

muslimfund.org.au

Muslim Community Fund



Vision

The Muslim Community Fund aims to preserve the Islamic identity and maintain the integrity of Australian Muslims in the present and in generations to come through funds and services on all fronts and levels that will contribute towards the general and best interests of the Australian Muslim community.

Background

As the Muslim community continues to grow in population and increase its representation across society, there is a need to plan to accommodate these changes and for the needs of the Muslim community. A strategy for creating a Muslim Community Fund is integral to its evolving nature and for the many future generations to come. Australian Muslims are resilient, creative and productive citizens.



Overview

The Muslim Community Fund is a fund that will concentrate on collecting funds, donations, and contributions that will be invested in the general benefit and the greater good of the interests of the Australian Muslim community in all states and territories. We will be a fund established by the Australian Muslim community, owned by the Australian Muslim community, and no specific organisation or individual. We aim to preserve the Islamic identity and maintain the integrity of

Australian Muslims in the present and in generations to come. We also aim to advocate on all fronts and levels for the best interests of the Australian Muslim community. The fund's objective is to support services, programs, and initiatives in which the general and greater benefits of those services will go back to the entire Australian Muslim community without focusing or discriminating against any specific ethnicity, cultural background, or people.

Objectives & Services

The objectives and services that the Muslim Community Fund will provide and focus on are:

1.

Provide a **clear and manifested education program on different levels** that will embed the true understanding of Islam in a manner that corresponds with the Australian-born Muslim generation.

2.

Provide **tools and materials** that will address the challenges confronting Australian Muslims

3.

Arrange **ongoing awareness campaign addressing key issues** relating to understanding Islam and countering the misconceived narrative of Islam and Muslims.

4.

Provide **education and research**, which will provide workable solutions that can help preserve the Islamic identity in the Australian context.

5.

Provide **mentorship and leadership programs** that will produce future Muslim leaders in different domains and fields. Including, Imams, professionals, intellectuals, people in business and decision makers, as well as Muslim Women.

6.

Provide **Muslim Chaplaincy services** in different departments and areas such as corrections, hospitals, Juvenile Detention Centers, Universities, Schools, Airports, and others.

7.

Provide **Scripture services in the Islamic education sector**, with a specific focus on providing Islamic related instruction in public schools through various approved programs.

8.

Provide **engagements, outreach and awareness campaigns** to enhance Australian Muslims relationships with the broader Australian community, by promoting the true understanding of Islam and Muslims.

9.

Increase **presence on various digital platforms** to voice Muslim community's concerns in the public and administrative spheres.

10.

Hold **national workshops** to equip mosques and Islamic organisations with the tools and skills to engage with local stakeholders.

11.

Political advocacy and engagements in influencing key decision-makers in Government, media, and civil society on issues of most concern to Australian Muslims in order to protect and advance the welfare of Australia's diverse Muslim community.

1. To **encourage political awareness and engagement within the Muslim community**, including grassroots campaigning and involvement with political parties.
2. To **mobilise the Muslim community during future elections** at local, state and federal levels to magnify the Muslim voice.
3. To **make submissions in response to Government and parliamentary community consultations** and inquiries relevant to the welfare and future of the Muslim community.
4. To **host roundtable discussions with different political parties and departments** and address policies and issues pertaining to the Muslim community on a state and national level.
5. To **conduct national workshops** with key Muslim organisations and Muslim leaders on political advocacy and lobbying.

12.

Fund legal action and litigation that meet our objectives and outcomes.

13.

Hold community Eid and Iftar events to create better awareness, understanding and engagement through annual Islamic festivals that bring the Muslim community and the broader Australian community together to celebrate Muslim's important events throughout the year.

14.

To **hold National Summits and Conferences and bring together Members and delegates** from the Prominent Australian Muslim organisations, centres, leaders, academics and experts who are invited to discuss core issues faced in the Australian Muslim community and the future of Islam in Australia, and network the community and connect them together and create a platform for discussion and collaboration of Australian Muslims.

15.

To **manage the concerns of the community security and safety and to assist and advise the Muslim community** on security and emergency management programs and policies. This includes, design and implement a national security strategy, undertake protective security reviews for Muslim organisations, centres, public places of worship and major events, Prepare security solution proposals to take advantage of government grants, Conduct safety and security awareness workshops and seminars, Provide a central point of contact for State and Federal Authorities for the safety and security of Muslim organisations and their venues in Australia.

TABLE 8. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION BY STATE AND TERRITORY Count of persons(a)

Islam in Australia

Islam in Australia is a minority religious affiliation. However, the majority of Australian Muslims are born and raised in Australia. According to the 2021 Census in Australia, the combined number of people who self-identified as Muslims in Australia, from all forms of Islam, constituted 813,392 people, or 3.2% of the total Australian population. That total Muslim population makes Islam the second largest religious grouping in Australia in all its denominations and sects.

Demographers attribute Muslim community growth trends during the most recent census period to relatively high birth rates, and recent immigration patterns. This means that the Muslim community in Australia is a fast-growing young community and requires many needs and services concurrent with this young community's rapid growth, Muslims require culturally responsive needs and services.

Overview of the Muslim Population

State/Territory	Total Population	Muslim Population	% of Total Population	% of Muslim Population living in each state
New South Wales	8,072,163	349,240	4.3%	43%
Victoria	6,503,491	273,028	4.2%	33.6%
Western Australia	2,660,026	66,764	2.5%	8.2%
Queensland	5,156,138	60,381	1.2%	7.4%
South Australia	1,781,516	40,302	2.3%	5%
Australian Capital Territory	454,499	14,613	3.2%	1.8%
Tasmania	557,571	4,947	0.9%	0.6%
Northern Territory	232,605	3,351	1.4%	0.4%
Australia	25,418,009	813,392	3.2%	100%

According to the 2021 Census, 813,392 Muslims live in Australia. 76% of the Muslim Community live in the state of NSW and VIC.)

- Approximately, **3.2% of the total Australian population are Muslims**. Islam is the second largest religion in Australia after Christianity, followed by Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism and Judaism.
- In 2016 Census, **Muslims in Australia were 684,002 people** or 2.7% of the population. Islam has grown to 813,392 people, which is 3.2% of the Australian population. An increase of 34% in 5 years.
- 62% of Australian Muslims are under the age of 35, and 79% are under the age of 45.

