blessed Eid al-Fitr.

As we conclude the holy month  
of Ramadan, let the spirit of  
devotion, reflection, and charity  
that enriched us not only within  
our families and mosques, but  
also throughout our communities,  
continue to flourish. Ramadan  
was a time for profound spiritual  
growth and a testament to the

strength we find in communal  
connection. We fasted together,  
offered prayers together, and  
shared acts of kindness and  
generosity that extended beyond  
our own walls.

As we gather to commemorate  
Eid al-Fitr, let us rejoice in the  
blessings bestowed upon us by  
Allah (SWT). It is a time for us  
to gather with our loved ones  
and communities, breaking our  
fasts with delightful meals and  
exchanging tokens of love and  
goodwill.

As we rejoice in the festivities of  
Eid, let us also remember those  
less fortunate than us and extend a  
helping hand to those in need. Let  
us embody the spirit of generosity  
and compassion that defines our  
faith and strive to make a positive  
difference in the lives of others.

As members of the New Zealand  
Muslim community, we are  
fortunate to be part of a vibrant  
and resilient collective, built upon  
the principles of compassion,  
tolerance, and unity. Let this Eid

serve as a poignant reminder of our  
shared commitment to fostering  
understanding and cooperation  
with all members of our society,  
regardless of background or belief.  
May this celebration strengthen  
the bonds that unite us, making  
our community even more diverse,  
inclusive, and harmonious.

I'd like to extend my appreciation  
to Brother Shameel Sahib and  
his leadership team for their  
invaluable contributions at the  
national level, offering guidance  
and support to both FIANZ and the

Muslim Community. Additionally,  
I want to recognize the members of  
NZMA for their tireless efforts in  
ensuring our Muslim community  
is actively engaged and integrated  
into the broader New Zealand  
society.

Eid Mubarak to you and your loved  
ones! May Allah (SWT) accept our  
fasts, prayers, and acts of charity,  
and may He shower His blessings  
upon us all.



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A message from Chairman Masjid Al-Rahman, Ranui  
and FIANZ Treasurer

## Mohammad Fazal

Assalam walaikum WRWB

As the blessed month of Ramadhan leaves again for another year, I would like to extend on behalf of Masjid Al Rahman (Ranui), Eid Greetings to our Muslim Brothers, Sisters and Children of all communities.

Eid is a very special occasion where our richly diverse Muslim communities celebrate and give thanks for Ramadhan, the blessed month of fasting that we all observed together. Ramadhan is a month of opportunity for us all to get closer to Allah SWT and to remember his message of peace,

justice, compassion, discipline and obedience by reading and listening to the Quran.

It is also a rewarding month of giving charity and doing good deeds. We have seen our Muslim

brothers and sisters donating to charities in great numbers previously and this year much more, especially as we were all moved by the situation in Palestine and the hardships faced by the people of Gaza. May Allah SWT make it easy for them and give them strength to get through this ordeal.

As we celebrate Eid, let us give our prayers of thanks and gratitude to Allah SWT, continue to remember the people in need and keep the spirit of giving and solidarity alive. I would like to convey my warm wishes to everyone on this joyous occasion of Eid.

EID MUBARAK

May Allah SWT accept all your good deeds, grant you and your family happiness, and fill your souls with spiritual joy, hearts with love, and your minds with wisdom.



Ranui Committee



## A message from Chairman Ponsonby Masjid

### Haider Lone

Assalamualaikum warahtullahi warbarakatuh

As the blessed month of Ramadhan draws to a close, we are filled with gratitude for the countless blessings it has brought to our lives. This blessed month witnesses the power of unity, compassion, and devotion as we fasted, prayed, and reflected together as one community.

Ramadhan is not only for fasting but conveys some significant lessons of patience, empathy, kindness, and generosity. I pray to Allah subhanahu wa taala that we all move forward with the same spirit into our daily lives.

Now, we all as one enjoy joyous occasion of Eid, myself and my committee extend our warmest greetings and heartfelt wishes to each one of you. It is indeed a time to celebrate, connect with your loved ones, friendship, forgiveness, and unite as one. Please I ask you all to remember our less fortunate and remember them in your Dua.

I would also like to thank my committee, volunteers, neighbours, and everyone for the sacrifices you all made with Iftar preparation, cleaning and help of any sought during this month, and sincerely would like to apologise for any shortfalls anyone would

have encountered.

