

Curriculum Vitae



Keysar Trad

I am the former president of *Muslims Australia - Australian Federation of Islamic Councils (AFIC)*.

I am a former president of the Lakemba-based Lebanese Moslems Association.

I have worked *closely with the first Grand Mufti of Australia, Sh. Hilali, as assistant, advisor, translator, spokesman and office manager from 1999 to 2007*

I am a roving Imam; I deliver Friday sermons at places Masajid and Mussallas around Sydney and interstate.

Between the years 2000 and 2017, I was a prolific spokesperson on issues relating to Islam and the Muslim community. In the same period, I gave thousands of interviews as well as cultural and religious briefings to the media, to government and quasi-government bodies, and to religious groups. I have spoken at many events, including interfaith and rallies for peace and human rights.

My articles have appeared in *the Sydney Morning Herald, Sun Herald, The Daily Telegraph, The Age, The Australian* and the *Canberra Times*; they have been on *Crikey, New Matilda, Online Opinion* and *Myrightorreply* websites.

My most recent published book (in English) **Forays of the Heart** is widely available:

<http://asenseofplaceblog.com/forays-of-the-heart-by-keysar-trad/>

I was successful in obtaining a public apology from powerful media personality Alan Jones for pejorative comments he made against Lebanese youth.

I have edited and made more than 800 corrections to the Abdullah Yusuf Ali translation with respect to the meaning of **The Holy Qur'an** (published and endorsed by the World Islamic Call), this edited translation can be found at: www.mostinterestingbook.blogspot.com .

I have translated several books about Islam and have written and translated articles on related matters.

My translated books include:

Invitation to Think.

Invitation to Contemplate.

Islamic Education and the Revivalist Thought of Said Nursi.

The Human Being between Revival and Downfall.

I and the sponsor of the Orphan will be in Paradise; and

Children's Stories.

I had been involved in interfaith activities for over twenty years.

I have hosted a Muslim community radio program in the 1990s for over 3 years,

I have worked closely with Australia's senior spiritual leaders,

I have served on the committees of several Muslim organisations.

I have shared platforms with Muslim and non-Muslim speakers including senior government ministers regarding religious and political matters.

I established the *Islamic Friendship Association of Australia Inc* in 2003.

[See <http://islamicfriendshipevents.blogspot.com.au/>]

The third edition of my book, **Islam for Your Information** received excellent praise from Tun Dr. Mahathir (Prime Minister of Malaysia, a copy of his letter will be made available at interview, amongst his comments: "... *It is very enlightening as it gives a true picture of what Islam is about. Muslims should read this paper as many are very confused in their understanding of Islam ...*" The fourth edition of this book is about to go into print.

Work experience:

Chief Executive Officer, Australian International Islamic College (AIIC) (2012), Brisbane Queensland (1 year). This experience included the management of budget and staff, improvements around two campuses, setting a strategic direction and a vision for the college and the pupils, nurturing special talents and improving the standing of the college.

Australian Public Service (1984 to 1998) - 14-year distinguished career covering areas of management, negotiations, investigations, audits, debt collection and review of objections and appeals.

Cost Clerk (6 weeks in 1984)

History of volunteering:

My work as a volunteer is extensive; beginning around 1990 it includes:

United Muslim Women's Association (early to mid-1990s).

Australian Muslim Times (approximately two years, early 1990s).

Australian Islamic Media (approximately two years in the 1990s).

Multicultural Eid Festival and Fair (a few months only in 93).

Muslim Aid (a few months only in 93).

Islamic Council of NSW volunteering over much of the 1990s.

Australian Institute of Islamic Culture volunteering in the late 90s.

Australian Islamic Educational Trust (founding trustee, mid-1990s-2012).

Human Appeal International (mid 1990s-2000).

Supreme Islamic Council of NSW (in 1999 only).

Worked closely with the first Grand Mufti of Australia, Sh. Hilali, as assistant, advisor, translator and spokesman and office manager from 1999 to 2007.

Lebanese Moslem Association (1999-2005) (secretary, Vice President and **president**);

Islamic Friendship Association of Australia Inc. (October 2003-present);
Interim Chair, the *Islamic College of Brisbane* (late 2013 –August 2014); and
Muslims Australia - Australian Federation of Islamic Councils (AFIC) **former president.**

Studies:

I hold accounting qualifications and have completed or partially completed studies in law, Science, Islamic Leadership (Da'wa Academy, International Islamic University, Islamabad), Media training and various other short courses.