



Department of Home Affairs and Justice
Commissioner for Ecclesiastic and Religious Affairs

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Our Reference: 2715849 / 2021.DIJ.5428

June 18, 2025

Letter of Recommendation

To whom it may concern,

As the office of the Canton of Bern responsible for ecclesiastic and religious matters, we have been assisting the Islamic Center Bern (IZB) for some time in its search for suitable premises in which to carry out its activities.

The search for suitable premises is one of the most frequently mentioned and most urgent needs with which religious communities turn to us. It is challenging to find places that have a suitable hall, adjoining rooms for religious instruction and proper sanitary facilities and that are also reasonably centrally located and financially affordable. However, it is obvious that a good location in a lively neighborhood, a suitable infrastructure and public visibility support social networking, promote the transparency of communities and thus ensure social cohesion – the glue of our peaceful coexistence.

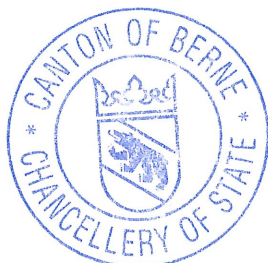
The Foundation Islamic Center Bern was founded in 2004. It is listed on the Digital Religious Map of the Canton of Bern and has agreed to the publication of its contact details. The community is a founding member of the Islamic Cantonal Association IKB, with which our office maintains good relations. Previously, the current foundation was organized as an association. It established the first Bernese mosque at Lindenrain 2 (Stadtbach, near Inselspital) in 1978. The organization was then responsible for the use and financing of the mosque for over 40 years. Due to a complete renovation of the building, the foundation received notice of termination as of June 2022. The president of the foundation, Ali Osman, then contacted the Commissioner for Ecclesiastical and Religious Affairs and asked him for support in finding suitable premises.

The Commissioner for Ecclesiastic and Religious Affairs of the Department of Home Affairs and Justice regard the Islamic Center Bern as a trustworthy institution that provides valuable services for the people of Bern and is very well anchored locally.

Sincerely,

Commissioner for Ecclesiastic and Religious
Affairs

David Leutwyler



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**David Leutwyler, Commissioner
Commission for Ecclesiastic and Religious
Affaires of the canton of Bern**

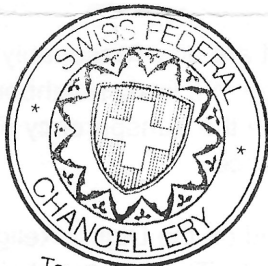
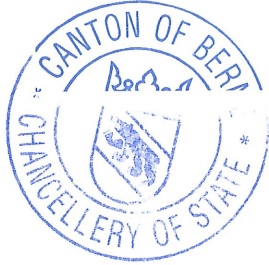
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Bern, 24/06/2025

Tax: CHF 25.00

State Chancellery of the canton of Bern

Ursula Liechti



Tax CHF 20.-

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the above signature

Berne, **26 JUN 2025**

SWISS FEDERAL CHANCELLERY

Gaëlle Cafaro-Vullierat