



**PRESS RELEASE
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Al Jama-ah Supports World Hijab Day

The Al Jama-ah party supports World Hijab Day, which is celebrated throughout the world today.

This year the theme is "Dressed Not Oppressed" to debunk the general view, that Muslim women who wear hijab are in fact oppressed. Al Jama-ah salutes all women who hold on to their hijab in the face of many challenges such as; risk losing their jobs, being harassed by state parastatals for wearing hijab, banned from entering educational institutions as currently in the case in France, India, and other parts of the world.

Al Jama-ah says the hijab merely represents a woman's submission to her Creator and the connection to her faith. It is however sad, that some government's view hijab wearing women, as a threat to their country's political system.

Women in hijab throughout the world have fought liberation struggles, reached success in their careers, and lately entered the sports arenas in hijab. In South Africa we make mention of Major Fatima Isaac's, who fought to wear hijab whilst serving her country in the SANDF; Fatima Jakoet a Senior First Officer at the South African Airways, journalists like Shakirah Thebus who play fundamental roles in exposing Gender-Based Violence, other journalists like Maryam Atif Mkwanda of Salaam media who advocate for Muslim women's rights according to Islam and African teaching; Anisa Mazimpaka student activist and winner of One Day Leader SA (Season 7); Nuraan Osman, director of IHATA a shelter for abused women and children, women who have climbed the corporate ladders and many more who play meaningful and vigilant roles in society.

Recently at a training session in December, female councillors in hijab in the City of Cape Town raised and addressed a concern during training when they faced subtle discrimination for wearing of hijab. The discrimination for wearing hijab remains evident in many sectors from government to corporate.

We Salute the Hijab wearing women throughout the world!

For further media enquiries contact national spokesperson:

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