My special thanks to Sheik Haroon and Hafiz Bilal once again for leading the taraweeh prayer, as usual the Committee has received countless praises, admiration, and good wishes for the both of you and we all look forward to praying behind you for many years to come. Insha allah.

On behalf of Team Ponsonby, I extend my sincerest wishes for a very joyous Eid to our entire community.

Wishing you all a very happy and prosperous Eid al Fitr.



Ponsonby Committee





A message from the Avondale Islamic Centre Chairman

## Abdul Majeed

As the Chairman of Avondale Islamic Centre, it brings me immense joy to extend heartfelt Eid greetings to each and every one of you.

Eid is a time of celebration, reflection, and gratitude, and it is with great pleasure that we come together to mark this auspicious occasion.

Our journey at Avondale Islamic Centre has been one of resilience, transformation, and unwavering commitment to our faith and community.

Reflecting on our history, we are reminded of the dedication of those who came before us, whose efforts laid the foundation upon

which we stand today. Through their sacrifices and vision, we have

built a place of worship and community that serves not only as a mosque but as a beacon of light and hope for all who seek solace and guidance.

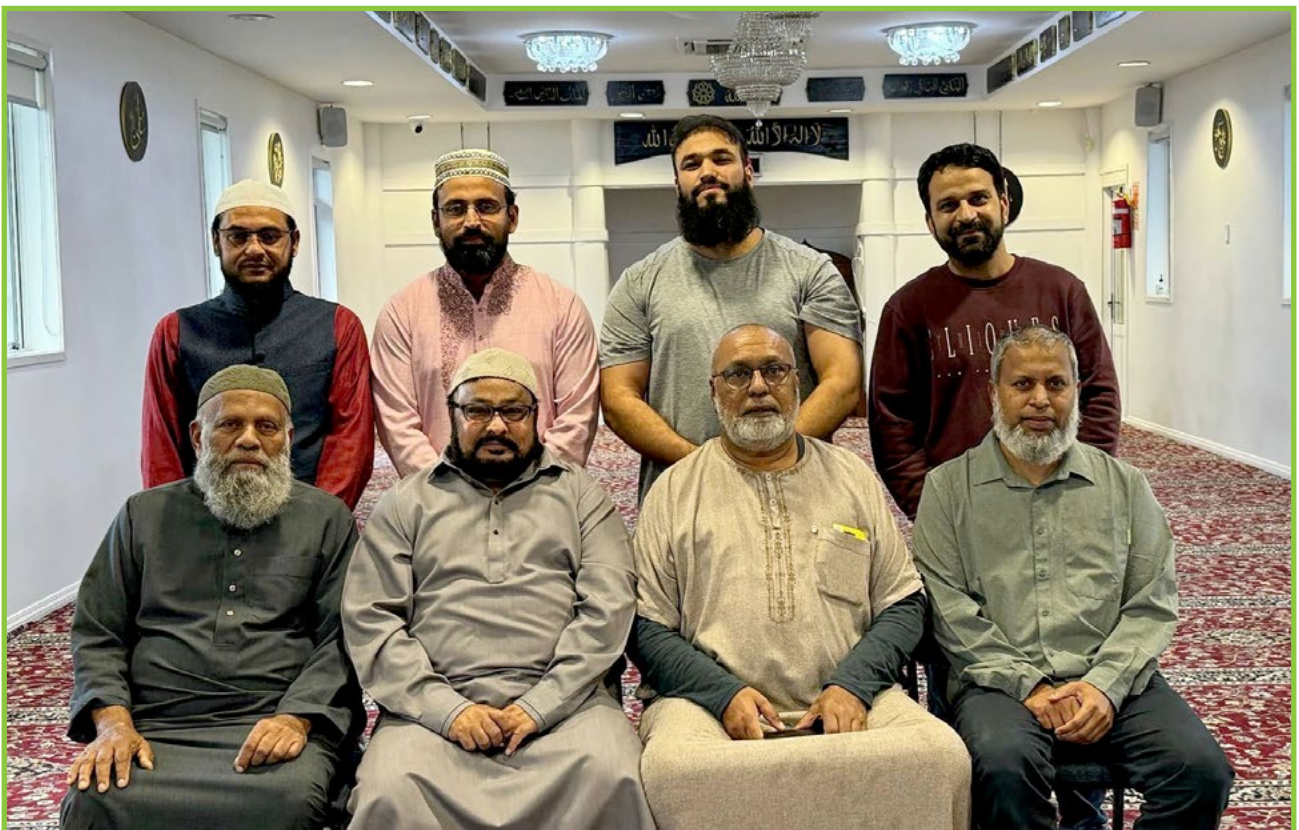
I am immensely grateful for the contributions of each member of our community, past and present, whose tireless efforts have shaped the Avondale Islamic Centre into what it is today. From the restoration of our sacred spaces to the establishment of educational programs and community initiatives, your support and dedication have been instrumental in our journey.

As we come together to celebrate Eid, let us remember the blessings bestowed upon us and the importance of unity, compassion, and gratitude. Let us cherish the moments spent in prayer and reflection and let us reaffirm our commitment to serving humanity with love and kindness. May this

Eid bring you and your loved one's peace, joy, and prosperity.

May your prayers be accepted, and may your hearts be filled with the light of Allah's blessings.

Eid Mubarak!



Avondale Committee



## A message from Kelston Islamic Centre Chairman

### **Mohammed Basir**

Assalam Alaikum and Eid Mubarak

As we gather in celebration and reflection during this auspicious occasion of Eid, I am filled with immense gratitude and humility. On behalf of the Kelston Masjid and its congregation, I extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for your unwavering dedication, commitment, and tireless efforts during the month of Ramadan and making our Eid celebration a resounding success.

To our committee members, I want to recognise your diligence and selflessness. You dedicated countless hours of helping during the month of Ramadan

in coordinating Iftari for our community.

Your devotion to our community exemplifies the true spirit of Islam.

We extend my deepest appreciation to our community members whose unwavering support and active participation during Ramadan will make this Eid celebration truly memorable. Your contributions, whether big or small, have made a significant difference, and for that, the Kelston committee members extends our sincerest thanks.

As we rejoice in the blessings of Eid with our families, let us also not forget our departed brothers and sisters who have paved the way for

us with their dedication and hard work towards our Kelston masjid and community. May Allah grant them the highest place in Jannah.

In closing, I express my profound gratitude to each member of my committee and every member of our community. Your dedication and support are the cornerstone of our masjid, and it is through our collective efforts that we continue to thrive and grow as a community.

Wishing you and your loved ones a joyous Eid Mubarak and may it be filled with peace, blessings, and prosperity.

Walikum Assalm



Kelston Committee



## A message from Birkenhead Islamic Centre Chairman

### Qaiser Rashid

Assalam O Alaikum Wa Remat Ullahi Wa Barakatuhu

On behalf of Birkenhead Islamic Centre (BIC), I like to extend a very happy Eid Mubarak to you and your families.

AlhamduLiLLah, we were blessed with the Holy month of Ramazan and had an opportunity to seek forgiveness from Allah SWT. May Allah SWT accept our fasting and all other Ibadah during the Holy month of Ramazan. May Allah SWT continue to shower its blessings upon all of us and our families always (Ameen).

Eid is not just a day to rejoice, it's a day to reflect, seek forgiveness, and show gratitude to Allah SWT for Allah's countless blessings. Eid is a day to share the happiness with the fellow Muslim brothers, sisters, children, parents, friends, and elders. The day of Eid also provides us with an opportunity to showcase our Muslim traditions and cultures to the non-Muslim communities and present the very best of the examples as a Muslims.

BIC represent a growing Muslim community representing a diaspora of a mix of ethnicities. BIC Madrissa is delivering Quran learning programme to 30 plus children AlhamduLiLLah. The Centre is growing and developing into a place of worship as well as a community hub where Muslims of all gender, ages, and cultures are able to come and perform their prayers and connect with each other.

I like to take this opportunity to thank the members of BIC committee who continue to work selflessly in the path of Allah SWT and continue to serve at BIC only to be rewarded from Allah SWT.

Please join me on this auspicious day in thinking and praying for all Muslims across the globe who are undergoing testing times and continuously giving sacrifices of their lives in the path of Allah SWT. May Allah SWT make it

easier for the Muslims of Palestine (Ameen).

