



## INSTITUTE FOR QUR'ANIC REFLECTION AND ARTS (IQRA) FOUNDATION

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Advancing Islamic Education, Cultural Preservation, and Social Transformation through Media, Arts and Mentorship at the Intersection of Faith, Storytelling, and Media

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

INTRODUCING **IQRA** FOUNDATION: A GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR FAITH, MEDIA, ARTS, AND TRANSFORMATION.

As Salaamu Alaikum,

Trinidad and Tobago / Caribbean / International Muslim Community a bold new voice in faith-based media, arts, and education has emerged with the **Institute for Qur'anic Reflection and Arts (IQRA)** Foundation, founded by Mtima Abdul Ghany Solwazi, ARTivist Educator and Trinidad and Tobago's 2025 National Hummingbird Silver Medal Awardee in the Sphere of Culture and the Arts.

Inspired by the Qur'anic command "*Iqra*" (*Read/Recite*), the IQRA Foundation is established as a dynamic, non-profit institution committed to advancing Islamic knowledge, creative expression, and community transformation through media, storytelling, and the arts. Rooted in the belief that knowledge is both a spiritual and social responsibility, IQRA Foundation positions itself at the intersection of faith, culture, and communication, amplifying voices and narratives that inspire reflection, empowerment, and unity.

The Foundation represents a symbolic continuation in spirit of *Iqra Productions Ltd.*, a founding member of the United Islamic Organization of Trinidad and Tobago. This connection honours a legacy of Islamic media and cultural contribution while establishing a distinct and forward-looking institution designed to meet the demands of a rapidly evolving global landscape.

IQRA Foundation will focus on the development and dissemination of impactful content through print and electronic media, digital broadcasting, photography, film, oral traditions, and spoken word poetry, alongside training and mentorship initiatives that equip individuals with both technical skills and ethical grounding.

*Empowering Communities through Knowledge, Reflection and Creative Expression*

At the heart of its work are flagship programmes including:

- ❑ **Islam Chose Me:** a powerful storytelling platform sharing journeys of faith, identity, and transformation.
- ❑ **Emancipation through ISLAM (Inspire, Strengthen, Lead, Advance, and Mobilize):** an initiative celebrating Muslim Pioneers, Lifetime Achievers and New Era Ground-breakers whose contributions continue to inspire future generations.
- ❑ **I Slam:** a spoken word platform amplifying creative expression rooted in truth, reflection, and social consciousness.

Speaking on the purpose behind IQRA Foundation, Founder Mtima Solwazi shared:

*“IQRA is not just an organization, it is a movement. It is about reclaiming the power of knowledge, voice, and story. It is about using media and the arts as tools for transformation, grounded in faith and driven by purpose.”*

The IQRA Foundation is committed to building strategic collaborations with both Muslim and non-Muslim organizations locally, regionally, and internationally, united by a shared vision of education, empowerment, and human development. Through these partnerships, IQRA Foundation aims to foster dialogue, strengthen communities, and contribute meaningfully to global conversations on culture, identity, and social change.

With a strong foundation in storytelling, a clear moral compass, and a global outlook, IQRA Foundation invites funders, partners, creatives, educators, and institutions to join in shaping a future where faith-informed media and the arts become powerful vehicles for impact.

The call is simple: **Read. Recite. Reflect.**

Wa Alaikum Salaam,

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