

## United Sri Lankan Muslim Association of Australia







# Vote of Thanks - Iftar two - 2021







Aak dear members,

USMAA had its second iftar yesterday and we were very fortunate to have bro Fadil Fachni (ex-Isomer Mosque Imam) not only conduct prayers, but also perform Salatul Gha'ib for the father (Hafiz Al Haj Ibralebbe) of one of our USMAA members. As usual, our ex-President bro Nazeem rolled up his sleeves to cook us a delicious meal and did so with a bunch of volunteers who actually 'walked the talk". USMAA thanks all of the below:

- 1. Bro Nazeem and family
- 2. Bro Babudeen
- 3. Bro Bilal
- 4. Sis Safiya
- 5. Sis Thameena and bro Arshard
- 6. Brothers Raashid and Thaaqib
- 7. Sis Mumtaz
- 8. Bro Nazar
- 9. Bro Fazal

#### **USMAA** etiquette at events

All attendees are kindly reminded to follow the program of the day, including finding the way to the very elusive garbage bin to dispose off their used disposables (e.g. empty faluda, congee containers and left-over rice)

I do not like using this word, but it felt like some of us were very uncouth yesterday. The MC and the volunteers had been at the hall since 10.30 am, cooking, cleaning, preparing and setting up, but it was quite remarkable as how some attendees could not find the bins, especially since it is smack bang in the centre, where it always resides. It was quite disappointing.

It felt like we had gone back to the pre-USMAA 2.0 days, where the MC and volunteers are treated like servants. We are not, so please keep that in mind. Especially in country like Australia where we value "doing the right thing", us following the best religion in the world and following the best human being to ever grace this planet and during Ramadan where we are trying to compound our good deeds.

However, I do thank all of those who did the right thing to help us out.

We hear stories like this from past committee members who had undergone similar experiences and are so disgusted that they are never to be seen again. It is better to have 50-100 members working for each other, rather than carrying another 350 passengers. So, if you cannot get with the program, you will definitely stand out, as I have no problem calling you out.

Rest assured IA, I will be stepping down at the end of this financial year, but had I decided to continue, I certainly would have changed my mind after yesterday. So please do not bring down this organisation that some of us are trying to keep alive. The MC treats each member with respect and the least we expect is that to be reciprocated.

### **Volunteer Privileges**

Our volunteers work very hard for Allah and the community, and we attract and reward them by

distributing the leftover food. If you want to volunteer at an event, please contact the MC.

## **Excess Food Policy**

- Under no circumstances would food be removed or packed and taken away by members,
   volunteers and MC members prior to the conclusion of an event
- Any excess food at the end of the event will be distributed amongst the MC members and volunteers to partially compensate them for volunteering their time and efforts
- The MC reserves the right to distribute any excess food for gold coin donations or to the general membership at their discretion
- If a volunteer group is organising the event on behalf of the MC, but the event is funded by the general membership and not that particular volunteer group, they will have to adhere to the above points, however, if a volunteer group is organising the event with their own funding (e.g. Ifthars) they are free to follow a distribution mechanism of their own choosing, with the only caveat being not to distribute food prior to the event as this could result in a food shortage at the event and will negatively affect the efforts of the MC and volunteers

#### **Kitchen Access**

The kitchen is strictly for volunteers and MC access only. Under no circumstance should attendees enter the kitchen.

#### **Public liability**

USMAA has public liability insurance, however we strongly urge parents to look after their children at all times as each member attend at their own risk and USMAA cannot be held liable for any incidents. Better safe than sorry.

Finally for those who registered and did not show up, but failed to inform us, well you know what you have done, so I'm not going to harp on that.

Jzk..Falih S







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