Once again the best of the Eid festivities to all of you and your families.



Birkenhead Committee

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A message from Coordinator of NZMA Janaza Services

## Tazib Ali Hussain

Inna lilahi wa inna ilayhi raji'un  
“Surely we belong to Allah and to him shall we return”

All praise belongs to Allah and may this message find the best of health and the Islamic spirit. The New Zealand Muslim Association Services (NZMA) has been providing the funeral service for the past 40 years. NZMA is a registered funeral director.

NZMA recognizes death as very traumatizing for the bereaved family and its volunteers try its utmost to support the bereaved families.

It has one major cemetery in Manukau Memorial Gardens at present. Alhamdulillah, we have been able to provide services for about 35-45 funerals per year. To cater for the needs for Muslim burials, NZMA is in constant

communication with Auckland Council. Future plots are our major topics for Waikumate and Northshore (Schnapper Rock).

NZMA funeral services has two ghusl facilities in Ponsonby masjid and a newly built masjid in Ranui.

It has all necessary facilities and resources to perform washing (ghusl) and shrouding (kaffan) of the dead body.

The janaza service involves four essential steps:

1. Washing and shrouding
2. The funeral prayer
3. The burial process
4. Registration of death certificate, to Internal Affairs.

NZMA is a charity organization and is managed entirely by volunteers. Our volunteers

maintain the highest standards in providing high quality, professional quality care in accordance with teaching the Ahlus Sunnah Wal jama'ah and are advised by our board of scholars.

I would like to acknowledge and appreciate the time and effort of all the brothers and sisters who are volunteering their services to NZMA funeral, on an ongoing basis. May Allah (SWT) reward us all for the time and effort and may grant Jannah Al Firdous to the Muslims who have left this Dunya.

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## A message from NZMA General Secretary

### Shayaz Khan

Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatulahi Wa Bakaratuhi

All praise is to Allah SWT, the most gracious, The Most Merciful and peace and blessing be upon our beloved Holy Prophet Mohammed (SAW).

I would like to thank Allah SWT for giving me the opportunity to serve our Muslim community as member New Zealand Muslim Association (NZMA) for the last 15 years, of that, General Secretary for the NZMA for the last 10 years.

It is indeed a privilege & Honour

to pass my Eid greetings message through our annual Eid Magazine.

I pray to Allah Subhanahu Wata'ala to accept all our Ibadah and good deeds during this holy month of Ramadan.

Eid-ul-Fitr is a time for joy, gratitude, and celebration. It is a time we come together with family, friends and loved ones.

I would like to pass my heartfelt Thank You to acknowledge all the hard working, dedication and teamwork displayed by the NZMA Executives.

Let's not forget our elders, brothers, and sisters both here and all over the globe going through hardships, pain and suffering, may Allah Subhanahu Wata'ala grant them ease.

For those who are no longer with us, may Allah Subhanahu Wata'ala grant them jannatul firdous.

On this joyous occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr, may Allah Rabbul Ala'meen bless you and your family with joy and fill your home with Love and Peace.

On behalf of the NZMA Team,

“EID MUBARAK”



## A message from NZMA General Treasurer

### Aruf Khan

As Salam Wa Alaikum Wa Rahamatullahi Wa Barakatohu

In the name Allah (swt), the most gracious, the most compassionate and the most merciful, and peace and blessings to our holy prophet Mohammed (saw).

Eid Mubarak to our wonderful and vibrant community all across New Zealand. May this special day bring you joy, peace, and prosperity.

As we gather to celebrate Eid, let us cherish the bonds of community, unity, and diversity that makes us stronger together. May this joyous occasion fill our hearts with compassion, gratitude. and goodwill towards one another.

Let's celebrate the spirit of Eid-

ul-Fitr with love, generosity, and gratitude towards one another.

While we are celebrating Eid in peace in New Zealand, let us not forget our brothers, sisters and children around the world who are not in this privileged position, especially the people of Palestine. In Gaza and West Bank and all throughout the war torn countries in the Middle East. We pray to Allah (swt) to make it easy for them and grant them freedom, safety, basic human rights, and access to essential services, dignity, good health, prosperity and to protect them from all calamities, hardship and prosecution.

I would also like to thank Allah (swt) for giving me the opportunity to serve the Muslim community.

