

MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Celebrating the Muslim Culture of Kerala

26 July 2018

As part of the National Trust's exhibition *Tales from the East*, the [Australian Malayalee Islamic Association \(AMIA\)](#), is holding a full-day event celebrating the culture of Kerala on Saturday 11 August 2018 at Old Government House in Parramatta.

Lonely Planet describes Kerala as South India's 'most beautiful state', comprising 600 kilometres of glorious Arabian seacoast, glistening backwaters, and spice and tea-covered hills. Kerala is home to famous backwaters, elegant houseboats, Ayurvedic treatments and delicately spiced, taste-bud-tingling cuisine, Kerala is also renowned for its fauna: wild elephants, exotic birds and the odd tiger.

As part of the event on Saturday 11 August, AMIA will present a rich array of activities including:

- Displays of beautiful saris
- Kerala crafts
- Cooking demonstrations of South Indian food
- Traditional dancing
- Henna painting
- A program of short talks on subjects including traditional medicine, faith and culture and Lachlan Macquarie's links with Kerala

It is a day which will enable visitors to truly experience the delights of Kerala, and weaves in seamlessly with the historical narrative, furnishings and collections on display at Old Government House as part of the *Tales from the East* exhibition.

Old Government House will open for the event at 10am, with activities commencing at 11am. Entry is free. We welcome donations from visitors.

Media contact:

Please refer all media enquiries to the AMIA spokesperson: ali.parappil@gmail.com

NOTES TO EDITORS

About AMIA

AMIA is a community oriented organisation for Malayalee Muslims in New South Wales, Sydney, Australia. It has roots to south Indian state of Kerala with Malayalam as the mother tongue, and everyone is collectively called as Malayalees. It is a non-profit organisation to support families, students and new migrants to improve their religious consciousness, and to be integrated in to the new society and Australian way of life. The organisation also has initiatives to support welfare of people in need irrespective of their religious background. Another goal is to encourage non-Muslims to learn about Islam and remove any misconception about Islam in the society.

AMIA has recently started a Malayalam Language School at Auburn, open to all Malayalee Community in Sydney. Currently it has 50 students and 10 volunteer teachers.

<https://amiansw.org/>

About the National Trust (NSW)

The National Trust is Australia's oldest and largest independent conservation organisation. Founded in 1947 in New South Wales by Annie Forsyth Wyatt, the National Trust (NSW). Collectively the National Trust in Australia owns or manages over 300 built and natural heritage places (the majority held in perpetuity), is supported by 7,000 volunteers and employs more than 300 people nationwide.

The National Trust (NSW) is committed to engaging the community to celebrate and conserve heritage places and collections through events and education. With the support of our members, volunteers and dedicated staff and partners, we advocate on the protection of historical and naturally significant places and collections to ensure their preservation for future generations.

www.nationaltrust.org.au/nsw/