

THE HAJE EBRAHIM PATEL/CRESCENTS OF BRISBANE SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

**Presented at CresWalk2012 on Sunday 23 September 2012  
to**

**Imam Abu Ahmad Ghazaleh**

**by  
Kemal Omar**

**on behalf of the Crescents of Brisbane Team**

As with every year, this year's nominations were comprised of many individuals who devote much of their time contributing to the local community Muslim and others all in the service of humanity and at the expense of the personal lives. However this year, the team voted unanimously for one person to receive the COB Hajji Ebrahim Patel award for service and commitment to the community.

Our nomination this year is an individual who has achieved no mean feat in his service to the community.

Some say he is the child whisperer  
Some say he is the migrant rescuer  
Some say he's the smiling Muslim with a great sense of humour

### **Of course we know him as Imam Ghazaleh**

Trained in the traditional Islamic sciences in Jordan he received authorization to teach various Islamic disciplines and Quran

Since his arrival to Australia 2001, He founded the As-Salaam Institute of Islamic Studies in 2007.

His institute focuses on teaching Islamic studies and Quran to all ages ranging from 5yrs to adults. The institute also offers full time Hifz classes, daily classes for children, weekly classes for teens and adults, all under his personal supervision.

However, a large part of his activities goes unnoticed. We'll list just some of the activities that he is involved in and assisted by his wife:

1. Counseling all people with a range of issues.
2. Fundraising for various projects around the Brisbane area.
3. Providing essential food services for NOT just the Muslim Community but also the wider Australian community. This includes making up hampers for distribution to Homeless Shelters, Indigenous Youth Hostels and Women's Shelters all within the Brisbane City and Southern suburbs. He is assisted in this effort by his wife and other members of the Brisbane Muslim community
4. He plays a vital role in the Together For Humanity Foundation as a Multicultural Presenter & Key Note Speaker. Having done this for the last 5 years he travels throughout Australia as a presenter, promoting Islam and Islamic humanity in the light it ought to be portrayed.
5. He is currently part time Imam at Logan Mosque.
6. He also works closely with the healthcare industry including the Mater Multicultural Health Network and the Queensland Transcultural Mental Health Centre to provide these institutions with the necessary on Islamic requirements of patients and patient treatment.
7. He is a consultant with the Australian Halaal Food services assisting in ensuring that meat is slaughtered in accordance with Islamic requirements.
8. Of course last but not least he is currently in Syria, trying to assist where he can in that troubled part of the world.

So I think you'll agree with me this nomination is well deserved as all of these activities show Muslims in a positive light. As Imam Ghazalah is not in the country and unfortunately there is no family member who can collect the award he has asked that a member of the Crescents of Brisbane team accept it on his behalf.