



**PRESS RELEASE
NO EMBARGO**

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AL JAMA-AH wishes Muslims well over the month of Ramadan and says the plight of the oppressed, destitute, and victims of genocide should be remembered more than any other time of the year:

Al Jama-ah Party welcomes the most revered month on the Islamic calendar, Ramadan; the month in which the Qur'an, as a guidance to mankind, was revealed.

The party is leading a worldwide campaign to have the US expelled from the UN in terms of the UN Charter Article 6 and with the fervent hope that Netanyahu and each member of his war cabinet will be apprehended for their crimes against humanity; it demands that such requests must be supported throughout this sacred month of Ramadan.

During this month, we not only spend our time fasting (without eating or drinking during the day), giving to charity to those in need, engaging in more prayers for spiritual development, but striving hard to increase our consciousness of the plight of the oppressed, destitute, and homeless as well as the poverty-stricken communities throughout the world. We especially draw everyone's attention to the Gazans' difficulties in Palestine where the Zionist war criminals – backed by the complicit USA army – have carried and continue purposely carry out despicable acts of genocide.

As we enter this sacred month, we should remember that more than two million Gazans geographically trapped living without water, food, electricity; so, when we gather with our families, do remember them in our gatherings. At suhoor and during our prayers, we should think of their dire circumstances in which thousands of them have been killed.

We should also keep in mind those who are still alive suffering while been covered by the rubble of bombed and destroyed homes and mosques. In Gaza, surviving families have lost several loved ones in one sweep; and, to date, there is no Gazan family without a martyr! Let us stress that in Gaza numerous mosques have been flattened and as a result the Gazans are unable to hold their regular Taraweeh salaah (prayers); the callous and animal orientated Zionists deliberately bombed these mosques as well as various other institutions that could have acted as convenient shelters.

We should also remember the displaced Congolese people's predicament because of extremely imposed civil war; the persecuted Kashmiris whose movement have been





forcefully controlled by the occupying Indian forces, and the RIFF Republic and Western Saharan valiant struggles against Morocco's occupation of their land.

Whilst we express our dismay, horror, and solidarity with Palestinians, who are still being crucified, we are as much concerned about the socio-economic conditions of our people in South Africa; so far, many of our communities have suffered not only because of electricity outages, water shortages, and drought in certain parts of the country but also because of, among others, poverty, and malnutrition.

Al Jama-ah reminds South Africa's Muslims that since elections shape the future of a country, each voter should take the elections seriously. When anyone casts his/her vote, it should be done responsibly; in other words, penciling in one's cross should result in getting into power the party that carries out willingly its manifesto promises. Currently, we have parties that are corrupt and use the system to perpetuate their activities legally and then there are parties that are fully funded by the Zionists. Anyone who conveniently describes him/herself as apolitical should be questioned for no one can claim to adopt an apolitical stance when water issues affect him/her like it does each citizen. Now, should one refuse to vote then that can be seen as apathetic response to the current socio-economic conditions that prevail in our beloved country.

We cannot continue to remain the 'ghost' voices against corruption, crime, loadshedding and a broken service delivery system. As Muslims, we are compelled by the Almighty to remedy the situation by replacing immoral values and an unjust system with a moral and just one.

In this regard, if we should fail to exercise our right to vote in order to bring about fundamental and meaningful changes in our country, but we will also be unsuccessful in stopping the Zionists massacre in Palestine, and the unlawful occupation of both Kashmir and Western Sahara respectively.

So, when we fast think of others: our neighbours and our communities within our borders, and or those far beyond our borders. All of us should reach out to anyone who is poor and needy for afterall we are all part of the human race; no one should be left out or left behind!

Al Jama-ah's Beitul Maal office in Lansdowne, Western Cape, has launched a massive drive to feed orphans during Ramadan. The office is at 54 Lansdowne Road (entrance next to the Sh Abdu Rauf Mosque), Lansdowne and the hotline number is: 021-0234425.

RAMADAN KAREEM TO EVERYONE!

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