

EMBARGOED TILL 15 JULY 2017, 11AM



Date: Saturday, 15 July 2017

Subject: Conversation with Mufti 2017: The rights and status of adopted & foster children (in Islam) and the role of the society / *Sesi perbincangan bersama Mufti 2017: Hak dan status anak angkat & anak titipan serta peranan masyarakat*

Singapore, Saturday, 15 July 2017. More than 100 participants attended the 'Conversation with Mufti 2017' event held at the Lifelong Learning Institute, organised by PPIS Singapore Muslim Women's Association this morning. The two-hour dialogue session officiated by Mufti, Ustaz Dr Mohamed Fatris Bakaram, focused on the topic of fostering, primarily on the status and rights of adopted and foster children in Islam as well as the role of society.

This exclusive event aimed to enlighten the participants on *fatwa* and information on foster and adopted children in Islam. It is a platform to raise awareness and highlight the benefits of fostering such as the fulfilment of *fardhu kifayah* (social responsibility), as well as to introduce to existing and potential Muslim foster parents, the upcoming support services offered by PPIS.

"PPIS hopes that through this Conversation, existing foster parents and would-be foster parents are able to clarify their doubts and raise their concerns while simultaneously opening their hearts to come forward and provide care for children in need - with support from the organisation," Ms Rahayu Mohamad, President of PPIS has this to add.

The two highlights of the event were:

1. Special address by Mufti
 - a. The difference between fostering and adoption
 - b. The increasing need for Muslim foster families in the community
 - c. Fostering older children and its benefits
 - d. Guidance in decision-making (by performing *isthikarah*)

2. Interactive Q&A with Mufti where participants can ask their questions and raise issues of concern such as:
 - a. *Mahram* between siblings and parents
 - b. *Ibu susuan* – *hukum* vs social implication
 - c. *Qurban & aqiqah* – *sadaqah* vs responsibility

This event is part of PPIS' efforts to recruit new parents with the launch of PPIS Oasis (Fostering Agency) in the third quarter of 2017.

Guest Speaker:

Dr Ustaz Mohamed Fatris Bakaram,
Respected Mufti of Singapore

Event Details:

Date: Saturday, 15 July 2017

Venue: Lifelong Learning Institute Event, 11 Eunos Road 8 Singapore 408601 –
Hall 1, Level 1

Time: 9.30am to 11.30am

The dialogue will be conducted in Malay and English.

For any media inquiries, please contact:

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About PPIS

Founded in 1952, PPIS (Persatuan Pemudi Islam Singapura or Singapore Muslim Women's Association) is non-profit organisation focused on community services. We are dedicated to working with women of all ages in carrying out their multiple roles in society. PPIS runs three core community services namely Family Services, Student Care and Early Childhood Education (ECE). With 17 centres islandwide, the services work together to provide a quality and holistic support as well as developmental programmes for women and their families.

About PPIS Oasis

PPIS has been appointed by Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) to run the third national Fostering Agency, which will be operational by the third quarter of 2017. Joining the likes of MCYC Community Services Society and Boys' Town, the organisation hopes to promote family-based care of vulnerable children.