

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

## **CAPE ACCORD**

*Communities United Against Hate Speech and Discord.*

WHEREAS the current geo-political climate of Islamophobia, both internationally and locally, which promotes intra-faith hostility and unwarranted attacks on foremost figures, by individuals and groups within our broader faith community, compels leading organizations in our societies to connect, collaborate and understand each other to proactively engage in promoting concord, fraternal union and the eradication of extremism;

AND WHEREAS, such an alliance fosters greater connectivity, increases collaboration, promotes comprehension and enhances contribution to the attainment of the higher objectives of the shari'ah;

AND WHEREAS, in the spirit of the Amman Accord, declared in Jordan in November 2004, endorsed by more than 400 leading Muslim Scholars from 84 countries, eminent citizens, ministers of government and heads of state of 56 countries of the Islamic World; scholars, *muftis* and *'ulamaa* of six international bodies and the Jeddah Academy of Fiqh;

AND WHEREAS, such Amman Accord, constitutes a global and universal principle of persuasive and binding effect upon all Muslim Societies,

AND WHEREAS, we, the representatives of Communities United Against Hate Speech, Division and Discord, in the Republic of South Africa;

*RECOGNISING* the Prophetic Command: *"The Believer is never one who taunts, curses; nor is indecent nor abusive."* [Tirmidhi, Bayhaqi]

*ACKNOWLEDGING* that we live in a world of religious pluralism;

*APPRECIATING* that South Africa is a state model of multi-culturalism and diversity of faiths;

*NOTING* that the right to follow one's faith or conscience is among the basic human rights that underpins our South African Constitution;

*AFFIRMING* that such right resonates with the Maqasid of the Shariah in promoting the welfare and goodness of the human being;

*ASSESSING* the critical importance of social stability and peace for the promotion and material welfare of South African Civic Society;

*DECLARING* our firm resolve to dissuade and/or engage and/ or take appropriate legal action within the framework of the South African Constitution and the Chapter 9 Provisions against any individual or group who abuses the higher ethical principles of Islam as the basis for a deliberate and unwarranted attack on the dignity of a fellow South African citizen or group or entity with malicious intent, publicity and incitement to harm;

*DO HEREBY*, by our signatures hereunder ...

*SOLEMNLY AFFIRM* the spirit of the Amman Message and strive to uphold the dignity of Muslims and the positive image of Islam and call upon all South African Muslims to protect, promote and advance this image as commanded by our Prophet Muhammed (Upon Whom Be Peace).

*EARNESTLY APPEAL* to our communities to be tolerant of the differences of opinion between Muslims and not to escalate intra-faith hostilities between *Sufi/Salafi, Sunni/Shi'a, Hanafi/Shaf'i, Barelwi/Deobandi,* and Liberal/Conservative schools of thought ...

*ACKNOWLEDGE* that we can agree to disagree without disrespect to each other.

Dated at Cape Town, South Africa,  
this 12<sup>th</sup> *Rabi'-ul-Awwal* 1439/1<sup>st</sup> December 2017