

Mr Abolfazl Khaki **Head of Qom Chamber of Commerce** 

Your Excellency Form of Address:

Pronunciation: s 47F(1) Khakee

**Education:** 

# Career:

2015-Head of Qom Chamber of Commerce for two terms

Representative council member of Qom Chamber of Commerce for

six terms

Board member of Qom Chamber of Commerce for four terms

s 33(a)(iii)

HOM met with him on 7 December 2021.



Hojatoleslam Dr Ali Abbasi **Chancellor of Al-Mustafa International** University

Form of Address: Your Excellency Pronunciation: s 47F(1) Ab-basee

**Education:** Seminary studies (10 years) + PhD, Comparative Philosophy (2002), Qom University

# Career:

2018-	Chancellor of Al-Mustafa International University
2016-	Member of Academic Board, Cultural Front of Islamic Revolution
2017-2018	Deputy for Education, Al-Mustafa Intl University
2014-2017	Head for Research, Al-Mustafa Intl University
2013-2015	Deputy for Research, Al-Mustafa Intl University
2011-2015	Head, International studies, Al-Mustafa Intl University
2011-	Member of Humanities Council, Supreme Cultural Revolution Council
2002-2018	Head, Philosophy Department, Imam Khomeini University, Qom
2007-	Director, Education Committee, Supreme Cultural Revolution Council
2007-	Deputy for Research, Islamic Studies Supreme Council
2008-2011	Deputy for Education, Seminaries Centre
2002-2008	Deputy for Education, Al-Mustafa Intl University



Dr Zohreh Borqeie Director of Al-Zahra University-Qom

Form of Address: Your Excellency Pronunciation: Bor-qe-eei

s 47F(1)

**Education:** Seminary studies (1978-1991) + PhD, Comparative Philosophy (1999), Qom

University

# Career:

2017-	Director, Al-Zahra University
-	Missionary, SL's office, Qom
2018-	Member of Philosophy Department, Al-Zahra University
2018-	Member of HSE Council, Qom University
2018-	Advisor to Qom University Chancellor for women and family affairs
2017-	Member of Research Department, Al-Zahra University
2014-	Secretary to safeguard hijab and chastity, Qom University
2013-	Deputy for women Affairs, Qom University
2012	Member of Scientific Committee, Qom University
1984-2013	Director for education and research, Al-Zahra University

s 33(a)(iii)

HOM met with her on 7 December 2021.



Mr Morteza Saqaeiannejad Qom Mayor

Form of Address: Your Excellency Saqa-eeyan-nijad

s 47F(1)

**Education:** PhD, Electrical Engineering, US

(1985-1989)

## Career:

2015- Qom Mayor

Present Secretary, Islamic Council of Engineers, Isfahan province

2003-2015 Isfahan Mayor

1989-1997 Chancellor, Isfahan University of Technology

1981-1985 Chancellor, Isfahan University 1978- Academic staff, Isfahan University

- Isfahan Iron Company

- Oil Company

- IAEO

s 33(a)(iii)

HOM met with him on 7 December 2021.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

47E(d)

Title: Iran: HOM's visit to Qom

**MRN:** s 47E(d) 13/12/2021 05:58:13 s 47E(d)

To: Canberra

**Cc:** RR : Middle East Posts

From: Tehran

From File: EDRMS Files:

**References:** 

**Response:** Routine, Information Only

# **Summary**

An official visit to Qom highlighted opportunities for Australia to engage across different sectors in Iran, particularly outside the capital. Although limited by sanctions, business is eager to engage with Australia, with an eye to the future. Iranian citiess 33(a)(iii)

want Australian expertise on waste and water management. Qom's religious institutions want interfaith dialogues with Australia. HOM's explanation of Australian religious diversity and the possibilities for business engagement was echoed in local media.

On 7 December, HOM (accompanied by DHOM) visited Qom, a city of religious and political importance in Iran. It was the Ambassador's first official trip outside Tehran in two years and it highlighted the importance of engagement outside the capital.

