



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**Embassy of Sri Lanka
The High Commissioner
H.E. ms RP Marks
410 Alexander Street
Brooklyn
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Pretoria**

Email: slhc@srilanka.co.za

30 December 2020

Dear H.E. Ms RP Marks

Universal Greetings of Peace.

I hope and pray that the High Commissioner, HE ms Marks are in good health.

The AL JAMA-AH party has received several inquiries from the South African Muslim community to verify with the Sri Lanka Embassy whether the bodies of Muslims who have died of Covid-19 are being forcefully cremated.

These concerns followed the distribution of very disturbing video clips on social media by human rights activists in Sri Lanka exposing your government's regulations that bodies of Covid-19 victims be cremated.

As your H.E. is aware that Islam forbids the cremation of Muslim bodies. Should what the video clips reveal be based on truth, it is however, disappointing that your current legislation is disregarding the human rights of Muslims in your country.

I would appreciate if you could provide me with clarity on this matter as my party intends to raise it in Parliament.

I trust H.E. will respond as soon as possible as the matter is urgent.

Yours sincerely

**Honourable M.G.E. Hendricks
AL JAMA-AH Member of Parliament**