

**STATEMENT ON THE DEFERMENT OF HAJ 2021M/1442H
BY THE FATWA COMMITTEE**

1. The Singapore Fatwa Committee on 6 May 2020 decided to defer the hajj pilgrimage in 2020/1441. The decision was made to (i) preserve and ensure the well-being of individuals or communities; (ii) close all doors that can expose the public and pilgrims to danger and harm.
2. Based on the latest reports and assessment by doctors and medical professionals, the COVID-19 outbreak is still prevalent world-wide, and has yet to show signs of abating. New variants have emerged, which are more infectious with higher mortality rates globally. It is clear that these new variants cause greater harm in many aspects.
3. Although many countries have embarked on vaccination programmes, the proportion of those who have been inoculated is still too low to be an effective deterrent in controlling the spread of the virus globally. On this basis, it is clearly still not safe for Singapore pilgrims to travel to the Holy Land and perform the Haj.
4. Based on the latest situation, the Fatwa Committee is of the view that the consideration and decision of the fatwa (6 May 2020) remains relevant for this year. The Fatwa Committee has advised that the Haj pilgrimage this year (2021M/1442H) needs to be deferred, until the pandemic has ended, and it is safe for pilgrims to travel. It is to safeguard the interest and welfare of the Singapore Muslim community specifically and the society at large. Allah s.w.t. mentioned:

وَمَا جَعَلَ عَلَيْكُمْ فِي الدِّينِ مِنْ حَرَجٍ

Which means: "...And He has not placed upon you any difficulty in the religion...". (Surah Al-Hajj, verse 78).

**FATWA (LEGAL) COMMITTEE
ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS COUNCIL OF SINGAPORE (MUIS)**