

Communication Regarding Shaving One's Beard

Subject: Shaving of the Beard

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing to inform you that shaving one's beard is not permissible in Islam. According to all Islamic denominations a man is required to keep a trim and well-maintained beard. Therefore, due to religious obligation, the employee will be unable to shave his beard. He is required, however, to make sure his beard is groomed and maintained in a presentable manner.

We hope you understand this religious obligation and choice and would kindly request you to consider and discuss reasonable accommodation with the individual which would not impose on the right to practice one's religious duties.

This communication was issued in response to the high number of requests received by this organization to issue an official letter that could contribute to increasing awareness of this intricacy of the Islamic religion. I.M.A.M. is a non-profit religious organization authorized and commissioned by the supreme religious authority of Shia Muslims, which has been based in the Seminary of Najaf in Iraq for more than a millennium, to support and serve the Shia Muslim community in North America.

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact us through any of the communication channels listed below.

Sincerely,

I.M.A.M.