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Contact details  
www.daliel.nl  
info@daliel.nl  
+31 646 081755

#### Press Release for Foreign Media

## Dutch Muslims Counter Pegida's Hate crime: 1000 Qurans Distributed in Response to Koran Burning Attempt

In a bold response to Pegida leader Edwin Wagensveld's attempt to burn a Quran in Arnhem, the Dutch Islamic organizations Waaromislam and Daliel have taken a stand against hate and division by **distributing 1000 Quran translations** in the same city.

Wagensveld's actions, which not only push the limits of freedom of speech but also actively seek to insult and harm Dutch Muslims, have prompted a collective effort to promote understanding and unity. The provocative act, seen as an attempt to deepen polarization within Dutch society, has been met with a resolute stance by Waaromislam, in collaboration with Daliel and their supporters.

Rather than engaging in book burnings and insult-driven conflicts, Waaromislam and Daliel emphasize the importance of reading over burning. Their goal is to encourage an open-minded approach to the Quran, with the aim of inspiring individuals to read and seek understanding from the over a million Dutch people who find inspiration in the holy book.

This ongoing initiative actively confronts hate speech, not only from Wagensveld but from any individual or group attempting to insult the Quran. For every such attempt, Waaromislam and Daliel have committed to distributing a thousand Qurans. This symbolic gesture serves as a reminder that Dutch identity encompasses diversity, including Islam as a Dutch religion.

The first distribution, which took place last Sunday (January 21), **resulted in ten conversions tot Islam, the distribution of a thousand Qurans, and over a hundred meaningful conversations**. Social media responses indicate that the message has reached Pegida, sparking curiosity about their next actions.

Waaromislam and Daliel are steadfast in their determination to promote understanding, especially in times of deep disagreements, fostering harmonious coexistence in daily life. The initiative sends a strong message that attempts to insult the Quran will only lead to an increased presence of the holy book in the Netherlands. The organizations invite dialogue and aim to bridge divides, demonstrating that diverse beliefs can coexist without resorting to hatred, violence, or the suppression of religious freedom.

[Waaromislam](#) and [Daliel](#)