



Saudi Consular-General Mr Ahmed Al-Johani addressing FIANZ AGM in Auckland on 5th June 2010. More photos of the AGM on Page 3

# Saudi Consular-General commends New Zealand Muslims on their unity and hard work

The Saudi Arabian Consular-General Mr Ahmed Al-Johani commended New Zealand Muslims on their unity and hard work. Mr Al-Johani who was addressing the FIANZ AGM in Auckland on 5th June said he is impressed by the conduct of Muslims in New Zealand as well as the purposeful leadership provided by FIANZ. The Consular-General urged New Zealand Muslims to continue to remain law abiding and responsible members of society.

#### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### South Pacific Islamic Conference to be held in January 2011

South Auckland Muslim Association (SAMA) holds the 2011 three-days South Pacific Islamic Conference from 7th-9th January next year at Jamia Masjid Al-Mustafa, 26 Mangere Road, Otahuhu, Auckland.

Renowned scholars both from within and outside New Zealand are expected to make presentations on important Islamic issues at the conference. Meals wand refreshments will be fully provided at the conference.

#### **Sunday programmes for Sisters**

The SAMA ladies chapter has now confirmed regular Sunday programmes for all sisters. The programmes will start at 2pm every Sunday.

#### IMAN stages open day for Early Childhood Centre

International Muslim Association of New Zealand (IMAN) Wellington, stages an Open Day for its Early Childhood Centre on Saturday 10th July 2010. The Community owned day Care Centre will formally take off on 19th July 2010.

### Baitulmal workshop held in Auckland



NZMA President Bro Hashim (C) presenting a gift to the General Manager of Sarawak Baitulmal, Malaysia Hj Abang Mohamad Sibli on behalf of FIANZ. On the left is FIANZ President Dr. Anwar Ghani.

A one-day Baitulmal workshop took place in Auckland on 6th June 2010. Facilitators of the workshop were the General Manager and Deputy General Manager of Sarawak Baitulmal, Malaysia Hj Abang Mohamad Sibli and Mr. Bolhassan Taibi. The workshop addressed how zakat and charity funds can be collected and processed through the Baitulmal system and was attended by Aalims as well as community leaders from mosques and Islamic centres in the country.

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## MUSA celebrates hand-over of their new prayer space

Muslim Students Association of Canterbury University (MUSA) celebrated the completion and formal hand-over of their new prayer space at No 37 Creyke Road, Christchurch on Saturday 12th June. The occasion was attended by many Muslim students, the former Pro-Vice-Chancellor (International Services) Prof Nigel Healey Head of the University's Internal Support Office Dr Liz Tully as well as MAC officials. Zuhr prayers were performed in the new Musallah after which lunch and refreshments were provided.



Former Pro-Vice-Chancellor (International Services) of the University of Canterbury Prof Nigel Healey (L) hands over key to new prayer room as Dr Liz Tully looks on.



#### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### **Converts Forum**

The New Zealand Muslim Converts forum will hold in Wellington on Saturday 10th July at the Wellington Mosque. Participants will be acquainted with the procedure and process of using the daawah packs.

#### **Interfaith Forum**

Bro Gul Zaman now represents FIANZ on the steering committee of the National Interfaith Forum.

#### **Wellington Joord**

The Wellington Joord took place on 5th-7th June at the Wellington Mosque and was attended by about 600 people. Jama'a came from New Zealand as well as from Australia and South Africa and, lectures delivered were said to be very insightful.

#### **Prison visits**

Bro. Haroun Ali has been undertaking regular prison visits in Auckland and invites interested brothers and sisters to contact him on 096242147. He is happy to organise similar activity in other cities and towns.

#### Write to us

Muslim News is published fortnightly by the Federation of Islamic Associations of New Zealand. We welcome news and information about the Muslim community in New Zealand and the world. Please email to fianz@xtra.co.nz

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#### News in Pictures: FIANZ AGM, Auckland, 5th June 2010





















#### **News in Pictures**



FIANZ President Dr. Anwar Ghani (R) presenting a gift to the US ambassador, Hamilton, Ambassdor David Huebner on 20th April.

Children at the Quranic shool in Palmerston North.





