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MEDIA RELEASE

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Perdaus' Statement on *Fatwa for Tudung for Muslim Women in Uniformed Services*

Perdaus wishes to express gratitude to the *Fatwa* Council on the recently published *Fatwa for Tudung for Muslim Women in Uniformed Services*. The *Fatwa* provides religious guidance on uniforms for *tudung*-wearing Muslim nurses in the public healthcare sector. This is after the recommendation of the Government to revise the uniform policies of the public healthcare sector.

We are pleased that Muslim nurses now have specific guidance from the *Fatwa* Council on keeping to Islamic modesty standards while still in accordance to hospital policies.

It also signals that our *ulama* (scholars in Islam) are well-equipped in solving complex religious issues with both traditional principles and a progressive mindset. This will set the benchmark for future *asatizah* (religious teachers) on how they should focus on both the syntax and context of a situation.

Besides the *Fatwa* Council, we are also heartened that hospitals and medical centres have revised their uniform policies with utmost care and creativity, following the Government's recommendations and the guidance by the *Fatwa* Council.

We have been looking forward to the implementation of the new *Fatwa* and hope that the work environment for our Muslim nurses will continue to be conducive and positive, whether they choose to wear the *tudung* or not.

The *Fatwa* also opens up wider career pathways for our Muslim sisters who adhere to Islamic modesty standards. A clear guidance such as this may increase the pool of uniformed medical personnel and provide our sisters a new opportunity to contribute to the healthcare sector in our community.

At the same time, Perdaus also proposes recommendations in respecting the dynamic nature of the situation:

1. We call for future studies on the current mandated infection prevention procedures so as to allow a more comprehensive solution with regards to appropriate attire for Muslim medical personnel.
2. We hope that, with the progressive outlook of the *Fatwa* Council, it can also propose how Muslim workers in other uniformed groups can also maintain Islamic modesty standards while maintaining their uniform requirements.

Perdatus continues to appeal to the public to support and respect the individual's choice to don the *tudung* with the implementation of the new policy and *Fatwa*. Let us all continue to be gracious and ease the way for our Muslim nurses who are in the frontlines every day.

PERDAUS



Introduction of Perdaus

Formed in 1964, Perdaus has had more than a 50-year history of providing educational and leadership development services to the community.

Today, a dynamic Muslim Voluntary Welfare Organisation (VWO), Perdaus is a registered society under the Societies Act and also a charity under the Charities Act.

Our Mission

Perdaus focuses on developing agents of change by inspiring consciousness through education, nurturing lives and empowering families through advocacy, and building communities through meaningful engagement.

Our Vision

As our vision is building towards a righteous society, our core programmes revolve around equipping the community with critical knowledge and skills that will shape the development of a virtuous and progressive society.

Our Core Services

1. *IMAD PERDAUS*

Our arm that focuses on outreach, and moral development and education for the community. It is recently consolidated as Imad Perdaus so as give more concentration towards a more holistic approach in our moral education and outreach efforts.

Our main services are:

- Moral education and Arabic literacy for children and youth

We provide part-time moral education and development for children and youth, from kindergarten to post-secondary certificate level. Our centres are in Bedok and Bukit Batok.

- Moral education and Arabic literacy for adults

Currently, we extend our reach to adults with:

- KAD programme, which offers basic moral education classes

2. IYAD PERDAUS

We have centres in Hougang, Jurong East and Choa Chu Kang providing quality and affordable infant care and childcare services.

Critical Highlights of Iyad Perdaus:

- 1993
 - Iyad Perdaus Child Development (Jurong East) first started operations.
 - The first childcare branch by Perdaus.
- 1998
 - Launch of the Integrated Child Care Programme (ICCP)¹ at Jurong East.
 - Officiated by Ms Grace Fu, then-Senior Minister for National Development and Education, officiated ICCP on 20 May 2008.
- 2017
 - All three centres of Iyad Perdaus (Jurong East, Choa Chu Kang, Hougang) received SPARK certification.
 - Appointed by MSF as Developmental Support and Learning Support (DS-LS) provider.
- 2018
 - Iyad Perdaus celebrated its 25th anniversary.

¹ See <https://www.sgenable.sg/pages/content.aspx?path=/for-children/integrated-child-care-programme-iccp/>

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