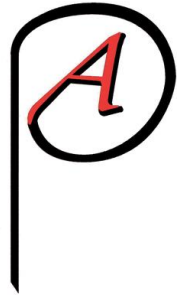


Progressive Atheists Inc.

Est. 10 Jan 2010 Reg: A0054119U Member of AAI

"Your participation is PA's future"



May 2015

... we seek to go beyond divisive racial, religious, tribal, and sectarian constructs, and instead, contribute to a universal humanity.

Headlines

- ★ **Report:** Confessions of Iranian refugee
- ★ **Report:** Blasphemy Laws in Sri Lanka
- ★ **Campaign:** Religious Exemptions to Anti-discrimination Laws
- ★ **Notice:** Membership Renewals

BackPage

- **Progressive Atheists Inc. Open Meeting**
- **Melbourne Atheists MeetUp Group:**
- **Membership Renewal Term 2015:** 1 July 2014 – 30 June 2015
- Progressive Atheists Inc. **'Proudly Atheist' T-shirts & Badges**

MEMBERSHIP

Term 2015: 1 July 2014 – 30 June 2015

***** ONLY \$20 Annually *****

Purchase Membership Online:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/product-category/membership/>

CONTACT PROGRESSIVE ATHEISTS INC.

President: president@progressiveatheists.org

Vice President – Andrew: 0438 043 050

Secretary: secretary@progressiveatheists.org

Website: progressiveatheists.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ProgressiveAtheistsInc

Twitter: twitter.com/ProgAtheistsInc

Progressive Atheist Inc. | Headlines

In The News : Buddhist monks in court for blasphemy

Published — Tuesday 6 May 2014

COLOMBO: Four of Sri Lanka's most senior hardline Buddhist monks appeared in court Monday accused of making uncharitable remarks on the Holy Qur'an, in the first such case following a spate of religious hate attacks.

Police accused the monks, from the nationalist Bodu Bala Sena (BBS), or Buddhist Force, of making disparaging remarks against the Islamic holy book after bursting into a meeting of religious leaders last month.

<http://www.arabnews.com/news/566291>



In The News: Confessions of Iranian refugee Kooshyar Karimi

February 28, 2015, Jane Cadzow

Iranian doctor, author and former refugee Kooshyar Karimi has built a comfortable life in Australia. But his freedom came at a cost, and 15 years on, it haunts him still.

A slight, dark-haired man joins a queue of travellers in a customs hall on the north-western border of Iran. In his trembling hand, he holds a passport. The man is a fugitive. After two months in hiding, he has been given word by a senior government official – who owes him a favour and is in a position to pull strings – that he has 48 hours to slip out of the country. But the closer the man gets to the counter, the more convinced he becomes that he will be arrested and handed over to the Iranian intelligence service. He knows from previous experience that if that happens, he will be tortured. He fully expects he will also be executed. By the time he reaches the head of the line, he is sick with dread.

<http://www.smh.com.au/good-weekend/confessions-of-iranian-refugee-kooshyar-karimi-20150227-139prm.html>



Safe haven: Dr Kooshyar Karimi at his home in northern Sydney. *Photo: James Brickwood*

To hear Dr Kooshyar Karimi interviewed on ABC in 2012:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oa2qJMw3nTc&feature=youtu.be>

In The News: Blasphemy Laws in Sri Lanka

Bodu Bala Sena (BBS) to be charged with defamation and trespassing

27 April 2015

The Colombo Fort Magistrate today ordered the police to file charge sheets against BBS Organisation General Secretary Ven. One case was allegedly trespassing in to the Nippon Hotel in Colombo and obstructing a media briefing organised by Jathika Bala Sena (JBS) while the other case was filed for making defamatory remarks against Quran opposite the Slave Island police station.

The case was fixed for June 16.

<http://www.dailymirror.lk/70401/bbs-to-be-charged-with-defamation-and-trespassing#sthash.o00Hdi71.dpuf>



Campaign: Religious Exemptions to Anti-discrimination Laws

What is more important religious belief or universal human rights?

Australia needs strong human rights protections to ensure everyone has the opportunity to contribute and achieve their full potential no matter what their race, sex, ability, age, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

We invite you to visit your local state / territory member of parliament and discuss your concerns about the religious exemptions to the anti-discrimination laws.

If you would like more information about these laws to assist you in your meeting or if you live in Victoria and would like a representative from Progressive Atheists to attend the meeting with you, please send us an email: contact@progressiveatheists.org



Anti-Discrimination Legislation

- Commonwealth
 - Age Discrimination Act 2004
 - Disability Discrimination Act 1992
 - Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986
 - Racial Discrimination Act 1975
 - Sex Discrimination Act 1984
- State / Territory
 - Anti-Discrimination Commission for the relevant State / Territory

The Progressive Atheists' organisation and some of its members are actively involved in global campaigns to help and free the victims.

There is a lot more that we can do but we need your help.

Want to assist with this campaign? Email Progressive Atheists at campaigns@progressiveatheists.org

To make a donation for a banner to be used outside the Saudi Embassy, please donate on the Progressive Atheists website:
<http://progressiveatheists.org/products/donations/raif-badawi-campaign/>

Notice: Membership Renewals are due for Term 2016 (1 July 2015 - 30 June 2016)

Dear Members,

Thank you for your continued support, we very much value your continued membership of Progressive Atheists Inc. We are again coming up to the 1st July and renewal of membership is due. Our membership fee is \$20 with a \$10 concession amount for those on a low income.

The membership fees are used to maintain the Progressive Atheists website and to pay for basic running costs of Progressive Atheists.

You can renew your membership on the website via paypal, which also includes the ability to pay by visa card. Or you can renew your membership in person at the Open meeting on the 4th Saturday or at an atheist meetup with a committee member.

<http://progressiveatheists.org/product-category/membership/>

If you have any questions or difficulties with renewing your membership please contact our membership officer Phillipa Toia via email:
membership@progressiveatheists.org

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Thanks and regards,
Alice Carr
President

Progressive Atheists Inc.

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Progressive Atheists Inc. Open Meeting

Saturday, 23rd May 2015, 12 pm - 4 pm at Clover & Rye

Progressive Atheists Purpose Statement:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/about-us/purpose-statement/>

Melbourne Atheists MeetUp Group | Event Calendar

Keep in touch with atheists around Melbourne via the Melbourne MeetUp:

<http://www.meetup.com/Melbourne-Atheists/events/calendar/>

Membership Term 2015 | 1 July 2014 - 30 June 2015

Progressive Atheists Membership is \$20 per annum / \$10 concession.

JOIN US | Purchase New Membership Online:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/about-us/membership/application/>

For other methods to renew and join please see our website:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/about-us/membership/>

Email our Membership Officer:

membership@progressiveatheists.org

OR ASK the person who gave you this bulletin

Progressive Atheists Inc. 'Proudly Atheist' T-shirts & Badges

T-shirts ONLY \$15 for members!

Badges \$2.50 each ~ 2 designs / 3 colours

Order your t-shirt or badge on our website:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/products-for-sale/>

Sales Rep. Elida Radig: sales@progressiveatheists.org