



# GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

## PRESIDENTIAL HAJJ TASKFORCE SECRETARIAT

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### PUBLIC NOTICE

**DATE: 28TH APRIL 2025**

**SUBJECT: WARNING AGAINST UNAUTHORIZED VISA USE FOR HAJJ PILGRIMAGE IN 2025**

THE SIERRA LEONE PRESIDENTIAL HAJJ TASKFORCE HEREBY ISSUES THIS WARNING TO THOSE PERSONS OR INTENDING PILGRIMS WHO PLAN TO USE UNOFFICIAL CHANNELS OR UNAUTHORIZED VISA (SUCH AS A VISA ISSUED FOR ONLY UMRAH, TOURISM, BUSINESS OR OTHER PURPOSES) FOR HAJJ PILGRIMAGE IN 2025, TO REFRAIN FROM DOING SO.

THIS WARNING IS IN LINE WITH THE RECENT NOTIFICATION RELEASED BY THE MINISTRY OF HAJJ AND UMRAH THAT ALL THE MU'TAMIREEN / PILGRIMS WHO ARE AT THE MOMENT IN THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA FOR UMRAH, BUSINESS, TOURISM OR OTHER PURPOSES, EXCEPT FOR THOSE WITH VALID VISA OR PERMIT FOR HAJJ PILGRIMAGE IN 2025, MUST EXIT THE PRECINCTS OF MAKKAH PRIOR TO THE 1ST OF DHUL-QADAH 1446 (29TH APRIL 2025).

LET US ALL BE GUIDED BY QURAN (2:197) WHICH EXPLICITLY STATES: "HAJJ SHALL BE OBSERVED IN SPECIFIED MONTHS. WHOSOEVER SETS OUT TO OBSERVE HAJJ SHALL REFRAIN FROM SEXUAL INTERCOURSE, MISCONDUCT AND ARGUMENT THROUGHOUT HAJJ PILGRIMAGE..."

QURAN (4:59) FURTHER STATES "OBEY ALLAH, AND OBEY THE MESSENGER, AND THOSE CHARGED WITH AUTHORITY.

PERFORMING HAJJ UNLAWFULLY CLEARLY DOES NOT FOLLOW THE ABOVE GUIDANCE!

THE MINISTRY OF HAJJ AND UMRAH HAS EMPHASIZED THAT ALL INTENDING PILGRIMS MUST APPLY TO OBTAIN VISA THROUGH THE OFFICIAL PROCESS OF QUOTA ALLOCATION VIA THE RESPECTIVE HAJJ AFFAIRS OFFICES FROM ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES OR THROUGH NUSUK PLATFORM. THIS ENSURES THAT ALL DOCUMENTATION IS LEGITIMATE AND ORDERLY STREAMLINED AND, COMPLIES WITH THE INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL STANDARDS AND THE SAUDI ARABIA GUIDELINES AND REGULATIONS FOR HAJJ PILGRIMAGE.

FOR THE CURRENT HAJJ SEASON, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE UNDER HIS EXCELLENCY, THE PRESIDENT, DR. (RTD) BRIG. JULIUS MAADA BIO AND THE HONOURABLE VICE PRESIDENT, DR. MOHAMED JULDEH JALLOH, HAVE ENSURED THAT EVERY SIERRA LEONEAN CITIZEN, IRRESPECTIVE OF WHERE HE/SHE STAYS IN THE WORLD CAN FULFILL HIS /HER HAJJ PILGRIMAGE OBLIGATION THROUGH THE COORDINATION OF THE OFFICE OF SIERRA LEONE PRESIDENTIAL HAJJ TASKFORCE.

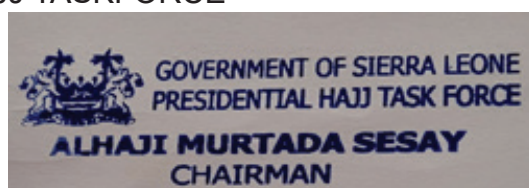
THE SIERRA LEONE PRESIDENTIAL HAJJ TASKFORCE IS ASSIDUOUSLY WORKING CLOSELY WITH RELEVANT GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS IN SIERRA LEONE AS WELL AS SAUDI ARABIAN AUTHORITIES TO STREAMLINE AND PROPERLY MANAGE THE VISA APPLICATION PROCESS WHILE ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH ALL THE REQUIRED REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES. THEREFORE, ALL INTENDING PILGRIMS MUST APPLY FOR THEIR VISAS THROUGH OFFICIAL CHANNELS ESTABLISHED BY BOTH THE SIERRA LEONEAN GOVERNMENT AND THE SAUDI ARABIAN AUTHORITIES.

THE TASKFORCE CLEARLY NOTES THAT ANY PILGRIM FOUND USING AN UNAUTHORIZED VISA FOR THE UPCOMING HAJJ PILGRIMAGE WILL FACE SEVERE CONSEQUENCES (FROM THE SAUDI ARABIAN AUTHORITIES) INCLUDING DEPORTATION, JAIL SENTENCE, FINES, DENIAL OF ENTRY OR BANISHMENT FROM SAUDI ARABIA FOR A LONG PERIOD OF TIME AND POSSIBLE LEGAL ACTIONS AGAINST THE FACILITATORS OF SUCH ILLEGALITIES.

THE SIERRA LEONE PRESIDENTIAL HAJJ TASKFORCE REITERATES ITS COMMITMENT TO ENSURING THAT ALL INTENDING PILGRIMS WHO HAVE TIMELY COMPLIED WITH THE DESIGNATED HAJJ REGISTRATION PROCEDURES AND FULFILLED HAJJ VISA ISSUANCE REQUIREMENTS CAN BE ACCORDED THE OPPORTUNITY TO PERFORM THEIR RELIGIOUS DUTIES SAFELY AND LEGALLY DURING THIS 2025 HAJJ PILGRIMAGE, BY THE GRACE AND WILL OF THE ALMIGHTY ALLAH.

SIGNED:

CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENTIAL HAJJ TASKFORCE



Alhaji Murtada Mohammed Sesay GOOR