



**PRESS RELEASE
NO EMBARGO**

14 March 2023

AL JAMA-AH PRESENTATION ON REGISTRATION OF MUSLIM MARRIAGES AND DIVORCE AMENDMENTS BILLS

The First Readings of Al Jama-ah's Registration of Muslim Marriages and Divorce Amendment Bills will be a virtual presentation by Hon Ganief Hendricks MP to a Parliamentary Plenary Session on Thursday 16 March 2023.

"The recognition of Muslim marriages will be the realisation of the rights of women and children as contained in Islamic law and will restore the dignities of both parties in a marriage. For too long Muslims had to endure the insulting entry of "never married" on a spouse's death certificate," says Hendricks.

The First Readings on the two Bills follow shortly after Home Affairs Minister Dr Aaron Motsoaledi announced in a Portfolio Committee meeting on Home Affairs that a circular would be sent to all home affairs departments to remove the entry of 'never married' with married. The Minister described the offensive entry of 'never married' as a humiliation which the Muslim community cannot tolerate.

The First Readings on the Bills will take place on:

DATE: THURSDAY 16 MARCH 2023

TIME: 2:00PM – 5:00pm

Virtual Press Conference: Topic: VIRTUAL PRESS BRIEFING

Time: Mar 16, 2023 05:30 PM Harare, Pretoria

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89185388363?pwd=M296SG9qdzZBakl4QIMxYVVhaUhlZz09>

Meeting ID: 891 8538 8363

Passcode: 943781

Media are welcome to engage with Hon Hendricks after the presentation at 99 PLEIN STREET, 6TH FLOOR BOARDROOM NO 6047, PARLIAMENT or join the press conference virtually on above link.

Attached is a video clip and transcribed speech by Minister Motsoaledi who stated that a circular would be send to the department to instruct them to immediately remove the entry "never married" from the death certificates of Muslims and to replace with married.





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