I have been the general treasurer for NZMA since 2019, this is my second stint at the position, and the first was from 1988 to 1997. I have also been the treasurer for the Avondale Islamic Centre from 2011 to 2023. It has been an honor and privilege to work for the house of Allah (swt).

I would like to this opportunity to thank my lovely family, the NZMA executives, the Branch chairmen and delegates for their unwavering support to help me do my job to the best of my ability and in making my work easier.

Wishing you and your loved ones a blessed celebration filled with happiness, togetherness and blessings on this special day.



A message from NZMA Legal Advisor

## Shafraz Khan

In the vibrant tapestry of New Zealand's multicultural landscape, the NZMA stands as a beacon of unity, diversity, and resilience. As we bid farewell to the blessed month of Ramadan and welcome the joyous occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr, we reflect upon the invaluable contributions of NZMA to the Muslim community and society at large.

Founded on the principles of faith, service, and social justice, NZMA has played a pivotal role in advocating for the rights and welfare of Muslims across New Zealand. With a steadfast commitment to fostering interfaith dialogue, promoting cultural understanding, and championing diversity, NZMA has emerged as a leading voice for Muslims in the country.

Throughout the holy month of Ramadan, NZMA has been at the forefront of organizing community events, educational programs, and charitable initiatives that

enrich the spiritual journey of believers and foster a sense of belonging. From hosting iftar gatherings to conducting Quranic recitation sessions, NZMA has created spaces for reflection, prayer, and communal bonding, strengthening the fabric of the Muslim community in New Zealand.

We extend our deepest gratitude to the leadership and members of NZMA for their tireless efforts in promoting unity and inclusivity within the Muslim community and beyond. Their dedication to fostering a culture of peace, tolerance, and mutual respect exemplifies the true essence of Islam and serves as an inspiration to all. Moreover, we commend NZMA for their proactive engagement with government agencies, community organizations, and religious institutions to address issues of discrimination, Islamophobia, and social inequality. By advocating for policies that uphold the

rights and dignity of Muslims,

NZMA continues to be a driving force for positive change in New Zealand's socio-political landscape.

As we celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr, let us reaffirm our commitment to the values of compassion, solidarity, and justice that NZMA embodies. Let us embrace our diversity as a source of strength and unity, transcending barriers of ethnicity, language, and culture to build a more inclusive and harmonious society for future generations.

On behalf of the Muslim community in New Zealand, we extend our warmest wishes to NZMA and its members as we commemorate this joyous occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr. May Allah bless you all for your exemplary leadership, service, and dedication to the betterment of society.

Eid Mubarak!

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A message from the Chairman of NZMA Religious  
Advisory Board

**Br. M Abdur Rahman**

# Learning of Ramadan and Eid-ul Fitr

Chairman NZMA Religious Advisory Board Kamil –(Hadith)-1st class, MM (Mumtazul Muhaddith) – Highest level of Madrasa Education Board in Bangladesh.  
BA (Hons)- Islamic Studies- 1st Class, M.A – Islamic Studies- 1st class first (University of Dhaka- Bangladesh). LL. B- University of London, UK.  
Graduate Diploma in Law – University of Auckland, NZ, BARRISTER & SOLICITOR, Avondale Law, Auckland

## Ramadan -Month of Quran

Ramadan is the month in which the Quran was revealed as a guide for humanity with clear proofs of guidance and the standard 'to distinguish between right and wrong'. So whoever is present this month, let them fast. But whoever is ill or on a journey, then 'let them fast' an equal number of days 'after Ramadân'. Allah intends ease for you, not hardship, so that you may complete the prescribed period and proclaim the greatness of Allah for guiding you, and perhaps you will be grateful. Surah Al – Baqarah (2:185).

Based on this verse this month is month of Quran instead of other. Odd night of the last ten days of Ramadan is better than thousand months due to the Quran not for fasting is observed this time.

## One Ummah

The whole month, there is an air of calm and serenity where people leave behind the sins of the past and try to do good that Allah almighty expects. It is almost like turning over a new leaf. All Muslim observe the fasting all over the globe and it makes and reminds us again that we are One Ummah.

## Police ourselves and Practice self-discipline

Ramadan is intended to be a time of spiritual reflection, self-improvement, and increased worship for Muslim. In the month of Ramadan, we become police of ourself. Everyone becomes polite towards others.

