

INSTRUCTIONS ON ATTENDING PARENTING PACT (BEFORE COLLECTION OF DIVORCE CERTIFICATE)

1. Starting 1 October 2016, the Syariah Court will provide a free 2-hour consultation session for parents who will be collecting their divorce certificate. This consultation session is known as "Parenting PACT" and it is for parents with children below 21 years old. The session will be conducted at the Syariah Court by our partner, PPIS As-Salaam Family Support Centre. It is our hope that the session will help you better understand the impact of parental divorce on children, how to continue healthy co-parenting, self-care strategies and support resources that you can benefit from. Please refer to the attached F.A.Qs on Parenting PACT.

2. You will receive a Certificate of Attendance from PPIS As-Salaam at the end of the Parenting PACT session. You need to bring this Certificate of Attendance and the collection slip to the Syariah Court when you collect your divorce certificate.

3. Please register directly with PPIS As-Salaam at **67455862**. You can also call the centre if you need more information on this initiative. The Parenting PACT session is scheduled on every Tuesday and Thursday (except on public holidays) on the time slots set out below:

Day	Morning slot	Afternoon slot
Tuesday / Thursday	10am – 12noon	2pm – 4pm

4. You are encouraged to arrive 15 minutes earlier for registration. Please note that if you are late, you have to reschedule with PPIS As-Salaam to attend the Parenting PACT session on another day.

5. If you were represented by a lawyer during your divorce proceedings, you should check with your lawyer on the arrangement for the collection of the divorce certificate. You will still need to attend the Parenting PACT session. Your lawyer will need to present your Certificate of Attendance at the Court if he/she is collecting the divorce certificate on your behalf.

Frequently Asked Questions

1 What is the Parenting PACT about?

This session will cover your parenting role as well as the needs of your child(ren) after the divorce. This is important as you will continue your role as parents to your child(ren). The counsellors will also provide you with information on resources and support services available in the community. A questionnaire will also be administered during the session so that you can find out how your child(ren) is/are coping with the divorce.

2 How long is the Parenting PACT?

The session will not take longer than two hours. However, if you have questions for the counsellors after the session, you may have to stay longer.

3 Who is conducting the Parenting PACT?

The Parenting PACT will be conducted by a counsellor from PPIS As-Salaam Family Support Centre. PPIS As-Salaam is one of the **Divorce Support Specialist Agencies (DSSA)** appointed by the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) where the staff specialise in working with divorcing families and their children.

4 Can I appoint someone else to attend the Parenting PACT on my behalf?

You cannot appoint someone else to attend the session on your behalf. If you are unable to attend the Parenting PACT session on the scheduled date due to unforeseen circumstances, please contact PPIS As-Salaam at **67455862** to register for the next available session.

5 Will I be expected to attend the Parenting PACT with my ex-spouse?

You can choose to attend this session separately from your ex-spouse. Please inform PPIS As-Salaam when you call them to register.

6 Can I collect my divorce certificate before my scheduled Parenting PACT date?

You will not be able to collect your divorce certificate until you have attended the Parenting PACT session. *(Note: The divorce certificate will be issued only after the expiry of the "iddah" period)*

7 What happens if I do not attend the Parenting PACT?

The content of the Parenting PACT is especially relevant to you as a parent after the divorce and it is important for you to attend in the interest of your child(ren). **If you do not attend the session, you will not be able to collect the divorce certificate.**