- 2. HOM met with the Qom Chamber of Commerce; Qom Mayor, Mr Seyed Morteza Saqaeian Nejad; Chancellor of Al-Mustafa Seminary for men, Dr Ali Abbasi; and Senior Director of Jamiat al-Zahra Seminary for Women, Dr Seyedeh Zohreh Borqeie. HOM also made an official visit to the Holy Shrine of Hazrat Masouma.s 33(a)(iii)
- 3. The Qom Chamber of Commerce and Mayor were eager to explore avenues for engagement with Australian business in the future. Qom province has vast agricultural lands, producing olive oil, a variety of fruits, saffron and pistachio. Business people were interested in importing wheat and fertiliser from Australia. Although cognisant of the limitations imposed by sanctions, Qom province trades with 49 different countries.
- 4. The Mayor was eager to learn from Australian expertise on waste and water management s 33(b)

We endeavoured to share our

best practice models and offered to make possible introductions.

5. s 33(a)(iii) HOM's engagement opened the door to further discussion on interfaith dialogues. Dr Abbasi and Dr

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

47E(d)

Borqeie welcomed us warmly and were eager to connect with faith institutions in Australia to explore commonalities in their faiths. The women's seminary in particular was receptive to HOM's messages.

6. The visit was very well received. It was covered broadly in the media, which highlighted HOM's explanation of Australian religious diversity and the possibilities for business engagement. s 33(a)(iii)

text ends

Sent by: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Prepared

by:

**Approved** HOM

by:

Topics: ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY/General, ENVIRONMENT/Trade & Environment, POLITICAL-

ECONOMIC/Domestic Political, TRADE/Policy General

**▼**New Distribution

s 47E(d)

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**LEX 11048 - Document 6** 

s 22(1)(a)(ii) 47E(d) DFAT - DECLASSIFIED - RELEASED UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982

**LEX 11048 - Document 6** 

s 22(1)(a)(ii) s 47E(d)

**LEX 11048 - Document 8** 

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Sent: Wednesday, 22 December 2021 11:08 AM

To: Sachs, Lyndall; \$ 22(1)(a)(ii)

Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Subject: RE: New story about HOM and DHOM's visit to Qom-11 December [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL** 

s 33(a)(iii) on 22 December:

# Australian Ambassador in Qom: Will Canberra shift role?

Australia a country for which security is more important than independence.

Kangaroos, Koalas, Melbourne epic [soccer match], Sydney Opera House and study in Australia maybe the only images in Iranians' mind about Australia. Images that portray Australia as a peaceful country away from political disputes. Such images are gradually changing. Ambassador Lyndall Sachs' recent visit to Qom serves an excuse to review Australia's changed role.

AKUS agreement on 15 September put an end to France dream and its Paris contract to sell submarines to Australia in order to strengthen its footsteps in Asia-Pacific. Australia made the choice to join UK-US alliance. Australia became independent in 1942 of course on paper and not in practice.

Australia has realised that France is neither capable nor intend to confront China and that is why it decided to protect its security by following the US. Alliance with US will strengthen Australia's military power and its national security against China.

Australia changed position from a passive player that only reacted every now and then to China and others to an effective and active player not only regionally, but also internationally. This alliance has not just targeted China but Russia as well and not only maritime traffic but also energy transportation which is vital to China.

Australia was assigned to affect China's routes in its region and UK has the same role in West Asia. US's absence made France and UK compete in West Asia as well.

Despite Australia's primary colonialist role to oppress its indigenous people, West Asian and African nations have a rather positive attitude toward Australia than the US and UK. Australia will follow similar path to Canada as far as human rights is concerned. Iran-Canada ties was very good with no political issues until Canada started criticising human rights in Iran in recent years.

Unlike the black mark in UK and US history in this regard, Canada and Australia might be able to make human rights allegations much more easily than others and play a more active role as far as humane norms and values are concerned.