## Spread goodness in Ramadan

Ramadan allows us to feel the pain of those brothers and sisters who live in poverty and cannot afford even the very basic human needs. Such as Palestine now a days a country where siyam is observed without Ifter and Shehri food.

## Health benefit

Fasting in Ramadan including increasing insulin sensitivity and reducing insulin resistance. It has also been shown that there is a significant improvement in 10 years coronary heart disease risk score and other cardiovascular risk factors such as lipids profile, systolic blood pressure, weight, BMI and waist circumference in

subjects with a previous history of cardiovascular disease. The fasting period is usually associated with modest weight loss, but weight can return afterwards.

## Will Power

We are able to overcome the temptation and temptations that surround us. We can't take food or drink, or fulfil desire during fasting even if it is halal in principle but will power understand it is haram until Ifter time. Same things are halal after ifter. It teaches us to control will power in a same way that we should restraint ourselves from all kinds of haram activities.

## Eid-ul-Fitr

The end of the Ramadan fast is celebrated as Eidul Fitr, the "Feast of Fast-Breaking," which is one of the two major religious holidays of the Muslim ummah. In Eidul Fitr we should wake up early, use miswak or tooth brush, perform ghusl and wear our best cloths, recite takbeerat, eat sweet and delicious food, give sadaqatul -fitr before Eid salat, pray Eid prayers at the prayer ground and change the walk way.



## A message from NZMA Coordinator for Interfaith and Social Cohesion

### Imraan Hussein

Assalamwalaikum WRB

It has been an absolute honour to serve the New Zealand Muslim Association (NZMA) for the past several months. I have been part of the Ranui Masjid since 2007 and I am very humbled to have gotten a chance to serve our community. Our NZMA team involves a group of well-learned and passionate people who feel genuine responsibility towards our community and I am thrilled to be a part of such a team.

My current role involves, but is not limited to Ethnic Communities and Government liaisons but along with this comes an important role of Social Cohesion. Living in a Western country, there are many

things that we as the Muslim community must do to keep in par with the wider community and my role defines this aspect.

So far I have been representing NZMA on various platforms so that our people have a voice, an example of this would be Police, ethnic, and religious forums. Additionally, I am also involved in other aspects, for example, Fiji wheelchair distribution, and aid to Palestine.

My role does not come with limitations, therefore in whatever way I am able to assist, I definitely try to do so. What is important is that along the way we all learn from each other while contributing our efforts towards our community.

At NZMA, we work as a team to ensure the betterment of our community. We have our community at heart and are proactive in our approach. Whilst, looking out for one another, we also look out for the benefit of our community. In having said that, I personally and on behalf of the entire NZMA team

would like to express my gratitude and sincere heartfelt thanks to each and everyone for their support.

Inshallah, I will continue to serve the community with utmost sincerity.



## A message from National Partnerships Manager – Ethnic, NZ Police

### Yumi Nguyen



As-salamu alaykum,

Eid Mubarak on behalf of New Zealand Police. We wish you good health and blessings during this special and significant occasion, marking the end of Ramadan.

New Zealand Police acknowledge the recent fifth anniversary of the 2019 Christchurch Mosque attacks and the impact of the events that remain today, especially with the shuhada families. We are committed to keeping all

communities safe, including ensuring that our services are equitable and inclusive of religious practices and catering to the needs of our multicultural society.

We are proud to say that we employ a number of Muslim staff members both constabulary and Police employees (non-constabulary), and we actively work to share their stories and experiences across the organisation to allow a greater shared understanding of Islam and Muslim practices. We hope to

continue increasing our numbers and ethnic representation across all levels of Police, from the many diverse communities that call Aotearoa New Zealand home.

We hope you enjoy your celebration and time with loved ones.

Wishing you a happy, healthy and safe year ahead.

Ngā mihi

# NZMA 2023 EID EVENT

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# IFTAR AT NZMA MASJIDS



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## Team Ranui for winning FIANZ sponsored Unity Cup



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# KEY MEETINGS



Vice President of Indonesia and his delegation of 80 people praying Jumaah at Ponsonby mosque.



Ambassador from Saudi Arabia at the FIANZ Quran Competition in Avondale Islamic Centre.



