



Australian Federation
of Islamic Councils

His excellency the honourable Gotabaya Rajapaksa
President of Sri Lanka
C/- Mr D.D.M. Senarath B. DISSANAYAKE
Acting High Commissioner of Sri Lanka
61 Hampton Circuit
Yarralaumla ACT 2600

31 December 2020

Dear your excellency president Rajapaksa

Regarding reports of Muslim cremation in Sri Lanka

Muslims around the world have consistently viewed Sri Lanka as a friend and have wished well and prayed for Sri Lanka and its people.

Reports that an official policy has been put in place in Sri Lanka to cremate Muslims who died with COVID symptoms have shocked and horrified us. Islam requires that deceased Muslims are buried with honour and dignity and prohibits cremation or any form of disfigurement to the body after death.

We urge the honourable president to repeal this policy and allow Muslims to be buried with dignity.

Yours faithfully

Dr Rateb Jneid
President, AFIC

Australian Federation of Islamic Councils

*The peak body for Australian Muslims representing
State and Territory Islamic Councils and Societies*



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