



7 April 2020

Assalamualaikum Wr Wb

Dear Asatizah and IECP proprietors, managers and persons-in-charge,

COVID19 ADVISORY – SUSPENSION OF ALL RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

May you be blessed with good health and faith, *Amin*.

2 On 3 April 2020, MOH announced elevated safe distancing measures to minimise local transmission of COVID-19. These measures will be in effect from 7 April 2020 until 4 May 2020. The advisory provides guidance to religious leaders and organisations on the implementation of these measures.

3 MCCY on 4 April 2020 has also announced further restrictions on faith-based activities¹. As such, the ARS Office wishes to remind Asatizah and IECP stakeholders to suspend all religious activities and services including classes and gatherings. The followings apply from **7 April 2020 until 4 May 2020**:

i. Home-based learning

Asatizah and IECPs may wish to continue conducting classes via online platform as shared in previous advisory.

ii. Suspension of mass gathering

Mass gatherings such as zikir, selawat or tilawah session with the public can only be done online.

Asatizah should not conduct or offer congregational prayer service to members of public such as Friday prayers, Terawih prayers except with family members in the same household.

iii. Closure of Mosques

All places of worship will be closed to public. The closure includes small spaces which were provided for congregants previously.

iv. Funeral rites

Funerals and wakes should involve no more than 10 persons at any one time (excluding religious and other supporting workers, which must be kept to minimum) and comply with the current regulations. You may find more details here¹.

v. Suspension of all activities at workplace

Activities at workplace should be suspended. IECPs must ensure their employees telecommute and work from home.

4 We wish to remind our Asatizah and stakeholders to implement and take these measures seriously. Offenders will face serious penalties under the Infectious Diseases Act and lead to revocation of their ARS and IECP licence.



5 These measures are necessary to prevent the virus from spreading further in our beloved community and nation. As responsible religious leaders and teachers, we must play our part and lead the community by example. We humbly make do'a as what Allah has mentioned in *Surah At-Talaq*, verse 7, "Allah will bring about after hardship, ease."

6 Thank you for your kind understanding and cooperation. Remember, **Stay Home, Stay Safe**. May Allah *Al-Hafiz* protect us from harm and danger, grant us patience and forgiveness, and alleviate us in this trying moment. Wallahu a'lam.

Thank you and wassalam.

**OFFICE OF MUFTI (ARS OFFICE)
ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS COUNCIL OF SINGAPORE (MUIS)**

¹ <https://www.mccy.gov.sg/about-us/news-and-resources/press-statements/2020/apr/covid-19-mccy-advisory-to-religious-organisations-on-elevated-safe-distancing-measures>