	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Total(b)
Buddhism	222,770	204,493	73,697	33,788	57,622	5,605	4,883	12,696	615,823
Christianity:									
Christianity, nfd	93,728	1 165,634	159,948	47,112	89,919	13,986	7,395	10,642	688,440
Anglican	960,305	25,007	4 581,373	127,970	269,583	80,380	13,930	37,141	2,496,273
Baptist	93,624	82,044	86,876	26,226	42,600	6,518	5,490	3,911	347,334
Brethren	7,150	4,162	3,070	783	1,839	1,210	7	39	18,258
Catholic	1,807,730	1,335,784	961,469	275,849	496,847	71,045	39,208	87,566	5,075,907
Churches of Christ	5,452	10,302	7,902	3,826	7,245	786	184	236	35,928
Jehovah's Witnesses	23,388	15,515	24,840	6,033	11,136	2,220	507	750	84,405
Latter-day Saints	14,893	11,457	20,192	2,794	5,951	1,340	549	696	57,868
Lutheran	17,185	23,101	47,515	43,305	6,315	1,099	5,350	1,999	145,868
Oriental Orthodox	30,798	19,067	4,228	2,002	3,327	287	203	862	60,774
Assyrian Apostolic	15,259	3,719	94	10	40	4	0	10	19,141
Eastern Orthodox	202,018	216,791	35,371	42,689	25,006	2,409	4,400	6,778	535,470
Presbyterian and Reformed	153,481	88,797	108,664	13,041	34,549	8,240	1,831	6,243	414,882
Salvation Army	11,080	7,517	8,989	2,930	3,035	1,077	206	512	35,356
Seventh-day Adventist	22,729	10,923	17,268	2,952	7,036	1,154	814	752	63,662
Uniting Church	172,132	156,166	186,373	84,797	42,526	14,447	8,636	8,005	673,260
Pentecostal	71,624	54,490	69,900	20,248	27,463	4,804	3,062	4,219	255,838
Other Protestant	35,586	22,934	24,387	6,357	16,220	2,259	2,199	2,532	112,474
Other Christian	6,284	4,345	8,944	3,903	3,029	683	175	323	27,679
Total	3,844,453	2,657,748	2,357,398	712,815	1,093,666	213,933	94,142	173,227	11,148,814
Hinduism	273,780	214,058	69,520	38,105	52,055	9,724	6,236	20,505	684,002
Islam	349,240	273,028	60,381	40,302	66,764	4,947	3,351	14,613	813,392
Judaism	40,249	46,645	4,815	1,145	5,669	376	163	886	99,956
Other Religions:									
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	1,422	389	979	447	1,096	47	3,437	54	7,887
Baha'i	4,686	3,335	2,531	1,520	2,373	177	83	228	14,937
Chinese Religions	2,165	1,897	1,495	326	640	150	140	131	6,952
Druse	1,346	1,301	286	1,259	77	0	0	11	4,268
Japanese Religions	549	404	440	92	199	44	21	108	1,864
Nature Religions	8,565	7,583	8,705	2,719	3,556	1,109	285	628	33,148
Sikhism	47,165	91,745	27,713	17,259	18,583	2,208	1,401	4,323	210,400
Spiritualism	2,386	1,851	2,384	678	1,251	129	42	157	8,879
Miscellaneous Religions	18,923	6,797	5,906	1,762	2,562	548	152	426	37,086
Total	87,200	115,311	50,437	26,060	30,338	4,413	5,563	6,068	325,421
Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious Affiliation									
Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious	59	66	28	10	18	5	0	7	183
No Religion, so described	2,644,165	2,523,448	2,099,765	806,165	1,130,094	276,330	88,555	197,622	9,767,448
Secular Beliefs	22,164	18,994	15,022	5,490	7,387	1,722	515	2,240	73,548
Other Spiritual Beliefs	13,392	11,213	10,646	3,609	4,721	938	429	824	45,784
Total	2,679,783	2,553,723	2,125,462	815,275	1,142,220	278,999	89,499	200,696	9,886,957
Inadequately described	26,348	25,610	21,724	6,835	11,474	2,119	1,142	2,105	97,376
Not stated	548,340	412,883	392,694	107,189	200,210	37,450	27,631	23,697	1,751,052
Total	8,072,163	6,503,491	5,156,138	1,781,516	2,660,026	557,571	232,605	454,499	25,422,788

This table is based on place of usual residence.

(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Total includes Other Territories. Other Territories include Norfolk Island, Jervis Bay Territory, the Territory of Christmas Island and the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Island, but does not include any other external territory. Please note that there are small random adjustments made to all cell values to protect the confidentiality of data. These adjustments may cause the sum of rows or columns to differ by small amounts from table totals.

© Commonwealth of Australia 202

Operational Structure

The structure of Muslim Community Fund is as follows:

Members

The Muslim Community Fund will have two members:

- Australian National Imams Council (ANIC)
- Alliance of Australian Muslims (AAM)



ALLIANCE
OF AUSTRALIAN MUSLIMS

Directors

The Muslim Community Fund will have minimum 7 directors:

- 2 nominated by ANIC
- 2 nominated by AAM
- 3 from the general public



Executive Team

Below is the proposed department of the organisation. The management will recruit suitable staff as per the organisation requirement.

Also, the structure will be updated while developing the organisation.

- General Manager
- Program Management
- Fundraising and Management
- Public Relations and Marketing
- Administrative and Finance
- Human Resource Management

This position will be filled with well experienced and learned individuals who understand and are ready to align with Muslim Community Fund's vision and to achieve its goals.



We are committed to serving the needs of the Australian Muslim community and are open to all feedback and queries.



@muslimfundaustalia
muslimfund.org.au