



AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL IMAMS COUNCIL



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Islam's Clear Position on Homosexuality

Recently, a man claiming to be an Imam appeared on Australian TV and news programmes, providing his commentary on some significant, core topics in Islam.

The Australian National Imams Council (ANIC) strongly believes in the freedom of speech and the right of people to freely act in this country without compulsion or violence. In addition, ANIC also believes in a constructive dialogue and the right to express religious views. Therefore, it is ANIC's moral and religious obligation to address sensitive topics for the purpose of fulfilling their scholarly duty, trust with Allah (God) and preserving the Islamic identity that was revealed to us through the Quran and Sunnah.

ANIC affirms that the Quran has been very clear on important and core matters in Islam, and from amongst these topics is the practice of homosexuality. It has been recently claimed that there is nothing in the Quran that clearly states the Islamic position on the practice of homosexuality. This claim is utterly untrue and falsified.

Islam's position on homosexuality has always been clear and perspicuous from the time of the revelation of the Quran to our Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him), 1,400 years ago, to this very day. The Islamic perspective is also consistent with Judaic and Biblical perspectives as stipulated in the holy scriptures.

From the Islamic standpoint, homosexuality is a forbidden action; a major sin and anyone who partakes in it is considered a disobedient servant to Allah that will acquire His displeasure and disapproval. This is clearly stated in the three main sources of the Shariah: The Quran, the Sunnah, and the consensus of all scholars, which extends from the time of the Prophet till today. There has never been any debate or discussion regarding this viewpoint amongst the scholars, past or present, simply because the matter was always comprehensive and immutable. ANIC, representing over 200 Imams from across Australia, strongly rejects any claim that the ruling of the practice of homosexuality is not clear in the Quran. This stems from absolute ignorance of Islam and its principles.



It is clearly stated in the Holy Quran:

“And (remember) Lut (Lot), when he said to his people: ‘Do you commit the worst sin such as none preceding you has committed in the ‘Aalameen (mankind and jinn)?

Verily, you practise your lusts on men instead of women. Nay, but you are a people transgressing beyond bounds (by committing great sins)”

[al-A’raaf 7:80-81]

It is very clearly mentioned in this verse that the people of Lut were engaging in homosexuality and it was a manifest sin. Many other verses imply the same meaning and verdict without any disagreement or discrepancy on the matter.

From the Sunnah (The Prophetic Tradition) we find:

It was narrated that Ibn ‘Abbaas said: “The Prophet (peace and blessings upon him) said “cursed is the one who does the action of the people of Lut.” (Narrated by Ahmad, 1878.).

Once again, the Hadith is very explicit and comprehensible in its meaning and many more similar Hadiths can be found to support this ruling.

The consensus of the scholars:

From the time of the Prophet until now, all scholars of every time and era, have agreed that the practice of homosexuality is a forbidden act and a sin in Islam.

In conclusion, there is no doubt in Islam that homosexuality is a major sin which Allah does not permit nor will He be pleased by those who practice it. For anyone who claims otherwise, this will be considered an explicit distortion of the accurate and true teachings of Islam.

The Australian National Imams Council would also like to emphasize that this man who claims to be an Imam and recently appeared on Australian television, is not recognized as an Imam by the Australian National Imams Council nor the mainstream Muslim community.

Islam invites any Muslims who are engaging in any sin to sincerely repent to Allah and ask for His forgiveness with the great hope that Allah is oft-merciful, ever-forgiving. ANIC counsels anyone who is practicing this sin to seek religious and spiritual advice from their local Imam. ANIC also warns the Muslim community from seeking any religious advice from non-qualified and non-mainstream Imams or Muslim individuals.

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