## NZ Muslims Strongly Condemns Aggressive Israeli Attacks on the Flotilla of Ships Carrying Humanitarian Aid to Gaza

The Federation of Islamic Associations of New Zealand (FIANZ) strongly condemns the dastardly attack by the Israeli Naval Commandos on a flotilla of ships carrying humanitarian aid to Gaza in international waters. This blatant assault by Israel shows its tyranny and a regime which cares little for justice and human rights.

Several innocent civilian lives were lost by the Israeli Naval Commandos who opened fire without provocation. This is unjustified and unacceptable.

The population of Gaza has been terrorised and trau-

matised by the brutal aggression of Israel. Many innocent Palestinians have been killed by Israel in its operation in Gaza.

Israel has lost its moral grounds and its legitimacy as a responsible member of the international community. It must now answer the international community's call for its aggression against justice and human rights.

Israel has committed and continuing to commit genocide on innocent civilians including many children. This is a crime against humanity. It is a double jeopardy that some members of the international community continue to condone such unacceptable violation of international humanitarian laws and rules.

Once again the Federation is vehemently condemning this high-handed and appalling act by Israel and calls upon the New Zealand Government and all world leaders, in particular the United States Administration, to come out strongly to censure Israel for its brutal and dastardly attack on the Flotilla of Ships and demand the borders to Gaza to be reopened with immediate effect.

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#### **OIC urges restraint in Kyrgyzstan**

JEDDAH: The Organisation of the Islamic Conference, the world's largest Muslim confederation, called on Sunday for restraint in Kyrgyzstan after ethnic unrest there left 82 dead.

OIC Secretary General
Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu appealed
"for the immediate return of
calm and normalcy in Kyrgyzstan following the ethnic clashes
and unrest in the city of Osh,"
the organisation said in a statement.

Ihsanoglu urged all Kyrgyz communi-



ties "to show their utmost restraint and to continue to live in peace with one another under the rule of law."

Kyrgyz authorities should "take the necessary steps to restore normalcy and prevent future occurrences of such tragic events," he said.

The largely Muslim Kyrgyz Republic is one of the 57

countries which are members of the Jeddah-based OIC.

## Attack on aid flotilla is an attack on UN values: OIC

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din Ihsanoglu

JEDDAH - The Israeli attack on the Gaza aid flotilla can be interpreted as an attack on the United Nations and its values, according to the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) Secretary General Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu.

"After all, the objective of the mission was to address the needs of 1.5 million Palestinian

people who have been experiencing Israel's siege and blockade for the last four years, lacking food, electricity, medicine as well as building materials, and awaiting the

international community to stand up to this injustice," Ihsanoglu said addressing the extraordinary meeting of the member States of the executive committee of the OIC held here on Sunday.

He said the aggression (May 31) by the Israeli forces

was against the civilians from 32 countries, representing many faiths; and people from all creeds and backgrounds, who actually represent the conscience of the international community.

He added that the Israeli aggression represents a policy of piracy, criminality and state organised terrorism, but this time,

it exceeded all the red lines; the deadly raid targeted international campaign of humanitarian-oriented convoy that has an identified destination, objectives and mission.

"The piracy in international waters, which has been, in defiance to international

law, perpetrated by the Israeli forces, requires an independent, impartial, credible and transparent investigation, corresponding to international standards with the aim of identifying those responsible for their illegal acts against humanity.

## Summit to focus on opportunities for Islamic finance

Singapore: The first annual World Islamic Banking Conference: Asia (WIBC Asia) opens in Singapore Monday amid a slew of opportunities for Islamic finance in Asian markets, Singaporean officials said.

The two-day meeting is being held this year as the global economic recovery takes shape following the international financial crisis, the officials added.

Hosted by the Monetary Authority of Singapore, WIBC Asia is expected to attract more than 300 industry leaders looking to capitalise on new growth opportunities for Islamic finance in Asian markets.

"[The] Monetary Auth-ority of Singapore (MAS) believes that Islamic fin-ance will be its central focus on supporting real economic activity in trade [and] investments and [the] growth of productive capacity will remain especially relevant," officials at MAS said.

Sultan Bin Nasser Al Suwaidi, governor of the UAE Central Bank, Rasheed Al Maraj, governor of the Bahraini Central Bank, are expected to speak at the plenary session, which will focus on the next phase of growth for Islamic banking and finance.—Source Gulf News