



NATIONAL MUSLIM COUNCIL OF LIBERIA

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July 29, 2026

OFFICIAL DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT

**INNA LILLAHI WA INNA ILAYHI RAJI'UN
(To Allah we belong and to Hi we will return)**

PRESS RELEASE

THE NATIONAL MUSLIM COUNCIL OF LIBERIA ANNOUNCES THE PASSING OF DR. ABASS KANNEH, GRAND MUFTI OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

It is with profound sorrow and deep sadness that the National Muslim Council of Liberia (NMCL) announces to the entire Muslim Community of Liberia, the Government and People of Liberia, and the international Muslim Ummah the passing of **Dr. Abass Kanneh**, Grand Mufti of the Republic of Liberia.

Dr. Abass Kanneh answered the call of Allah in the early hours of **Wednesday, July 29, 2026**, in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

Dr. Abass Kanneh was an outstanding Islamic scholar, a distinguished statesman, and one of Liberia's most respected religious leaders. He devoted his entire life to the service of Islam, tirelessly preaching the message of peace, unity, tolerance, and justice while working diligently to organize and strengthen the Muslim Ummah both within Liberia and internationally.

His passing is an immeasurable loss to the Muslim community and the Republic of Liberia. Through his wisdom, humility, and unwavering commitment to Islamic values, he served the nation with distinction as Grand Mufti of the Republic of Liberia, providing spiritual guidance and leadership to generations of Liberian Muslims.

Dr. Kanneh's academic achievements reflected his lifelong pursuit of knowledge. He earned a **Ph.D. in Islamic Theology** from Ummul-Qura University, Makkah, Saudi Arabia; a **Master's Degree in Comparative Theology** from King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; and a **Bachelor's Degree in Islamic Jurisprudence** from the Islamic University of Madinah, Saudi Arabia. He also obtained a **Diploma in Journalism** from Trans-World Tutorial College, Jersey, United Kingdom; a **Diploma in Arabic Calligraphy** from the Institute of Arts and Arabic Calligraphy, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; and a **Certificate in English Language** from the American Centre in Jeddah. His early education was completed in Gbarnga, Liberia.

Throughout his distinguished career, Dr. Kanneh held several influential positions, including Director of the Muslim World League Office in Sierra Leone, President of Magboroka Islamic University College in Sierra Leone, President of the Islamic Elementary Training School in Kakata, Liberia, President of the Liberian Students Union in Saudi Arabia, Founder of several Islamic organizations in Liberia, Representative of the National Muslim Council of Liberia in Saudi Arabia, and Coordinator of Liberian pilgrims to the Holy Cities of Makkah and Madinah from 1972 to 1992.

As Grand Mufti of the Republic of Liberia, Dr. Kanneh dedicated his life to promoting religious harmony, national unity, and the advancement of Islamic education. His scholarship, leadership, and selfless service will continue to inspire generations to come.

The National Muslim Council of Liberia extends its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family, relatives, friends, the Muslim Ummah, and all Liberians who mourn this irreparable loss. We pray that Almighty Allah (SWT) forgives his shortcomings, accepts his countless good deeds, widens and illuminates his grave, and grants him the highest place in **Jannatul Firdaus**.

Funeral Arrangements

The National Muslim Council of Liberia, in consultation with the bereaved family, announces the following funeral arrangements:

- **Date:** Wednesday, July 29, 2026
- **2:00 p.m.:** Departure from the Liberia–Sierra Leone border with the remains of the late Grand Mufti.
- The body will be taken to the residence of the deceased in **Johnsonville**.
- **Janazah (Funeral Prayer): Black Jina Mosque**, Jacob Town follow by inturnment at the Calwell, Samuka Town, Muslim Grave Cemetery.
- Following the Janazah prayer, the family will receive sympathizers at the residence of the deceased in **Johnsonville**, where the bereavement gathering and sacrifice will take place.
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The National Muslim Council of Liberia kindly requests all Muslims and the general public to join in offering prayers for the late Grand Mufti and to support the bereaved family during this difficult time.

May Almighty Allah (SWT) forgive him, have mercy upon him, expand and illuminate his grave, admit him into Jannatul Firdaus, and reward him abundantly for his lifelong service to Islam and humanity.

Ameen.

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