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Sent: Wednesday, 15 December 2021 2:40 PM

To: Sachs, Lyndall <Lyndall.Sachs@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii)

@dfat.gov.au>

@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**LEX 11048 - Document 8** 

Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: New story about HOM and DHOM's visit to Qom-11 December [SEC=OFFICIAL]

#### **OFFICIAL**

Pictures of Australian Ambassador with hijab at Masouma Shrine-Qom (positive post by \$ 33(a)(iii) Persian Gulf News site) – Text and photos had been covered part of HOM's visit to shrine. https://pgnews.ir/module/news/435568/

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Sent: Wednesday, 15 December 2021 10:20 AM

To: Sachs, Lyndall < Lyndall.Sachs@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii)

@dfat.gov.au>

Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>

Subject: RE: New story about HOM and DHOM's visit to Qom-11 December [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: High

## **OFFICIAL**

s 33(a)(iii) Khabaronline reported from s 33(a)(iii) Javan (close to IRGC) on 15 December: From Kylie to Lyndall! Proxy espionage under women's cover/Intelligence bodies to be vigilant.

Local outlets have posted Australian Ambassador's visit to holy shrine in Qom and meeting with seminary students of Jameat-o-Zahra. Although Ambassador Sachs has been to Iraq and Lebanon with Chador/Islamic dress code, the pictures remind all of the Australian citizen Kylie Moore Gilbert with taken photos at religious centres in 2018. Later it was found out that she was a British and Israeli citizen and travelled to Iran under cover of academic activities from Melbourne University and that she planned to detect and connect to Bahraini fighters in Iran and complete her previous mission of identifying 'Resistance Front' group network and their financing resources.

Kylie was a trained intelligence officer and managed to take advantage of her gender as a young woman interested in Shiism to push forward her project led by ICT-Israel. She visited Iran on two occasions and focused on visits to religious centres in Shahr-e Rey and Qom and met with Islamic Studies Centres, Universities and Seminaries. She spread her infiltration into Shiism courses at University of Religious Denominations. The outcome of her attempts was to attract trust and get connected to non-Iranians in Qom.

Photo of HOM's meeting with MP Mojtaba Zolnour posted

She managed to establish dialogue with some Bahraini seminary students as a researcher interested in Bahrain affairs. Although Kylie was successful in her mission and managed to send intelligence to her bosses to some extent, she failed to complete her mission and was eventually arrested in 2018 by security bodies charged with espionage for Israel. Of course Kylie was exchanged with three Iranian prisoners in Thailand charged to act against Israel's interests.

The most important characteristics of Kylie was to be a young, educated and motivated woman who travelled to Iran as a researcher interested in Shiism and under cover of Australian citizenship, and therefore attracted less sensitivity for spying on Iran on behalf of Israel.

Now the question is what is Australian Ambassador's goal to attend religious centres adopting just similar espionage methods to Kylie? Has Australian government decided to contribute to Israel's

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project of infiltration and proxy espionage on Iran? Is taking advantage of being a woman and showing interest in religion and abusing religious emotions a defined method to push forward proxy (espionage) missions? This is an issue which requires serious vigilance of the Iranian intelligence bodies to identify and prevent development of this trend and fight it.

https://www.khabaronline.ir/news/1582064/%D8%A7%D8%B2-

%DA%A9%D8%A7%DB%8C%D9%84%DB%8C-%D8%AA%D8%A7-

%D9%84%DB%8C%D9%86%D8%AF%D8%A7%D9%84-

%D8%AC%D8%A7%D8%B3%D9%88%D8%B3%DB%8C-

%D9%86%DB%8C%D8%A7%D8%A8%D8%AA%DB%8C-%D8%AF%D8%B1-

%D9%BE%D9%88%D8%B4%D8%B4-%D8%B2%D9%86%D8%A7%D9%86%D9%87-

%D8%B3%D8%A7%D8%B2%D9%85%D8%A7%D9%86-%D9%87%D8%A7%DB%8C-

%D8%A7%D8%B7%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%B9%D8%A7%D8%AA%DB%8C

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Sent: Tuesday, 14 December 2021 2:46 PM

