



30 March 2020

Message from President

Far East Institutions

Dear Fellow Community Members,

As you may have seen, we have been blessed to receive a message from MHI relating to the current COVID-19 health situation. Details can be found on the [LIF](#) in a letter from Malik Talib, Chairman of the LIF.

On behalf of the leadership of all our institutions in the Far East, I wish you heartiest Mubarak on the receipt of this message from MHI.

With the continued spread of the COVID-19 virus, the situation for all of us has not been easy. Many of us are locked down or in curfew, working from home, managing the needs of our families, facing increased pressure at work and unable to meet with friends or wider family members. Many of us are also miles away from our extended families and no longer have our community centres available to visit or seek solace in. We may also be unable to meet fellow members of our community.

However, let us be reminded that this crisis, like many others we have faced in our history as a community, will certainly pass. We are not sure how long it may last, but things will certainly get better. All the countries in the Far East and their economies will open up again. At some point, things may return closer to normal.

In times such as these, it is even more important for us to remain strong and united with our families and with the community. We must try to make time to congregate and pray together as a family, in our homes. Let us also lend a helping hand to anyone that needs our support – and there will be many individuals in our communities needing our help and support. Let's also use this time to see how we may need to reassess or re-position our professional lives or careers or adapt our businesses in an ever-changing world due to the impact of the virus.

We are extremely fortunate that, in the Far East, most of the governments in the countries that we live in have performed an admirable job in controlling the spread of the virus and have issued significant economic stimulus packages to help their citizens. We should continue to rely on our local governments for assistance that they are providing. Our Council Economics Portfolio would be happy to help you better understand the stimulus packages provided in each of your countries.

As we have been doing since this crisis commenced, we will share up-to-date information and advice with each of you as regularly as we can and as new information becomes available.

Each and every member of our Far East Institutions remains available to assist you in any way possible. I am personally available any time – only a phone call or WhatsApp message away.

I would like to, once again, commend all the members of our institutions, especially the COVID-19 Task Force, the COVID-19 Economic Task Force, the Council Health portfolio, the Council Communications portfolio and all our M/K for working so hard and round-the-clock to respond to the rapidly changing needs of our community.

Mubarak once again on the receipt of the message from MHI – and we pray that you and your families remain strong, united, safe, happy and healthy – we also pray for a return to normalcy for our global community as soon as possible.

With best personal regards,

President
Council for the Far East