



2 October 2014

PRESS RELEASE

Yvonne Ridley's Address in Auckland and Wellington

The Federation of Islamic Associations of New Zealand Inc. (FIANZ), the national umbrella organisation of the Muslim community, is pleased to announce that it will be inviting Ms Yvonne Ridley an experienced Journalist, who was once held as a hostage by the Taliban in Afghanistan in early 2000.

As a Journalist, Ms Ridley has extensively covered Afghanistan during the period when it was under the control of the Taliban. Soon after her release from Taliban, Ms Ridley embraced Islam. Since then, Ms Ridley has been travelling around the world speaking about the beauty of Islam. We had the pleasure of welcoming Ms Ridley to New Zealand in 2005.

FIANZ President Dr Anwar Ghani said, "while the Muslims in New Zealand generally enjoy greater freedom and lives in peace and harmony with others, Muslims living in other countries are not so lucky". He hopes that Ms Ridley's address will enlighten the wider New Zealand community on the plight of the Muslims especially in the light of the rising tide of Islamophobia, racism against Muslims and the so-called "War on Terror".

Ms Ridley will address at the following gatherings:

- 1) Lecture at the Kilbirnie Mosque
7.00 pm, Friday, 3 October 2014
Free Entry
- 2) Lecture at Auckland University of Technology, Mayoral Drive
2.30 pm, Saturday, 4 October 2014
Title: "Engaging with the media effectively in the current global context"
Target Audience: Youth
Cost: \$10.000
- 3) Lecture at AUT, Mayoral Drive
7.30 pm, Saturday 4 October 2014
Free Entry
- 4) Alexander Park, Greenlane, Auckland
10.00 am, Sunday, 5 October 2014
Free Entry

Media interviews with Ms Ridley can be organised through Ms Tayyaba Khan
(Mob: 020 403 98702).

-----End -----

Dr Anwar Ghani
President
021 2860443

A United and Progressive Community

7-11 Queens Drive, Lyall Bay, Wellington
PO Box 14-155, Kilbirnie, Wellington 6241 • New Zealand
Telephone +64 4 387 8023 • Facsimile +64 4 387 8024
Email fianz@vodafone.co.nz • Web www.fianz.org