To: Sachs, Lyndall <Lyndall.Sachs@dfat.gov.au>; \$ 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; \$ 22(1)(a)(ii)

@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: RE: New story about HOM and DHOM's visit to Qom-11 December [SEC=OFFICIAL]

#### **OFFICIAL**

Last picture of new Australian Ambassador with proper Hijab together with Moslem Iranian women in Qom

https://www.bartarinha.ir/fa/news/1177507/%D8%AE%D8%A7%D9%86%D9%85-

%D8%B3%D8%A7%DA%A9%D8%B3-%D8%B3%D9%81%DB%8C%D8%B1-

%D8%A7%D8%B3%D8%AA%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%84%DB%8C%D8%A7-%D8%AF%D8%B1-

%D8%B3%D9%81%D8%B1-%D9%82%D9%85

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Sent: Sunday, 12 December 2021 11:05 AM

To: Sachs, Lyndall < Lyndall.Sachs@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii)

@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii)

@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: New story about HOM and DHOM's visit to Qom-11 December [SEC=OFFICIAL]

#### **OFFICIAL**

\*Australian Ambassador's suspicious visit to Qom-From private meeting with Mayor to visit to women's seminary! – Officials must look into the visit and meetings closely

Australian Ambassador Lyndall Sachs and her deputy Denis Cairney visited Qom last week.

First, she had a private meeting with Qom Mayor. Security bodies must be informed of the meeting contents as it seems suspicious.

It was heard that she continued her visit by meeting with some seminary institutions, particularly that of women and had meetings with the officials which adds to the suspicious nature of the visit. Security bodies must review the visit and meetings with full vigilance.

It is worth mentioning that Lyndall Sachs was Ambassador to Lebanon and Iraq prior to Iran and is quite familiar with religious institutions. \$\frac{\$\mathbf{s}}{33(a)(iii)}\$ Shohadaye-Iran \$\frac{\$\mathbf{s}}{33(a)(iii)}\$ on 11 December)

# Link to photo:

http://shohadayeiran.com/fa/news/222860/%D8%B3%D9%81%D8%B1-

%D9%85%D8%B4%DA%A9%D9%88%DA%A9-%D8%B3%D9%81%DB%8C%D8%B1-

%D8%A7%D8%B3%D8%AA%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%84%DB%8C%D8%A7-

%D8%A8%D9%87-%D9%82%D9%85-

%D8%A7%D8%B2%D8%AC%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%87-

%D8%AE%D8%B5%D9%88%D8%B5%DB%8C-%D8%A8%D8%A7-

%D8%B4%D9%87%D8%B1%D8%AF%D8%A7%D8%B1-%D8%AA%D8%A7-

%D8%A8%D8%A7%D8%B2%D8%AF%DB%8C%D8%AF-%D8%A7%D8%B2-

%D8%AD%D9%88%D8%B2%D9%87-

%D8%AE%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%87%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%86

