



**AUSTRALIAN
INTERNATIONAL
ISLAMIC COLLEGE**

Darwin Campus Launch

Welcoming address

Presented by

The National Grand Mufti of Australia

His Eminence Sheikh Abdul Quddoos Al Azhari

2 October 2021

Darwin - Australia

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

In the name of Allah the beneficent the merciful

الحمد لله رب العالمين والصلاة والسلام على أشرف الأنبياء والمرسلين

In the name of Allah the beneficent the merciful

Praise be to Allah, the Lord of the universe, peace and blessing of Allah upon our beloved Nabi, Muhammed (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasalam)

I acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand and I pay my respect to the elders past, present and emerging.

Honourable Deputy Mayor Madam speaker, Northern Territory Government Ms Ngaree AhKit, Deputy Mayor of Darwin Alderman Brian O’Gallagher, Assistant Minister for Education Mr Mark Monaghan, Local Councillor member Mr Vim Sharmar, Honourable Dr Rateb Jneid President of Australian Federation of Islamic Council, the Chairman of Islamic Society of Darwin Brother Shakeel Ahmed, the Chairman and members of Palmerston Islamic Society, respected parents, dear brothers and sisters and future students.

Assalamu Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuhu

On behalf of Australian International Islamic College, AFIC , the Islamic Society of Darwin and the Islamic Society of Palmerston it gives me great pleasure and honour to welcome you all and thank you for your valuable time for gracing this occasion with your presence.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank the Honourable Nicole Mansion, Deputy Chief Minister and Honourable Eva Lawler the Minister for Infrastructure, for their help, assistance and guidance for the establishment of the first Islamic school in Darwin.

Today is an important event and historical milestone and that is the launch of the Islamic school in Darwin.

It is with great honour and pleasure to inform you that on the 6 of September 2021 the registrar of Non-Government Schools in Northern Territory Ms Aderyn Chatterton officially approved the AIC Darwin Campus.

We are also grateful to the management of Urban Planning under the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistic for their help and assistance in the facilitation of the school development.

Australian International Islamic College was established in 2002 at Woolloongabba in Brisbane with 20 students and then expanded to Durack in 2005 due to the response and rapid growth of enrollment.

In 2010, it also extended to Gold Coast and in 2020; we have established our fourth campus at Logan.

AIC offers a comprehensive Australian curriculum and syllabus from Kindergarten to year 12 across all four campuses.

AIC is registered and funded by both State and Federal Governments.

Today is a very important day for us, a fifth campus here in Darwin will be commencing in 2022 academic year Insha Allah.

AIC aims to provide 2000 strong Territorian Muslims who would like to educate their children in a caring, safe and Islamic environment where they can connect with their cultural and religious roots so that they can thrive and contribute to the territory and Australia positively by fulfilling the AIC's motto, 'Excellence in education, character and service'.

We do not consider ourselves as a traditional school, rather we consider ourselves as a strong community partner that forge a strong relationship with neighbours, other organisations, councils and government agencies.

We have also developed sister school participation with several schools in Indonesia, Malaysia and United Arab Emirates in order to attract International students to study at our school and enrol in Australian universities after their graduation.

AIIC Darwin proposes to establish and to focus on primary school, which will eventually cater up to Year 12. Our vision is to become an institution of choice to educate students to become model citizens with a greater level of academic excellence and Islamic values.

At Australian International Islamic College all, our teachers are fully qualified and registered with the education department. We will shortly be advertising and appointing suitable staff for our Darwin Campus Insha Allah.

Honourable minsters, members of parliament and community leaders, dear parents and future students, I would like to welcome you all to this important event of the establishment of the first Islamic school in Darwin.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact our representatives who will be very happy to provide you with all the necessary information.

Thank you very much Jazak Allah Khair.

Please enjoy the rest of the program.

Walaikum Assalamu Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuhu