

In the name of Allah, the most beneficent, the most Merciful

**Al-Barakah Welfare Trust Australia
Annual General Meeting 2017
Chairman's Report**

My dear respected brothers and sisters in Islam,

Assalamualaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu.

Praise be to Allah, we seek His help, forgiveness. We seek refuge with Allah from the evil of our own souls and from our bad deeds. I testify that there is none worthy of worship save Allah (SWT) and that Muhammad (SA) is the last and final Messenger of Allah.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, it is my great honour and pleasure to welcome you all to this fourth Annual General Meeting of the Al-Barakah Welfare Trust Australia. Thank you for being an invaluable part of this growing community. On behalf of the Board of Trustees I would like to thank you all for participating in the meeting. Your participation makes this meeting meaningful.

First of all, I would like to remember our beloved brother Late Dr Abdul Haq, one of the founder Trustees who left us in August 2016. His and his family's contribution in establishing this Trust and the Quakers Hill Masjid will always be remembered. May Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala accept all his good deeds and grant him Jannah. I would also like to remember and acknowledge the contributions made by all brothers and sisters and their families in establishing this Trust and Blacktown Hills Islamic Centre. May Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala accept their good deed and reward them amply.

In recognition of their contribution to the Trust few brothers and sister were offered Life Membership of the Trust this year. We are very pleased to inform that all of them have kindly accepted the offer. The brothers and sister are: Mrs Laila Haq, Dr Maruf Khan, Dr Muhammad Abdullah, Dr Sadeque Ahmed, Mr Shafiqur Rahman and Mr Kamal Uzzaman. May Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala be pleased with them.

As we mentioned in the last AGM that after a long struggle with the Council, we finally obtained the construction certificate (CC) on 1st March 2017 to start our development works at Quakers Hill Masjid. To date majority of the works are completed. We are hoping that by the grace of the Almighty we should be able to complete all our works within next two months. Although it has taken an extended period of time to complete the work, we are pleased that our regular activities of the Masjid were not interrupted due to the ongoing work. Thanks to our builder for facilitating our normal operation during these times. Many thanks to Blacktown City Council for their assistance. I take this opportunity to thank all brothers and sisters who are continuously supporting us financially to make this construction project a reality. May Allah reward them amply. Once the current development works are over, we have plans to renovate the original building within the heritage property guidelines of the Council. We already have started consultation with the Council Heritage Officer and Architect.

Our aim is to provide access to proper education to our children in light of the Holy Quran and as per the tradition of our last and final messenger Muhammad (PBUH) and we hope that the teachings of Islam would assist us and our children to become better Muslims and human beings. Keeping that in mind, Al-Barakah Welfare Trust also runs Quakers Hill Arabic School. This School has been established since the establishment of the Masjid however, new curriculum and methodology was introduced and Venue for the classes were relocated from Masjid premises to NIRIMBA TAFE campus. Many thanks to the TAFE administration and the brothers who coordinated this arrangement.

As indicated in last year's report by our Ex-Chairman Dr Maruf Khan, we need to develop a facility that incorporates education and training, a library, and programs for ladies and youths. In addition, the projects that require immediate attention include a multipurpose community centre, a graveyard plus assisted home care type of facilities for the growing aging population. I echo the same and make my humble request to continue your assistance in various proposed projects based on Islamic principles.

This year two members of the Board of Trustees brother Shafiqur Rahman and brother Kamal Uzzaman had to leave the board due to personal reasons. On behalf of the Trust I wish them well and thank them for the valuable contribution they have made. I make sincere doa for them and all members and volunteers, who are always keen to assist in various activities in our centre on a daily basis. May Allah, the most beneficent reward them amply.

Please forgive members of the Board of Trust including myself, for any shortcomings in discharging their responsibility. Please continue to support the Board of Trustees and work together with them for the pleasure of Allah Almighty, the Creator and the Sustainer of the universe. May Allah keep us together in the right path forever. May Allah bestow the best of His sustenance and bounty upon you and your family. Ameen.

Thank you again for attending this meeting.

Rafiq Hasan
11 February 2018