NZMA Executive meeting in progress.



Palestinian Ambassador meeting with FIANZ President Br Ibraar Sheikh and Ranui Masjid Chairman Br M. Fazal.



Interfaith event hosting school students at our masjid.



NZMA and FIANZ executives hosted by Fiji Muslim League.



# Question and Answer Session



with the New General Manager of FIANZ

## Q: What does FIANZ's Halal business do:

A: FIANZ Halal was established to provide certification services to halal-certified meat plants and other halal providers in New Zealand. FIANZ Halal is fulfilling all its legal and Islamic requirements as a Muslim entity and we ensure we have sufficient Halal Technical Auditors, Halal Islamic Affairs Experts, Religious Advisors and Representatives for the Halal audit, review, and decisions. FIANZ Halal also provides Halal training for new Slaughterman.

## Q: How much it costs to certify retail outlets

A: Dependant on size the of the business or premises, our fees are starting from \$200 - \$350 per annum for restaurants and takeaways.

## Q: What's the process if I have a business that needs to be certified?

A: Firstly, fill out an application form, which you can find on [www.fianz.com](http://www.fianz.com) or email us on [info@fianz.com](mailto:info@fianz.com). Our Quality Assurance teams will then review and check all applications and if all is compliant, we will then send a technical auditor to audit the premises. This will be followed up with regular surveillance audits to ensure halal integrity is maintained. Usually for restaurants and eateries if all the information is filled out correctly and premises is compliant, then certificates can be turned around in 5 working days.

## Q: How many other halal bodies are in NZ

A: FIANZ is only one of three approved Halal Organizations in NZ registered with Ministry of Primary Industries, (MPI) – Which allows for Halal Meat Exports, Dairy, Poultry, Processed Foods, pharmaceuticals etc to overseas markets.

## Q: How frequently does an auditor visit a site?

A: Please see frequency of visit by business type:

1. Meat Plants we are visiting monthly.
2. Dairy we are visiting once every quarter.
3. Food processing businesses we are visiting 1-3 times per year.
4. Restaurants/takeaways we are visiting once a year but will increase if we see higher risk customers. We also conduct random audits too.

## Q: How is machine slaughtering of chicken halal?

A: Firstly, Machine Slaughter is nothing new and it has existed in many countries around the world including Muslim countries.

## The conditions of Islamic Slaughter are as follows:

1. Slaughterer must be done by a practising Muslim
2. Intention must be present for the specific slaughtering
3. Animal must be alive
4. The Tasmiyyah (Slaughtering in the name of Allah) must be mentioned
5. Severing at least 2 of the 4 ventricles

It is important to understand the difference in methods is a matter of Ikhtilaaf (difference of opinion amongst the Jurists) – Majority view is slaughter of the animal with mechanical aid is permissible, so long as all the conditions for slaughter are met.

Alhamdulillah currently, our consumers in NZ have access to both Hand Slaughter (Best Bird & Brinks) and Machine Slaughter (Ingham), which is both Halal certified by FIANZ.



**On behalf of the FIANZ Halal Team, we want to wish you all a very happy and prosperous Eid-UI-Fitr.**

# Islamic Cultural And Dawah Centre

463 Porchester Rd, Takanini, Auckland

## A PROJECT OF FIANZ

FIANZ is undertaking a significant development project in Takanini, Auckland which, once completed will be a multi-purpose cultural and dawah centre.

Artists impression of the development is shown below.

The 10 acre site was purchased in 2013 with a view to establish an Islamic, Cultural and Dawah Centre to serve the Muslims of New Zealand.

It is an iconic project and once completed will have a masjid/dawah centre, early child care

centre, school, playing field, swimming pool and residential units.

The masjid/dawah centre building will have a small Islamic Museum and library and will have facilities for new Muslims to learn about Islam in their future journey. This will be provided through short courses on Islam conducted by Ulemas. The participants will be housed in the residential unit during the course.

The early child care centre and school will be the educational hub

for the Muslim Community.

The playing field and the swimming pool will provide sporting facilities of our own for the youth and the others.

We have obtained Resource Consent from the Auckland Council for the above Centre. The earthworks, drainage, playing field and the 6 residential units have now been completed.

The next building is the masjid/dawah centre.





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## Community events



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