## TRAVEL ADVICE FORM

```
No.: s 47E(d)
 Date: 29 / 11 / 2021
 * Embassy or Representative Office: Australian Embassy
 1 First Name and Surname in Latin; Ms Lyndall Jane Sachs
 4. Sex: Female 5 Nationality: Australia 6. Identification Card Number: $ 47F(1) 7 Passport Number: $ 47F(1)
 8. Occupation: Australian Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran
~9. Details of Accompanying Passengers.
 1. First Name and Surname in Latin: Mr Denis Patrick Cairney
2. First Name and Surname in Persian: افسای دانسس بیاتریک کارز است.
3. Date of Birth, according to Gregorian calendar: $ 47F(1)
4. Sex: Male 5 Nationality: Australia 6 Identification Card Number: S 47F(1)
7. Passport Number: S 47F(1) 8. Occupation: Counsellor & ( DHOM ) Australian Embassy
 10. Destination Province Qom - City: Qom
     Name of Hotels and/or residence address and/or location of stops: One day trip
                                                          s47E(d)
 11. Date of Departure: Tuesday 07 December 2021
 13. Date of Return: Tuesday 07 December 2021
 15. Purpose of Travel: Official Visit
     Official meeting (with Provincial officials)
 6. Way of Transportation:
Departure & Return: $ 47E(d)
s 47E(d)
 s 47F(1)
                                 bassy
                                                                   Please do not type here
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# Visit Program to Qom 7 December 2021

08.30-09.30	Working breakfast with Head of Qom Chamber of Commerce Mr Abolfazl Khaki and Qom businessmen at Mehr-o-Mah tourist complex-10 km away from Qom
10.00-10.45	Meeting with Qom Mayor Mr Seyed Morteza Saqaeian Nejad
11.00-12.00	Meeting with Chancellor of Al-Mustafa International University for Men Dr Ali Abbasi
12.30-14.30	Meeting and lunch with Board member and senior director of Jamiat al-Zahra University for Women Dr Seyedeh Zohreh Borqeie
15.00-15.30	Visit to Holy Shrine of Hazrat Masouma

HOM: \$ 47F(1)

DHOM: \$ 47F(1)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Contact person & MFA officer Qom <sup>\$ 47F(1)</sup>

Contact person for Chamber of Commerce meeting \$ 47F(1)

Bios follow:



Mr Abolfazl Khaki

**Head of Qom Chamber of Commerce** 

Form of Address: Your Excellency

**Pronunciation:** Khakee

s 47F(1)

Education: -

# Career:

2015- Head of Qom Chamber of Commerce for two terms

Representative council member of Qom Chamber of Commerce for six terms

Board member of Qom Chamber of Commerce for four terms



Mr Morteza Saqaeiannejad

**Qom Mayor** 

Form of Address: Your Excellency

**Pronunciation:** Saqa-eeyan-nijad

s 47F(1)

Education: PhD, Electrical Engineering,

US (1985-1989)

# Career:

2015- Qom Mayor

Present Secretary, Islamic Council of Engineers, Isfahan province

2003-2015 Isfahan Mayor

1989-1997 Chancellor, Isfahan University of Technology

1981-1985 Chancellor, Isfahan University

1978- Academic staff, Isfahan University

- Isfahan Iron Company

- Oil Company

- IAEO



Hojatoleslam Dr Ali Abbasi

Chancellor of Al-Mustafa International University

Form of Address: Your Excellency

**Pronunciation:** Ab-basee

s 47F(1)

**Education:** Seminary studies (10 years) + PhD, Comparative Philosophy (2002), Qom

University

## Career:

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Dr Zohreh Borqeie

Director of Al-Zahra University-Qom

Form of Address: Your Excellency

**Pronunciation:** Bor-qe-eei

s 47F(1)

**Education:** Seminary studies (1978-1991) + PhD, Comparative Philosophy (1999), Qom University

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2017-	Member of Research Department, Al-Zahra University
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2013-	Deputy for women Affairs, Qom University
2012	Member of Scientific Committee, Qom University
1984-2013	Director for education and research, Al-Zahra University

s 47F(1), s 47E(d)

From: "Foreign Minister"

Sent: 12/04/2022 11:55:22 AM

To: s 47E(d) @dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 47F(1) @dfat.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Australian ambassador in Iran [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Categories: s 47F(1)

# **OFFICIAL**

From: \$ 47F(1)	@aph.gov.au>									
With thanks s 47F(1)										
☐ Comments										
Refer										
Redirect										
Diary										
☐ Information Only										
☐ Reply – Senior Adviser ☐ Reply – Adviser ☐ Reply – Department ☐ Copy held for Minister to see										
					□ Reply – Principal Adviser					
					☐ Reply – Minister					
					Date:					
Advisor:										
Minister For Foreign Affairs										
Dear Polvis – graterurir you would action	the below.									
Dear PDMS – grateful if you would action	the helew									

eapii.gov

Sent: Sunday, 26 December 2021 3:52 PM

**To:** Foreign Minister <foreign.minister@dfat.gov.au> **Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Australian ambassador in Iran

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender.

s 47F(1)

s 47F(1)

s 47F(1), s 47E(d)