



**PRESS RELEASE  
NO EMBARGO**

**09 AUGUST 2021**

**Al Jama-ah welcomes the launch of launch of Radio Jeem on National Women's Day**

The Al Jama-ah party welcomes the launch of the online Radio Jeem on National Women's Day 09 August 2021 which is also on the eve of Muharram 1443 (Islamic New Year).

Al Jama-ah salutes the women of 09 August 1956 who stood up against an unjust and racist system. We call on African women to keep up the pace for justice, and for a safe and moral society. Women are not safe inside their homes and in public spaces. The marriages of Muslim women who have performed a Nikah, are not recognised by the government and we view this as discriminatory.

Commenting on the significant date on the launch of the online Radio Jeem, Al Jama-ah's President and Leader in Parliament, Hon Ganief Hendricks says, "Radio Jeem will take women's issues to Parliament and the failure of government to have a proper policy on marriages of all diverse communities. It will also raise the issue of maintenance by men and the estates of women; calls for the reparations owed to women for post-apartheid failures by the six parliaments."

The online radio further aims to "Take Parliament to The People" by reporting on discussions held in all spheres of government: national. Provincial and local. The launch of the online radio will also kick off with various reports on constituency work by Al Jama-ah's law makers.

There are programmes such as Dialogue Breaks which will discuss pertinent matters raised in Parliament and in communities. Reports in the "Corridors of Power" will be hosted by Professor Muhammad Haron.

The party's councillors will also have a platform to report on their activities within the various communities and on their council meetings. Al Jama-ah Member of the Western Cape Legislature, Hon Galil Brinkhuis will report on matters raised at Provincial level and the party's constituency work.

"Radio Jeem makes no excuse that it will politicise the airwaves and no South African will be left out to participate in the politics of the country. Radio Jeem is a platform for all communities," Hendricks adds.

Hendricks is no stranger to media advocacy. He was the vice chairperson of the Forum for Black Journalists, started the first black campus newspaper, "Unibel" at University of the Western Cape with Professor Jakes Gerwel. He also appeared before broadcasting license authorities for 5 years to democratize airwaves and arguing for two broadcasting licenses to the Muslim community.





He also served as the first chairperson of the community station Radio 786, formed by the Islamic Unity Convention under the leadership of Imam Achmad Cassiem.

He, along with Mr Bruce Cohen, a former HR Director of Mail and Guardian online newspaper, received an award as pioneers of internet in 2002 for amongst others pioneering online media under the slogan, "Content is King" which led to the formation of Media 24 in the Naspers stable.

At the recent IEC hearings on whether to have the 2021 local elections postponed, Hendricks impressed Judge Dikgang Mosaneke by suggesting that radio broadcast media should be used a means of communication for political campaigning under the restricted Covid-19 laws. He called for temporary broadcasting licenses for political parties on eve of the elections.

Al Jama-ah welcomes the congratulatory messages on the launch of Radio Jeem from two of the first Muslim leaders, Sheikh Riad Fataar and Sheikh Mohammed Carloo.

For inquiries on Radio Jeem contact the station manager:

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**For further media inquiries contact national spokesperson:**

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