

PRESS RELEASE **NO EMBARGO**

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Climate, Food & Solidarity: Al Jama-ah Commemorates Nelson Mandela International Day

In commemoration of Mandela Day on 18 July 2023, Al Jama-ah's leader and Member of Parliament Hon Ganief Hendricks spent his 67 minutes discussing Muslim Personal Law with Sheikhs and Imams of the Majlisush Shura Al-Islami in Newfields, Cape Town.

Hendricks describes the meeting as 'having an exciting outcome" and will submit a bill prepared by Majlisush proposing a Shariah Court, to Parliament.

Expressing concerns over the negative impact of climate change, Al Jama-ah calls on government to adopt a more pro-active stance to deal with climate change; natural events that cause severe negative impacts in various sectors of the economy such as, agriculture, fisheries, infrastructure, and other fields.

This loss of revenue hits everyone hard, and more so for the poor of the poorest. Research into climate change and its negative impact, recognises the need for urgent action to prevent South Africa losing 5.03% of its GDP (Gross Domestic Product) by 2050.

As a practical solution, AL JAMA-AH calls on government to take radical action by looking at the policy of its framework to stop Illicit Financial Flows from South Africa. "Illicit Financial Flows cause poverty, not only in South Africa, but throughout Africa. Stopping IFF is one of several steps to secure food security in the face of climate change," says the party's leader Hon Ganief Hendricks.

AL JAMA-AH further calls on government to honour President Nelson Mandela's legacy by boycotting apartheid Israel. "Israeli occupation of Palestine causes loss of land; economic hardships; food insecurity and unemployment. Palestinians not only have to deal with the harsh realities of climate change, but also the negative impact the illegal occupation of their land has on the economy of Palestine," says Hendricks.

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