



For Immediate Release

Malay Muslim Fathering Month 2023 Strengthens Father's Role in Families

Singapore, 31 August 2023 – The sixth edition of the Malay Muslim Fathering Month (Bulan Kebapaan), an initiative by Centre for Fathering (CFF) and Bapa Sepanjang Hayat (BSH), will kick off on 2 September 2023 with a series of programmes for fathers and families as well as father-child bonding that take place throughout September.

This year's Malay Muslim Fathering Month, themed *Strengthening the Role of Fathers in the Family*, will help fathers appreciate the importance of their role in the family and how to become a more effective father. Assoc Prof Dr Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim, Minister of State, Ministry of Home Affairs & Ministry of National Development, will be the guest-of-honour for the initiative.

The annual Malay Muslim Fathering highlights the importance of an involved father to their children and encourages fathers to be present for their families. Through the initiative, CFF and BSH reach over 300,000 Malay Muslim fathers and family members each year.

“The Malay Muslim Fathering Month highlights the significance of fathers within families and supports the community's cultural and religious teachings on the importance of fathers in nurturing and raising their children, along with mothers,” said Mr Xander Ong, CEO, Centre for Fathering.

He added, “Malay Muslim fathers these days recognise their importance of being involved in their children's lives and are active co-parents through caregiving, spending quality time with their children, assisting with their education and development and being emotionally present. The Malay Muslim Fathering Month activities provide a platform for these fathers to bond with their children and families as well as find support within the community.”

CFF honours fathers through the annual Celebrating Fathers initiative during Father's Day in June. However, the Malay Muslim community is not able to join in the celebrations due to Ramadan and Hari Raya. As such, CFF and BSH organise the Malay Muslim Fathering Month later in September so that Malay Muslim fathers and their families can participate in family bonding activities after the busy Hari Raya period.

Nakhoda Taskforce Update

Last year, the Nakhoda taskforce was set up to develop strategies that encourage the active role of fathers in the Malay Muslim community. Various Malay Muslim organisations came on board the taskforce, under the ambit of M³, to look at ways to help fathers overcome challenges and obstacles that could hinder them from being an effective father.

Among the strategies that the taskforce have developed include:

- a. Creating and celebrating a community of positive fathers who can serve as role models to others;
- b. Organise workshops, seminars, and classes to enhance fathering skills;
- c. Provide Islamic teachings related to fatherhood; and
- d. Promote healthy family dynamics according to Islamic principles.

Several programmes will be rolled out in the coming months based on the strategies developed by the taskforce.

Month-Long Series of Activities

Some of the activities taking place during this year's Malay Muslim Fathering Month include Jamming With Dad – a competition where fathers and children team up to showcase their musical talent and Adventure With Dad – an activity for fathers to foster communication and deepen bonding with their children through adventure-learning on a rock wall, dark maze and high elements. There are also other exciting father-children bonding activities such as go-karting, fishing and mosque hopping.

See below for details of the activities.

Jamming With Dad	
2 September 2023 Nee Soon Central CC Town Square	The sixth season of Jamming With Dad provides a platform for fathers and their kids to bond together through music. The family comes together to pick a song, rehearse and perform live.
Adventure With Dad	
9 Sept 2023 Dads Adventure Hub	Adventure With Dad provides a platform for fathers to bond with their pre-teens and teens through adventure learning on a rock wall, dark maze and high elements. These challenges are designed to foster father-child interaction and communication.
Father-Child Go Karting	
9 September Jurong West	Fathers and children enjoy a day of adrenalin-filled go-karting activity!
Fishing With Dad	
10 September 2023 Marina Country Club	Fishing With Dads will be a time fathers and children cherish and bond as dads teach their children to fish without helping them do it.
Jalan Jalan Cari Masjid	
16 September 2023 1pm to 5pm	A day of mosque hopping for fathers and children.
Dad's Day Out to Durian Farm	
23 Sept 2023	A father-only outing to a durian farm in Malaysia.
Father Talk on Health	

24 September 2023 Kolam Ayer Community Club	Over 300 fathers and family members are expected to attend a talk on health matters.
Town Hall Discussion: Good Fathering with Deputy Mufti	
24 Sept 2023	In collaboration with Sembawang People's Association Malay Activity Executive Committees Council and supported by M ³ Woodlands, this townhall style discussion will touch on what it means to be a good father in our community with Deputy Mufti Singapore Dr Mohammad Hannan Bin Hassan.
Father Walk	
30 September 2023 Walk from Marina Bay Sands to the Merlion	Because fatherhood is a noble calling and fathers need to be proud of who they are and what they do for our families, fathers are invited to celebrate being a dad and walk proudly alongside other dads in this 2km walk.
Reading Comics with Dad	
30 September 2023 Woodlands Library	20 pairs of father and child get together for a time of bonding and laughter over comics.

- Follow www.facebook.com/bapasepanjanghayat for more details on the Malay Muslim Fathering Month activities.
- For more information on the Nakhoda Taskforce, please go to <https://fathers.com.sg/formation-of-mm-taskforce-on-fathering/>
- For more enquiries, please contact Eruandee Prayitna at eruandee@dadsforlife.sg or 88747947.

About Centre for Fathering, DADs for Life and MUMs for Life

Centre for Fathering (CFF) is a non-profit organisation founded in 2000 to promote active and involved fathering and address issues caused by fatherlessness in Singapore. The organisation aims to turn the hearts of children towards their fathers by empowering more fathers to be better role models and an enduring inspiration to their children.

Since 2015, CFF has been the driving force for Singapore's nation-wide fathering movement - DADs for Life which seeks to inspire and mobilise fathers to become more involved with and a good influence to their children... for life.

MUMs for Life celebrates a mum's unique identity as a woman and her irreplaceable roles as a daughter, wife and mother. When mums are confident in their unique identity and multiple roles, they can better nurture our children and support dads in building a stronger family in an increasingly complex world.

Go to www.fathers.com.sg for more information.