

# Salaheddin Islamic Centre

741 Kennedy Road, Scarborough Ontario, M1K 2C6

T: 416-264-3900 F: 416-264-3343 W: [www.salaheddin.org](http://www.salaheddin.org)

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March 17, 2020

## **Re: Salaheddin Islamic Centre COVID-19 Protocol – Updated V3.0**

Asalamu-Alikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuhu,

It is with a heavy heart that we inform you that all Masjid services, including essential services (Jum'uah and the daily prayers) will be suspended immediately after Asr Salah on March 17, 2020, until further notice.

How and why did we make this decision?

We arrived at this decision after extensive consultation with Islamic scholars, medical experts, and the recommendations of government bodies including:

- 1) The recommendation of Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health for the Ontario Ministry of Health who has advised the closure of all places of worship until further notice.
- 2) The strong recommendations of Muslim Medical Association of Canada (MMAC), Canadian Council of Imams (CCI) and the advice of Dr. Abdu Sharkawy, Infectious Disease Specialist at the University Health Network (UHN).
- 3) The recommendation of Islamic Scholarly bodies around the world, including the Council of senior scholars in Saudi Arabia who stated:

"Wherever the health authorities have advised isolation, then the obligation (wajib) is to abide by this, and abandon praying Salat Al-Jama'ah (congregational prayers and Jumu'ah prayers (Friday prayers and should instead pray them at their home"... "Instead of Jumu'ah, they should pray 4 rak'ahs of Dhuhur at home."

What we can do:

- 1) Even if the Masjid is closed, do not abandon prayer and increase in the remembrance of Our Creator in your homes.
- 2) For every hand we are no longer shaking, pick up your phone and call someone to check up on them, especially the elderly in our community.
- 3) Continue to make dua' that He blesses us all with health and well-being and allows us to overcome this test with His forgiveness.

Salaheddin Islamic Centre ,  
Board of Directors