



**PRESS RELEASE
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AL JAMA-AH CELEBRATES 15TH ANNIVERSARY WITH GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS!

The Al Jama-ah party will be celebrating its 15th Anniversary on Wednesday, 20 April 2022. After 350 years of Islam in South Africa, Al Jama-ah is the first and only Muslim political party voted to Parliament by Muslims.

Although Al Jama-ah only has one seat in the National Assembly, it has gained achievements benefitting its Constituencies at a national and provincial level. The party has two significant achievements to highlight, by getting the Deputy President David Mabuza to do an oversight visit in District Six, and putting down orders for the release of the keys to the housing units of 107 claimants and getting a fishing vessel to the rural village, Mpame in the Eastern Cape which will transform the area into a fishing village and create jobs.

“These achievements are surely highlights for the party occurring on the eve of our anniversary and in the month of April, celebrated as Freedom Month,” says Hendricks. However, added to the party’s achievements, is Hendricks appointment by Parliament to serve on the Pan African Parliament Focus Group. These achievements clearly show that a small party with one representative in Parliament can make significant waves!

Al Jama-ah won a council seat in the third tier of government in 2014 and now has representation in all three tiers of government. The party has 12 councillors in various provinces and over the past two years, two of its councillors served as Deputy Mayors: One as MMC, Member of mayoral committee. Councillor Thapelo Amad was chairperson of section 79 oversight committee on governance, and a member of SALGA Gauteng oversight on legislatures.

Amidst all the difficulties to win a ward, Al Jama-ah has gained two ward councillors after the communities came out in their numbers to vote for the party. “But we had to slaughter a cow to show our commitment, before the community voted for us,” quipped Hendricks. He has since taken a decision to lead the party outside the Muslim community to garner votes. Hendricks adds that he is extremely proud of the party’s councillors who have shown dedication and commitment to serve their communities. The activities of the party’s MP, MPL and councillors will be captured in the party’s 15th Commemorative political statement in a book to be released on its actual anniversary 20 April 2022.

It is important to note that these highlights are but a few of many achievements of the party. Al Jama-ah has indeed become the actual voice of the people!

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