

27 April 2025

As Salaamu Alaikum respected pilgrims from South Africa,

In recent weeks, the Ministry of Hajj and Umrah have released notifications for the attention of Mu'tamireen/pilgrims who are currently in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for Umrah or other purpose and on an Umrah, business or tourist visa, to leave the precincts of Makkah by the 1st of Dhul-Qadah (29th April 2025).

In addition, the Ministry of Hajj and Umrah has publicised severe warnings and actions for pilgrims seeking unofficial channels to perform Hajj.

Hajj can only be performed by being in possession of a valid Hajj Visa obtained through the process of quota allocation via the Hajj Affairs offices from 80 countries or through the NUSUK platform for countries eligible on the NUSUK platforms.

The Ministry of Hajj & Umrah has urged all individuals, Hajj and Umrah companies, and service providers to strictly adhere to the regulations and instructions to ensure the safety of the Guests of ALLAH and to allow them to perform Hajj with ease and tranquillity.

Any attempt to enter the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by means other than the authorized platforms for Hajj will attract severe punishment from the authorities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which could include, but not limited to: monetary fines imposed, jail sentence and banishment from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for lengthy periods of time.

Please note that visit visas of any type do not permit the performance of Hajj. Individuals or travel operators who violate this will face legal action and severe punishment.

SAHUC hereby advises pilgrims, tourist and Mu'tamireen who do not have a valid Hajj visa, to not attempt any such activity that will cause the individual/s many challenges as well as negatively impact any possible visa relaxations for South African pilgrims outside of Hajj.

The Ministry of Hajj & Umrah urged the public / pilgrims to report such violations by calling 911 in the regions of Makkah, Riyadh, and the Eastern Province, or 999 in other areas of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

We thank you for your understanding in this regard.

May ALLAH S.W.T accept your pilgrimage and grant all an Umrah and Hajj Maqbool In Shaa Allah.

Released By,

The board of SAHUC